

and will become part of the Jupiter Ridge Natural Area. In order to minimize take on-site the Applicant proposes to mitigate for the loss of 0.54 acre of scrub-jay habitat by contributing a total of \$94,112.34 to the Florida Scrub-jay Conservation Program Fund administered by The Nature Conservancy. Funds in this account are earmarked for use in the conservation and recovery of scrub-jays and may include habitat acquisition, restoration, and/or management. In addition, the Applicant will contribute \$10,000 to the County's Natural Areas Stewardship Endowment Fund to provide for the perpetual management and maintenance of the preserve.

The Service has determined that the Applicant's proposal, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures, will have a minor or negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP. Therefore, the ITP is a "low-effect" project and qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1). This preliminary information may be revised based on our review of public comments that we receive in response to this notice. Low-effect HCPs are those involving (1) Minor or negligible effects on federally listed or candidate species and their habitats, and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources.

The Service will evaluate the HCP and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). If it is determined that those requirements are met, the ITP will be issued for the incidental take of the Florida scrub-jay. The Service will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

Authority: This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: June 21, 2007.

Paul Souza,

Field Supervisor, South Florida Ecological Services Field Office.

[FR Doc. E7-12424 Filed 6-26-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for Construction of a Single-Family Home in Charlotte County, FL

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of an incidental take permit (ITP) and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Bill Henshaw (Applicant) requests an ITP pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Applicant anticipates taking about 0.25 acre of foraging and sheltering habitat occupied by the threatened Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) (scrub-jay) incidental to lot preparation for the construction of a single-family home and supporting infrastructure in Charlotte County, Florida (Project). The Applicant's HCP describes the mitigation and minimization measures proposed to address the effects of the Project on the Florida scrub-jay.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on the ITP application and HCP on or before July 27, 2007.

ADDRESSES: See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for information on how to submit your comments on the ITP application and HCP. You may obtain a copy of the ITP application and HCP by writing to: South Florida Ecological Services Field Office, Attn: Permit number TE154810-0, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, Florida, 32960-3559. In addition, we will make the ITP application and HCP available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the South Florida Ecological Services Office at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Trish Adams, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, South Florida Ecological Services Office (see **ADDRESSES**), telephone: 772/562-3909, ext. 232.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you wish to comment on the ITP application and HCP, you may submit comments by any one of several methods. Please reference permit number TE154810-0 in such comments. You may mail comments to the Service's South Florida Ecological Services Office (see **ADDRESSES**). You may also e-mail your comments to trish_adams@fws.gov. If you do not receive a confirmation from us that we have received your e-mail

message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Finally, you may hand deliver comments to the South Florida Ecological Services Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Residential construction for the Henshaw HCP will take place within Section 11, Township 41, Range 20, Englewood, Charlotte County, Florida, at 10239 Castanet Avenue. This lot is within scrub-jay occupied habitat.

The lot encompasses about 0.25 acre, and the footprint of the home, infrastructure, and landscaping precludes retention of scrub-jay habitat on this lot. In order to minimize take onsite the Applicant proposes to mitigate for the loss of 0.25 acre of scrub-jay habitat by contributing a total of \$18,113 to the Florida Scrub-jay Conservation Fund administered by The Nature Conservancy or a Service approved conservation bank. The Conservation Fund is earmarked for use in the conservation and recovery of scrub-jays and may include habitat acquisition, restoration, and/or management.

The Service has determined that the Applicant's proposal, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures, will have a minor or negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP. Therefore, the ITP is a "low-effect" project and qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1). This preliminary information may be revised based on our review of public comments that we receive in response to this notice. Low-effect HCPs are those involving (1) minor or negligible effects on federally listed or candidate species and their habitats, and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources.

The Service will evaluate the HCP and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). If it is determined that those requirements are met, the ITP will be issued for the

incidental take of the Florida scrub-jay. The Service will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

Authority: This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: June 21, 2007.

Paul Souza,

Field Supervisor, South Florida Ecological Services Office.

[FR Doc. E7-12452 Filed 6-26-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) Recovery Plan Revision

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce availability of the approved revised recovery plan for running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*). This species is federally listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act).

