

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended).

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Rental Schedule—Low Rent Housing.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2502-0012.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This information is necessary for HUD to ensure that tenant rents are approved in accordance with HUD administrative procedures. Project owners utilize form HUD-92458 when requesting an adjustment to project rents due to anticipated or unavoidable increases in operating costs.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: HUD-92458.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The estimated number of respondents is 16,000 generating approximately 16,000 annual responses; the frequency of response is on occasion; the estimated time needed to prepare the response is 20 minutes; and the estimated total number of annual burden hours is 5,280.

Status of the proposed information collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C., chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

Sean G. Cassidy,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing-Deputy Federal Housing Commissioner.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1531 *et seq.*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("we") solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before November 10, 2003 to receive our consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (fax: 503-231-6243). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above (telephone: 503-231-2063). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Permit No. TE-075898

Applicant: Sue Orloff, San Rafael, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the Sonoma County distinct population segment of the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with surveys in Sonoma County, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-076322

Applicant: Kimberly Toal, La Crescenta, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, handle, and release) the Stephen's kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensii*) in conjunction with surveys in Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-076257

Applicant: San Luis Obispo Public Works Department, San Luis Obispo, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the Morro shoulderband snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-076768

Applicant: Lisa Schicker, Los Osos, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the Morro shoulderband snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-003483

Applicant: U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, Hawaii National Park, Hawaii.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (translocate) the Laysan duck (*Anas laysanensis*) in conjunction with translocation activities and scientific research from Laysan to Midway Atoll, Hawaiian Islands, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-006333

Applicant: Oregon State University, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Corvallis, Oregon.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (collect larvae) the Borax Lake chub (*Gila boraxobius*) in conjunction with research in Harney County, Oregon, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-077053

Applicant: Jeffrey Manning, Fallbrook, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax trailii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-050450

Applicant: Lisa Allen, Dana Point, California.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (harass by survey and collect and sacrifice) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-074658

Applicant: Cecilia Meyer Lovell, San Diego, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey and collect and sacrifice) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-077388

Applicant: Oregon Zoo, Portland, Oregon.

The applicant requests a permit to take (captive breed) the California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) in conjunction with a recovery program for the species in Multnomah County, Oregon, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-077392

Applicant: Peter Waldburger, Los Osos, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the Morro shoulderband snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

We solicit public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

David J. Wesley,

Deputy Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Re-Opening of the Comment Period for the Draft Recovery Plan for the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep**

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of re-opening of public comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce a re-opening of the comment period for public review of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis californiana*) for an additional 60 days. The original comment period closed on September 29, 2003. We are re-opening the comment period in response to specific requests from the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Foundation to allow additional time for public review of this draft recovery plan. This draft recovery plan includes recovery criteria and measures for the Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before December 8, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003 (telephone 805-644-1766). Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor at the above address. An electronic copy of this draft recovery plan is also available at <http://www.r1.fws.gov/ecoservices/ endangered/recovery/default.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl Benz, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On July 30, 2003, we published a Notice of Availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep, opening a 60-day public comment period that is scheduled to end on September 29, 2003. We have received requests from the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Wilderness Society, and the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Foundation to extend the comment period so that they might more thoroughly review the plan. Based on these requests, we determined to re-open the comment period for

public review of this draft recovery plan.

Recovery of endangered or threatened animals and plants is a primary goal of our endangered species program and the Endangered Species Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Recovery means improvement of the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer appropriate under the criteria set out in section 4(a)(1) of the Act. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

The Act requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. We will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. Substantive technical comments may result in changes to the plan. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plan, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions.

This draft recovery plan was developed by the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Recovery Team. We coordinated with the California Department of Fish and Game, and a team of stakeholders, which included ranchers, landowners and managers, agency representatives, and non-government organizations.

The population of bighorn sheep in the Sierra Nevada of California was listed as an endangered species on January 3, 2000, (65 FR 20) following emergency listing on April 20, 1999, (64 FR 19300). At the time of listing, the bighorn sheep population was very small, with only about 125 adults known to exist among 5 geographic areas, with little probability of interchange among those areas. The bighorn sheep is threatened primarily by transmission of disease from domestic sheep and goats, and predation by mountain lions. Key elements for immediate action are: (1) Predator management; (2) augmentation of small herds with sheep from larger ones; and (3) elimination of the threat of a pneumonia epizootic resulting from contact with domestic sheep or goats. Actions needed to recover the bighorn