

identified in the *Recovery Plan for the Morro Shoulderband Snail and Four Plants from Western San Luis Obispo County, California* (USFWS 1998). A total of \$13,685 will be available to ensure that adequate funding is available to implement all of the minimization measures identified in the plan.

In the proposed HCP, the applicants consider two alternatives to the proposed action: “No Project” and “Project Re-design.” Under the “No Project” alternative, current conditions would be maintained, the HCP for Morro shoulderband snail would not be implemented and the Service would not issue an ITP. Under the “Project Re-design” alternative, a small area where vegetation is not as degraded would be conserved and placed in an open space easement intended to protect resource values. While this alternative could reduce take of the Morro shoulderband snail, it was not selected because the parcel is small, is located in a residential neighborhood, and contains only degraded, fragmented native habitat. The likely location for the conservation easement would be in the northern portion of the parcel; however, this area would likely serve as a sink for Morro shoulderband snails rather than contribute to their recovery.

We are requesting comments on our preliminary determination that the applicants’ proposal will have a minor or negligible effect on the Morro shoulderband snail and that the plan qualifies as a low-effect HCP as defined by our Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (November 1996). We base our determinations on three criteria: (1) Implementation of the proposed project as described in the HCP would result in minor or negligible effects on Federally listed, proposed, and/or candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the HCP would result in minor negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) HCP impacts, considered together with those of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, would not result in cumulatively significant effects. In our analysis of these criteria, we have made a preliminary determination that the approval of the HCP and issuance of an ITP qualify for categorical exclusions under the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), as provided by the Department of Interior Manual (516 DM 2 Appendix 2 and 516 DM 8); however, based upon our review of public comments that we receive in response to this notice, this preliminary determination may be revised.

Next Steps

We will evaluate the permit application, including the plan and comments we receive, to determine whether the application meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Act. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the ITP would comply with Section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service Section 7 consultation for the plan. We will use the results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, in our final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP. If the requirements are met, we will issue an ITP to the applicants for the incidental take of Morro shoulderband snail. We will make the final permit decision no sooner than 30 days after the date of this notice.

Public Review

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Act and the NEPA public involvement regulations (40 CFR 1500.1(b), 1500.2(d), and 1506.6). We are requesting comments on our determination that the applicants’ proposal will have a minor or negligible effect on the Morro shoulderband snail and that the plan qualifies as a “low-effect” HCP as defined by our 1996 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook. We will evaluate the permit application, including the plan and comments we receive, to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) permit would comply with section 7 of the Act by conducting intra-Service section 7 consultation for the plan. We will use the results of these consultations, in combination with the above findings, in our final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the permits. If the requirements are met, we will issue a permit to the applicants for the incidental take of Morro shoulderband snail. We will make the final permit decision no sooner than 30 days after the date of this notice.

Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit applications, plans, and associated documents, you may submit comments by any one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

Public Availability 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 view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: July 11, 2011.

Diane K. Noda,

Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, California.

[FR Doc. 2011-17830 Filed 7-14-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2011-N146; 1112-0000-81440-F2]

Kellaway Proposed Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Morro Shoulderband Snail, San Luis Obispo County, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from Thomas R. Kellaway and Doris J. Redmon (applicants) for a 5-year incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The application addresses the potential for “take” of the Federally endangered Morro shoulderband snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*) incidental to the construction and occupation of two single-family residences, one on each of two legal parcels occupied by the species in the community of Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County, California. The applicants would implement a conservation program to minimize and mitigate project activities as described in their low-effect habitat conservation plan (plan). We invite comments from the public on the application, which includes the Kellaway Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Morro Shoulderband Snail (HCP), which has been determined to be eligible for a Categorical Exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA).

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by August 15, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may download a copy of the HCP, draft Environmental Action Statement, Low-Effect Screening Form,

and related documents on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura/>, or you may request documents by U.S. mail or phone (see below). Please address written comments to Diane K. Noda, Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003. You may alternatively send comments by facsimile to (805) 644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie M. Vanderwier, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by calling (805) 644-1766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Morro shoulderband (banded dune) snail was listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered on December 15, 1994 (59 FR 64613). Section 9 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations prohibit the “take” of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. “Take” is defined under the Act to include the following activities: “[T]o harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct” (16 U.S.C. 1532). However, under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act, we may issue permits to authorize incidental take of listed species. “Incidental Take” is defined by the Act as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are, respectively, in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22. Issuance of an incidental take permit also must not jeopardize the existence of Federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant species.

