

of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and HUD's implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 135, which require that, to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training and employment be given to low-income persons residing within the unit of local government for the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the project is located.

Dated: September 11, 2007.

Nelson R. Bregón,

*General Deputy Assistant, Secretary for
Community Planning and Development.*

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BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Howland Island National Wildlife Refuge, Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge, and Jarvis Island National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Territories

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft
comprehensive conservation plans and
associated environmental assessments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service (Service), announce the
availability of the Draft Comprehensive
Conservation Plans and Environmental
Assessments (Draft CCPs/EAs) for
public review and comments, for
Howland Island National Wildlife
Refuge, Baker Island National Wildlife
Refuge, and Jarvis Island National
Wildlife Refuge. These three national
wildlife refuges are unincorporated U.S.
territories located in the central Pacific
Ocean, hereinafter collectively called
Refuges. These Draft CCPs/EAs describe
the Service's proposal for management
of the Refuges over the next 15 years.

DATES: Written comments must be
received at the address below by
October 30, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the Draft
CCPs/EAs should be addressed to:
Donald Palawski, Refuge Manager,
Pacific Remote Islands National Wildlife
Refuge Complex, 300 Ala Moana Blvd.,
Room 5-231, Honolulu, HI 96717.
Comments may also be submitted via
electronic mail to
FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov.
Please use Pacific Island NWR CCPs, in
the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Donald Palawski, Refuge Manager,
phone number (808) 792-9560.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CCPs/
EAs were prepared pursuant to the
National Wildlife Refuge System
Administration Act of 1966, as amended
by the National Wildlife Refuge System
Improvement Act of 1997, and the
National Environmental Policy Act of
1969 (NEPA). Proposed changes to
refuge management include more
frequent biological surveys, attraction of
two rare seabird species to the refuges,
and increased scientific research
opportunities. No public uses of the
Refuges are proposed.

Copies of the Draft CCPs/EAs may be
obtained by writing to the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service, Attn: Charles Pelizza,
Refuge Conservation Planner, Hawaiian
and Pacific Islands Refuges, c/o Oahu
NWR Complex, 66-590 Kamehameha
Highway, Haleiwa, HI 96712. The Draft
CCPs/EAs will also be available for
viewing and downloading online at
<http://pacific.fws.gov/planning>. Copies
of the Draft CCPs/EAs may be viewed at
the Pacific Remote Islands National
Wildlife Refuge Complex Office during
the regular business working hours from
7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through
Friday. The office is located in the
Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole
Federal Building at 300 Ala Moana
Blvd., Room 5-231, Honolulu, HI.

Background

The Refuges are located near the
Equator between 1,300 and 1,700
nautical miles south to southwest from
their administrative office in Honolulu,
HI. These Refuges are part of the
National Wildlife Refuge System
(System) which is managed by the
Service. We are developing individual
Draft CCPs/EAs for each of the Refuges,
however, we are developing them under
one planning process, because they are
part of the same ecosystem and share
many of the same issues and
management opportunities.

These Refuges were established in
1974, when the Secretary of the Interior
transferred responsibility for the
islands, and their territorial seas
outward to the 3-nautical-mile limit,
from the Office of Territorial Affairs to
the Service. The islands range in size
from 648 to 1,273 acres with total
acreage for the Refuges ranging from
31,909 to 37,487 acres. The purpose for
establishing the Refuges is "the
restoration and preservation of the
complete ecosystem, terrestrial and
marine." Special emphasis is placed on
the protection, restoration, and
preservation of nesting seabirds.
Because of the physical characteristics
of these islands, landings and access are
extremely hazardous; therefore, the
Refuges have been closed to public

entry since establishment, to protect
wildlife values and human safety.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the CCPs is to provide
a coherent, integrated set of
management actions to help attain the
purposes and objectives of the Refuges.
The CCPs identify the conservation role
of the Refuges, explain the Service's
proposed management actions, and
provide a basis for Refuge budget
requests.

