

Background

The Florida scrub-jay (scrub-jay) is found exclusively in peninsular Florida and is restricted to xeric upland communities (predominately in oak-dominated scrub with open canopies) of the interior and Atlantic coast sand ridges. Increasing urban and agricultural development has resulted in habitat loss and fragmentation, which have adversely affected the distribution and numbers of scrub-jays. Remaining habitat is largely degraded due to the exclusion of fire, which is needed to maintain xeric uplands in conditions suitable for scrub-jays. The total estimated population is between 7,000 and 11,000 individuals.

Applicant's Proposal

The applicant is requesting take of approximately 5.75 ac of occupied scrub-jay habitat incidental to the project. The 44-ac project is located northeast of the Hancock Road and Lost Lake intersection within Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 26 East, Lake County. The proposed project currently includes commercial buildings, infrastructure and a stormwater management system. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the Florida scrub-jay at a ratio of 2:1 based on Service Mitigation Guidelines. The applicant will contribute a total of \$215,050.00 to the USDA Forest Service to be utilized for scrub-jay conservation pursuant to an MOU between the Service and the Forest Service. As minimization for impacts to the species, clearing activities during project construction will occur outside the scrub-jay nesting season (March 1–June 30).

We have determined that the applicant's proposal, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures, would have minor or negligible effects on the species covered in the HCP. Therefore, the ITP is a "low-effect" project and qualifies for categorical exclusions 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. A low-effect HCP is one 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.

We 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 we determine that the application meets those requirements, we will issue the ITP for incidental take of the scrub-jay. We 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. We will use the results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

Authority: We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: January 10, 2008.

David L. Hankla,

Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AA-9205-C; 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 Goldbelt, Incorporated. The lands are in the vicinity of Juneau, Alaska, and are located in:

Tract A, U.S. Survey No. 1640, Alaska.

Containing 28.97 acres.

Copper River Meridian, Alaska

T. 42 S., R. 66 E.,
Sec. 15.

Containing approximately 1 acre.

T. 42 S., R. 67 E.,
Secs. 15 and 16.

Containing 90.05.

Aggregating approximately 91 acres.

Total aggregate is approximately 120 acres.

The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to Sealaska Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to Goldbelt, Incorporated. Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Juneau Empire.

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 February 19, 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. E8-776 Filed 1-16-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-44-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AA-11157; AK-964-1410-KC-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 the surface estate in certain lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Tanalian, Incorporated. The lands are in the vicinity of Port Alsworth, Alaska, and located in:

U.S. Survey No. 12170, Alaska.

Containing 159.96 acres.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 1 N., R. 29 W.,
Sec. 19.

Containing approximately 39 acres.

Aggregating approximately 199 acres.

Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Anchorage Daily News.

DATES: The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by