

Yosemite National Park  
Tamarack Flat  
Yosemite Co: Mariposa CA 95389–  
Landholding Agency: Interior  
Property Number: 61200420009  
Status: Unutilized  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 4702  
Yosemite National Park  
Mariposa Grove  
Yosemite Co: Mariposa CA 95389–  
Landholding Agency: Interior  
Property Number: 61200420010  
Status: Unutilized  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg./Lodge  
Yosemite National Park  
Yosemite Co: Mariposa CA 95389–  
Landholding Agency: Interior  
Property Number: 61200420011  
Status: Unutilized  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 89  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420059  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 128  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420060  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 249  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420061  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 250  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420062  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 357  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420063  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 467  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420064  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration  
Bldg. 469  
Naval Base  
San Diego Co: CA –  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420065  
Status: Excess  
Reason: Extensive deterioration

Georgia  
17 Bldgs.

Naval Air Station  
Marietta Co: Cobb GA 30060–  
Location: 50–52, 61–61, 55–59, 66–69, 86–87,  
206  
Landholding Agency: Navy  
Property Number: 77200420066  
Status: Excess  
Reasons: Within 2,000 ft. of flammable or  
explosive material  
Secured Area  
*Land (by State)*  
Alabama  
Stockpile Storage Site  
Hamilton Blvd.  
Republished  
Theodore AL 36582–  
Landholding Agency: GSA  
Property Number: 54200420003  
Status: Excess  
Within 2,000 ft. of flammable or explosive  
material  
GSA Number: 4–G–AL–0772

[FR Doc. 04–14723 Filed 7–1–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210–29–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for the Pecos Sunflower (*Helianthus paradoxus*)

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of the draft Recovery Plan for the Pecos sunflower (*Helianthus paradoxus*). The Pecos sunflower is a wetland annual plant that grows on wet, alkaline soils at spring seeps, wet meadows and pond margins. It has six widely spaced populations in west-central and eastern New Mexico and west Texas. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft plan.

**DATES:** The comment period for this proposal closes on August 2, 2004. Comments on the draft Recovery Plan must be received by the closing date.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the draft Recovery Plan can obtain a copy from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna, NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87113. If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this draft Recovery Plan to the Field Supervisor at the address above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rawles Williams, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, at the

above address; telephone 505/346–2525, facsimile 505/346–2542.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare Recovery Plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery Plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) 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, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during Recovery Plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing Recovery Plans.

The document submitted for review is the draft Recovery Plan for the Pecos sunflower. The species was listed as threatened on October 20, 1999, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

The threats facing the survival and recovery of this species are the loss and alteration of its wetland habitat due to aquifer depletions, diversions of surface water, and filling wetlands for conversion to dry land; competition from non-native plant species, including Russian olive and saltcedar; excessive livestock grazing; and, highway maintenance and mowing. The draft Recovery Plan includes scientific information about the species and provides objectives and actions needed to delist the species. Recovery activities designed to achieve these objectives include identifying and securing core conservation habitats essential for the long-term survival of this species, continuing life history, population, and habitat studies, ensuring compliance with existing regulations, and promoting opportunities for voluntary conservation of the species.

The draft Recovery Plan is being submitted for technical and agency

review. After consideration of comments received during the review period, the Recovery Plan will be submitted for final approval.

#### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the draft Recovery Plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the final Recovery Plan.

#### Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: June 15, 2004.

#### Dom Ciccone,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2.*

[FR Doc. 04-15063 Filed 7-1-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of Application for Incidental Take of the Houston Toad by Aqua Water Supply Corporation, Lower Colorado River Authority, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Austin Energy

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Aqua Water Supply Corporation, Lower Colorado River Authority, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Austin Energy (Applicants) have applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit (TE-078366-0) pursuant to Section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The requested permit, which is for a period of 30 years, would authorize incidental take of the endangered Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*) during the routine maintenance and repair of existing facilities and installation of new facilities within the 142,526-acre covered area of Bastrop and Lee counties, Texas.

The Service and applicant have prepared the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) for the incidental take application. A determination of jeopardy to the species and a decision under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will not be made until at least 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is

provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and NEP regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

**DATES:** Written comments on the application should be received on or before August 31, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to Scott Rowin, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758 (512/490-0057). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request or by appointment only during normal business hours (8:00 am to 4:30 pm) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Austin, Texas. Data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758. Please refer to permit number TE-078366-0 when submitting comments.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott Rowin at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758 (512/490-0057).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

*Applicants:* Aqua Water Supply Corporation, Lower Colorado River Authority, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Austin Energy have developed an HCP that specifies what steps the applicants will take to minimize and mitigate impacts to the Houston toad during routine activities including, but not limited to, maintenance, repair, upgrades, and new installation of linear and fixed foundation facilities. The Applicants cooperatively developed this alternative in order to provide tangible conservation measures for the Houston toad and wildlife in general, provide a reliable source of funding available for additional conservation initiatives, provide realistic and immediate solutions to business needs, and continue to provide timely and affordable services to local residents.

Issuance of the permit would authorize activities described above on approximately 6,792 acres of the 142,526-acre covered area. Facilities already in existence cover approximately 4,241.2 of the 6,792 acres. Coverage of the remaining 2,550.4 acres will result from the installation of new facilities. Many existing facilities (on approximately 2,240.8 acres) occur within right-of-ways (ROW) (primarily road ROWs) managed and maintained by other entities. The Applicants estimate that 2,023.5 acres of the anticipated future facilities would be placed within similar ROWs. The remaining 526.9 acres of new facilities would likely be constructed outside of existing roadway ROWs and throughout the covered area. Installation of new facilities would be accomplished gradually over the life of the permit.

Both the Service and Applicants agree that not all portions of the covered area contain suitable Houston toad habitat, and not all covered activities would result in take of the Houston toad. However, in an effort to efficiently and effectively allow normal business practices to continue, and to compensate for any impacts to the Houston toad, the Applicants propose to mitigate for all activities performed within the covered area as described in Sections 6.2.1.2, 6.2.1.3, and 6.2.2 of the EA/HCP, which would provide mitigation fees throughout the life of the permit and thus provide a substantial and dependable source of funds for toad conservation; an expected \$1,866,354 over the life of the permit. The Applicants proposed this mitigation strategy so that the cost of mitigation could be spread over the life of the permit. Additionally, under this strategy the costs associated with mitigation could be incorporated into long-term budgeting and planning. Mitigation would occur regardless of whether the activities described above would result in take of the Houston toad.

#### Susan MacMullin,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

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