Alternatives

Four alternatives for managing the
Refuges for the next 15 years are
identified and evaluated in the Draft
CCPs/EAs. The preferred alternative in
each CCP/EA is to implement
Alternative B. Alternative B achieves
the Refuges' purposes, and goals;
contributes to the System mission;
addresses significant issues and relevant
mandates; and is consistent with
principles of sound fish and wildlife
management. The Refuges are currently
closed to all public use activities and
will remain closed under each
alternative.

Alternative A (No Action Alternative).
Alternative A provides a baseline from
which to compare the action
alternatives (Alternatives B, C, and D).
Under Alternative A, management
practices already underway or funded
would continue. These activities
include routine biological surveys,
inspection of entrance signs, monitoring
for the presence of invasive species, and
collection of marine debris. Visits
would occur once every 2 years and
would be arranged through, and
dependent upon, partner agencies and
organizations, as is current practice.

Alternative B. Alternative B is the
Service's preferred alternative. Under
Alternative B, the frequency of the
activities described in Alternative A
would increase and occur annually.
There would be no increase in the scope
or complexity of management activities.
The collection of scientific data and
assessment of habitat conditions would
continue to occur. Additional
management activities that would occur
under Alternative B include a project to
attract two rare seabird species to the
Refuges and a project to conduct
additional marine habitat exploration.

Alternative C. This alternative
includes a substantial increase in the
frequency of visits, and also increases
the scale and scope of management
activities conducted during site visits. A
Service owned or chartered research
vessel, and crew members and their
operational needs are required
components of this alternative.

Monitoring wildlife populations and habitats, restoring habitats, and other management activities could occur year-round. Year-round or seasonal field camps would be rotated among the Refuges so that a more complete understanding of annual cycles and fluctuations in wildlife populations would be possible.

Alternative D. Under Alternative D, a year-round field camp and would be rotated among the Refuges. A Service owned and operated vessel would be an integral and required component of this alternative. Surveys and monitoring activities under this alternative would provide the greatest understanding and most effective management of refuge resources. Scientific research would be encouraged and enhanced, with an opportunity for the Refuges to serve as baseline sites for global climate change research.

Public Comments

Public comments are requested, considered, and incorporated throughout the planning process. A previous notice was published in the **Federal Register** on September 14, 2005 (70 FR 54401) announcing the development of these Draft CCPs/EAs. After the review and comment period ends for these documents, comments will be analyzed by the Service and addressed in revised planning and NEPA documents. All comments received from individuals, including names and addresses, become part of the official public record and may be released. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations [40 CFR 1506.6(f)], and Service and Departmental policies and procedures.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available in accordance with law. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, Federal public disclosure requirements may apply.

Dated: July 16, 2007.

David J. Wesley,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. E7-18331 Filed 9-17-07; 8:45 am]

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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; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before October 18, 2007.

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 (telephone: 503-231-2063; 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: Linda Belluomini, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Portland address (telephone: 503-231-2063; fax: 503-231-6243).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 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.

Permit No. 160691

Applicant: Brian Meiering, Eugene, Oregon. The applicant request a permit to take (capture and translocate) the Oregon chub (*Oregonichthys crameri*) in conjunction with salvage operations in the State of Oregon for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Public Review of Comments

We solicit public review and comment on this recovery permit application. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, 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.

Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Dated: July 23, 2007.

David Wesley,

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

[FR Doc. E7-18317 Filed 9-17-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[Docket No. WO-310-1310-PB-24 1A]

Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Control Number 1004-0196

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect information from operators and operating rights owners who apply for designation of National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR) unit agreements. We collect nonform information to determine whether to grant approval to operate under a unit plan for NPR Federal lands. We require operators to retain and provide information to determine whether proposed unit agreements meet the requirements for unitized exploration and development of oil and gas resources of the NPR.

DATES: You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before November 19, 2007. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments to the OMB, Interior Department Desk Officer (1004-0196), at OMB-OIRA via e-mail OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov or via facsimile at (202) 395-6566. Also please send a copy of your comments to BLM via Internet and include your name, address, and ATTN: 1004-0196 in your Internet message to comments.washington@blm.gov or via mail to: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 401LS, 1849 C Street, NW., ATTN: