

625-TUC-WDB (EHC), No. CIV 95-1720-PHX-EHC) (Consolidated Action) in accordance with the repayment stipulation in that case.

Dated: December 10, 2007.

Dirk Kempthorne,

Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. E7-24257 Filed 12-13-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Statement of Findings: Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Amendments Act of 2004

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Statement of Findings in accordance with Title III of Public Law 108-451.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior is publishing this notice in accordance with section 302(b) of the Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Amendments Act of 2004 (Settlement Amendments Act), Public Law 108-451, 118 Stat. 3536, 3571-72. Congress enacted the Settlement Amendments Act as Title III of the Arizona Water Settlements Act (AWSA), Public Law 108-451, 118 Stat. 3478 *et seq.* The publication of this notice causes the amendments to the Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act of 1982 (1982 Act), Public Law 97-293, 96 Stat. 1274 (as amended), made by the Settlement Amendments Act to take effect.

DATES: *Effective Date:* In accordance with section 302(b) of the Settlement Amendments Act, Title III of Public Law 108-451 and the amendments made by Title III are effective on December 14, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Address all comments and requests for additional information to Deborah Saint, Chair, Arizona Water Settlements Implementation Team, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, Native American Affairs Office, 400 N 5th Street, Suite 1470, Phoenix, AZ 85004. (602) 379-3199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 1982 Act was enacted to resolve the water right claims of the San Xavier and Shuk Toak Districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation (Nation). Disagreement about the allocation of settlement benefits precluded implementation of the 1982 Act. On December 10, 2004, the Settlement Amendments Act was enacted as Title III of AWSA in order to

resolve issues which precluded implementation of the 1982 Act.

The purposes of the Settlement Amendments Act are:

- (1) To authorize, ratify, and confirm the Tohono O'odham settlement agreement, the Tucson agreement, the Asarco agreement and related leases, and the FICO agreement;
 - (2) To authorize and direct the Secretary to execute and perform all obligations of the Secretary under those agreements; and
 - (3) To authorize the actions and appropriations necessary for the United States to meet its obligations under those agreements and the Settlement Amendments Act.
- In order for the Settlement Amendments Act and its amendments to be effective and enforceable, the Secretary is required to make a statement of findings that certain conditions have been met.

Statement of Findings

In accordance with section 302(b) of the Settlement Amendments Act, I find as follows:

1. The Tohono O'odham settlement agreement has been revised to eliminate any conflicts with the Settlement Amendments Act and, as so revised, has been executed by the parties and the Secretary.

2. The Secretary and other parties to the Tucson agreement, the Asarco agreement and the FICO agreement described in section 309(h)(2) Settlement Amendments Act (as contained in the amendment made by section 301) have executed those agreements.

3. The Secretary has approved the interim allottee water rights code described in section 308(b)(3)(A) of the Settlement Amendments Act (as contained in the amendment made by section 301).

4. Final dismissal with prejudice has been entered in the Alvarez case and the Tucson case on the sole condition that this Statement of Findings be published.

5. The State court having jurisdiction over the Gila River Adjudication proceedings has approved the judgment and decree attached to the Tohono O'odham settlement agreement as exhibit 17.1, and that judgment and decree have become final and nonappealable.

6. Implementation costs totaling \$24,068,400, as specified in section 302(b)(6) of the Settlement Amendments Act, have been identified and retained in the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund.

7. The State of Arizona has enacted legislation that qualifies the Nation to earn long-term storage credits under the

Asarco agreement; implements the San Xavier groundwater protection program in accordance with paragraph 8.8 of the Tohono O'odham settlement agreement; enables the State to assist the Secretary in firming Central Arizona Project water pursuant to section 306(b); and confirms the jurisdiction of the State court having jurisdiction over Gila River Adjudication proceedings and decrees to carry out the provisions of sections 312(d) and 312(h) of the Settlement Amendments Act (as contained in the amendment made by section 301).

8. The Secretary and the State of Arizona have agreed to an acceptable schedule under which the State shall firm 15,000 acre-feet of agricultural priority Central Arizona Project water as referred to in section 105(b)(2)(C) of AWSA.

9. Final judgment has been entered in *Central Arizona Water Conservation District v. United States* (No. CIV 95-625-TUC-WDB (EHC), No. CIV 95-1720-PHX-EHC) (Consolidated Action) in accordance with the repayment stipulation in that case.

Dated: December 10, 2007.

Dirk Kempthorne,

Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. E7-24258 Filed 12-13-07; 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 January 14, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Program Manager, Region 8, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606, Sacramento, CA, 95825 (*telephone:* 916-414-6464; *fax:* 916-414-6486). 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: Daniel Marquez, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, see **ADDRESSES**, (telephone: 760-431-9440; fax: 760-431-9624).

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. 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.

Permit No. TE-168924

Applicant: Jeff E. Gurule, North Fork, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, and collect and kill) 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-168923

Applicant: Randall L. Stringer, Carmichael, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, and collect and kill) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), 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-043630

Applicant: San Francisco Estuary Institute, Oakland, California

The applicant requests an amendment to take (harass by survey) the California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*) in conjunction with

ecological research in San Francisco, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Solano, Napa, Sonoma, and Marin Counties for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-066621

Applicant: Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu, Point Mugu, California.

The permittee requests and amendment to take (harass by survey) the light footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*) and take (band chicks) the California least tern (*Sterna antillarum brownii*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring at Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu, California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-110373

Applicant: Eric F. Kline, San Diego, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-168927

Applicant: Drew C. Stokes, San Diego, California.

The permittee requests a permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, tag, collect tissue, mark by toe-clipping, and release) the arroyo southwestern toad (*Bufo microscaphus californicus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-839480

Applicant: Richard Zembal, Laguna Hills, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (harass by survey and monitor) the California least tern (*Sterna antillarum brownii*) in conjunction with population monitoring and other life history studies in Orange County California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-168926

Applicant: Kailash K. Mozumder, Encinitas, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-168957

Applicant: Virginia M. VonBerg, San Luis Obispo, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, and collect and kill) 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-142435

Applicant: Debra Shier, Topanga, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (capture, handle, mark, translocate, and release) the Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring 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. Comments and materials we receive will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Dated: December 10, 2007.

Michael Fris,

Acting Regional Director, Region 8, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. E7-24246 Filed 12-13-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' Proposed Trust Acquisition and Casino/Hotel Project, City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in cooperation with the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Tribe), intends to gather information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed fee-to-trust land acquisition and casino and hotel project (Proposed Action) located within the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to improve the tribal economy in order to better enable the