

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Endangered Species Recovery Permit Application**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit application, request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), invite the public to comment on the following application to conduct certain activities with an endangered species.

DATES: We must receive comments on this permit application on or before January 11, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Submit written data or comments to the Chief, Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, Massachusetts 01035 (telephone: 413-253-8615; fax: 413-253-8482). Please refer to the permit number when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martin Miller, at the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicant has applied for a scientific research permit to conduct specific activities with an endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We solicit review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit request:

Permit No. 166622

Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Virginia Field Office, Abingdon, Virginia. The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and kill) the Lee County Cave isopod (*Lirceus usdagalun*) for the purpose of defining populations genetically and determining the degree of genetic separation between populations.

Public Review of Comments

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.

Authority: The authority for this section is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

Dated: November 8, 2007.

Thomas J. Healy,

Acting Regional Director, Region 5, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. E7-24084 Filed 12-11-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Recovery Plan for *Hackelia venusta* (Showy Stickseed)**

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

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability of the Recovery Plan for *Hackelia venusta* (Showy Stickseed).

ADDRESSES: Copies of the final recovery plan are available by request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Central Washington Field Office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington 98801. Requests for copies of the final recovery plan and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to the Supervisor, Central Washington Field Office, at the above Wenatchee address. An electronic copy of the final recovery plan will also be made available online at <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/ecoservices/endangered/recovery/plans.html>. Printed copies of the recovery plan will be available for distribution in 4 to 6 weeks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim McCracken, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address, by calling 509-665-3508, extension 17, or by electronic mail to: Tim_McCracken@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of our endangered species program. The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (ESA) requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Recovery plans help guide the recovery effort by describing actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establishing criteria for downlisting or delisting

listed species, and estimating time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

Section 4(f) of the ESA requires that public notice, and an opportunity for public review and comment, be provided during recovery plan development. The Draft Recovery Plan for *Hackelia venusta* (Showy Stickseed) was available for public comment from March 13 through May 12, 2006 (71 FR 12711). All information presented during the public comment period has been considered prior to approval of this final recovery plan, and is summarized in an appendix to the recovery plan. Some substantive technical comments resulted in changes to the recovery plan. Some substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation did not result in changes to the recovery plan, but were forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individual responses to comments were not provided.

Hackelia venusta is an attractive perennial plant with showy white or blue-tinged flowers in the forget-me-not family (Boraginaceae). The species is a narrow endemic, being known from only 1 population of roughly 600 individuals in Chelan County, Washington. It occurs primarily on Federal lands, but a very small portion of the population is on private lands. Within its limited range, *Hackelia venusta* is found in open areas of steeply sloping, highly unstable granitic sand and granite cliffs. The common feature to its habitat appears to be the relatively sparse cover of other vascular plants and low canopy cover.

Hackelia venusta was listed as an endangered species in 2002 (67 FR 5515). The major threats to *Hackelia venusta* include: collection and physical disturbance to the plants and habitat by humans; mass wasting (landslides); nonnative noxious weeds; competition and shading from native trees and shrubs due to fire suppression; some highway maintenance activities; and low seedling establishment. The small population size and limited geographic extent of the species exacerbates all of these threats, and renders *Hackelia venusta* highly vulnerable to extirpation or extinction from either human-caused or random natural events.

The objective of the recovery plan is to reduce the threats to *Hackelia venusta* sufficient to accomplish increases in population size and geographic distribution across its estimated historical range so that the species is no longer in danger of

extinction. The first step in the recovery strategy for the species is to protect and stabilize the existing population. This includes management to maintain an open habitat; noxious weed control; minimizing the damage of collection and trampling within the population; seed collection and long-term seed banking to protect the genetic resources of the species; and the development and implementation of management plans. In addition, to reduce the potential for extinction due to loss of the single population, recovery actions will likely require establishing additional populations within the estimated historical range of the species.

The recovery of *Hackelia venusta* is complicated by the very small size and limited distribution of the single population, as well as by the extreme instability of the habitat where it occurs. Monitoring activities have the potential to destabilize the habitat and damage or even kill plants, particularly young germinants; therefore the need for monitoring and data collection must be carefully weighed against the possible negative impacts of such actions.

Authority

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

Dated: November 15, 2007.

Ren Lohofener,

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

[FR Doc. 07-5974 Filed 12-11-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AA-6676-F, AA-6676-J, AA-6676-L, AA-6676-A2; AK-964-1410-HY-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Koliganek Natives Limited. The lands are in the vicinity of Koliganek, Alaska, and are located in:

Seward Meridian, Alaska

- T. 5 S., R. 45 W., Secs. 30, 31, and 34. Containing approximately 1,283 acres.
- T. 5 S., R. 46 W., Secs. 21 and 25. Containing 1,260.86 acres.

T. 3 S., R. 48 W., Sec. 33.

Containing approximately 18 acres.

T. 5 S., R. 48 W., Secs. 16 and 17.

Containing 776.00 acres.

T. 5 S., R. 49 W., Secs. 7, 8, 17, and 18.

Containing 2,487.92 acres.

Aggregating approximately 5,826 acres.

The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to Bristol Bay Native Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to Koliganek Natives Limited. Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Bristol Bay Times.

DATES: The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until January 11, 2008 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4, subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: The Bureau of Land Management by phone at 907-271-5960, or by e-mail at ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunication device (TTD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact the Bureau of Land Management.

Michael Bilancione,

Land Transfer Resolution Specialist, Land Transfer Adjudication I.

[FR Doc. E7-24048 Filed 12-11-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

MMS Information Collection Activities: 1010-0082 (30 CFR 282), Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a reinstatement of an information collection (1010-0081).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork

requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR 282, Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf for Minerals Other than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

DATES: Submit written comments by January 11, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments either by fax (202) 395-6566 or e-mail (OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov) directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-0081). Mail or hand carry a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Cheryl Blundon; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. If you wish to e-mail your comments to MMS, the address is: rules.comments@mms.gov. Reference Information Collection 1010-0081 in your subject line and mark your message for return receipt. Include your name and return address in your message text.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cheryl Blundon, Regulations and Standards Branch, (703) 787-1607. You may also contact Cheryl Blundon to obtain a copy, at no cost, of the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR 282, Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf for Minerals Other than Oil, Gas, and Sulphur.

OMB Control Number: 1010-0081.

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1334 and 43 U.S.C. 1337(k)), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to implement regulations to grant to the qualified persons, offering the highest cash bonus on a basis of competitive bidding, leases of any mineral other than oil, gas, and sulphur. This applies to any area of the Outer Continental Shelf not then under lease for such mineral upon such royalty, rental, and other terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe at the time of offering the area for lease. This regulation governs mining operations within the OCS for minerals other than oil, gas and sulphur and establishes a comprehensive leasing and regulatory program for such minerals. These regulations have been designed to (1) recognize the differences between the OCS activities associated with oil, gas, and sulphur discovery and development, and those associated with