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the recovery plan by any of the following means:

1. *World Wide Web:* <http://midwest.fws.gov/endangered/>; or
2. *U.S. mail or in-person pickup:* Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6950 Americana Parkway, Suite H, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-4127; telephone, (614) 469-6923.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sarena M. Selbo at the above address and telephone (ext. 17). TTY users may contact Ms. Selbo through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant species 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. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for reclassification and delisting, and

provide estimates of the time and cost for implementing recovery measures.

The Act (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 we provide public notice and opportunity for public review and comment during recovery plan development. We announced availability of our draft revised recovery plan in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 2005 (70 FR 47222), and requested public comments. The comment period closed on October 11, 2005. In our preparation of the approved revised recovery plan, we considered information provided to us during the comment period, and we have summarized this information in an appendix to the revised recovery plan.

Running buffalo clover was listed as endangered on July 6, 1987. The original recovery plan was approved on July 8, 1989. This is the first recovery plan revision. Running buffalo clover formerly occurred from West Virginia to Kansas. It is currently extant in limited portions of Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, and West Virginia. Running buffalo clover occurs in mesic habitats of partial to filtered sunlight, where there is a prolonged pattern of moderate periodic disturbance, such as mowing, trampling, or grazing. It is most often found in regions underlain with limestone or other calcareous bedrock.

The primary threat to running buffalo clover is habitat alteration. Factors that contribute to this threat include natural forest succession and subsequent canopy closure, competition by invasive plant species, and catastrophic disturbance such as development or road construction. The elimination of bison and other large herbivores may also be a threat to this species. In addition to these threats, inherent biological vulnerabilities of running buffalo clover include its reliance on pollinators, seed scarification, and dispersal mechanisms, as well as a dependence on disturbance.

Given the known threats and constraints, the recovery effort for running buffalo clover focuses primarily on increasing the number of conserved and managed populations, determining the viability of existing populations, and research on the species ecological requirements. Key to this strategy is the conservation and management of various-sized populations of running buffalo clover throughout the species' geographic range. The recovery criteria and actions rely heavily on retaining and managing suitable habitat. A greater

understanding of the biotic and abiotic needs of running buffalo clover is also key to the species recovery.

Downlisting Criteria

Running buffalo clover will be considered for downlisting to threatened status when the likelihood of the species becoming extinct in the foreseeable future has been eliminated by achievement of the following criteria:

(1) Seventeen populations, in total, are distributed as follows: 1 A-ranked, 3 B-ranked, 3 C-ranked, and 10 D-ranked populations across at least 2 of the 3 regions in which running buffalo clover currently occurs (Appalachian, Bluegrass, and Ozark). The number of populations required in each rank is based on what would be necessary to achieve a 95 percent probability of persistence within the next 20 years based on population viability analysis.

(2) For each A-ranked and B-ranked population described in downlisting criterion 1, population viability analysis indicates a 95 percent persistence within the next 20 years, or, for any population that does not meet the 95 percent persistence standard, the population meets the definition of viable. For downlisting purposes, viability is defined as follows: (A) Seed production is occurring; (B) the population is stable or increasing, based on at least 5 years of censusing; and (C) appropriate management techniques are in place.

(3) The land on which each of the populations described in downlisting criterion 1 occurs is owned by a government agency or private conservation organization that identifies maintenance of the species as one of the primary conservation objectives for the site, or, the population is protected by a conservation agreement that commits the landowner to habitat management for the species. Natural resource management plans on Federal lands may be suitable for meeting this criterion.

Delisting Criteria

Running buffalo clover will be considered for delisting when the likelihood of the species becoming threatened in the foreseeable future has been eliminated by the achievement of the following criteria:

(1) Thirty-four populations, in total, are distributed as follows: 2 A-ranked, 6 B-ranked, 6 C-ranked, and 20 D-ranked populations across at least 2 of the 3 regions in which running buffalo clover occurs (Appalachian, Bluegrass, and Ozark). The number of populations in each rank is based on what would be required to achieve a 95 percent