However, take of listed plants is not prohibited under the Act unless such take would violate State law. As such, take of plants cannot be authorized under an incidental take permit. Plant species may be included on a permit in recognition of the conservation benefits provided them under a habitat conservation plan. All species included in the incidental take permit would receive assurances under our “No Surprises” regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(55) and 17.32(b)(5)). In addition to meeting other criteria, actions undertaken through implementation of the HCP must not jeopardize the continued existence of Federally listed plant or animal species.

The applicants seek an incidental take permit for direct impacts to 1.68 acres of coastal dune scrub, maritime

chaparral, and ruderal habitat occupied by Morro shoulderband snail in association with the construction and occupation of a single-family residence on each of two existing parcels. The project is proposed for separate legal parcels of 5.08 acres and 0.45 acre, legally described as Assessor Parcel Numbers 074-022-042 and 074-483-052, respectively. Both are located between Seahorse Lane and San Leandro Court in the southwestern portion of the unincorporated community of Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County, California. The applicants are requesting a permit for take of Morro shoulderband snail that would result from the “Covered Activities” that include the construction and occupation of two single-family residences and habitat enhancement activities.

The applicants propose to minimize, and mitigate take of Morro shoulderband snail associated with the covered activities by fully implementing the plan. The project was redesigned to reduce the impact footprint such that known locations of live Morro shoulderband snail could be avoided. The following measures will be implemented to minimize the effects of the taking: (1) Pre-construction and construction monitoring surveys for Morro shoulderband snail will be conducted within the 1.68-acre impact area, (2) all identified individuals of Morro shoulderband snail will be relocated by an individual in possession of a current valid recovery permit for the species into the conservation easement area out of harm’s way, (3) installation of protective fencing, and (4) development and presentation of a contractor and employee training program for Morro shoulderband snail. The following measures will be implemented to mitigate for unavoidable take: (1) Preservation in perpetuity of 3.83 acres of coastal dune scrub and maritime chaparral habitats occupied by Morro shoulderband snail in a conservation easement that will preclude any use not consistent with resource management, (2) enhancement of 0.24 acres of disturbed coastal dune scrub within the conservation easement to increase its value and function for Morro shoulderband snail, and (3) post-construction monitoring and maintenance of the habitat enhancement activities within conservation easement area for a period of 4 years to ensure its success. A Letter of Credit in the amount of \$16,740 will be established to ensure that adequate funding is available to implement all of the

minimization and mitigation measures contained in the plan.

In the proposed HCP, the applicants consider two alternatives to the proposed action: “No Action” and “Alternate Design.” Under the “No Action” alternative, current conditions would be maintained, the HCP for Morro shoulderband snail would not be implemented, and the Service would not issue an ITP. Under the “Alternate Design” alternative, the project would be redesigned to reduce take. Because the entire property contains coastal scrub that provides habitat for Morro shoulderband snail, it is not feasible to design the project to avoid take. Further reducing the footprint of the houses would not meet the client’s needs and would not significantly reduce impacts to the species. For these reasons, this redesign alternative has been rejected.

We are requesting comments on our preliminary determination that the applicants’ proposal will have a minor or negligible effect on the Morro shoulderband snail and that the plan qualifies as a low-effect HCP as defined by our Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (November 1996). We base our determinations on three criteria: (1) Implementation of the proposed project as described in the HCP would result in minor or negligible effects on Federally listed, proposed, and/or candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the HCP would result in minor negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) HCP impacts, considered together with those of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, would not result in cumulatively significant effects. In our analysis of these criteria, we have made a preliminary determination that the approval of the HCP and issuance of an ITP qualify for categorical exclusions under the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), as provided by the Department of Interior Manual (516 DM 2 Appendix 2 and 516 DM 8); however, based upon our review of public comments that we receive in response to this notice, this preliminary determination may be revised.

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Public Review

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Public Comments

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Public Availability 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 view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: July 11, 2011.

Diane K. Noda,

Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, California.

[FR Doc. 2011-17829 Filed 7-14-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Higher Education Grant Program Application; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is seeking comments on renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the collection of information for the Higher Education Grant Program Application. The information collection is currently authorized by OMB Control Number 1076-0101, which expires November 30, 2011.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before *September 13, 2011*.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to Brandi Sweet, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street, NW., MS-4141, Washington, DC 20240, fax (202) 208-3312; e-mail: Brandi.Sweet@bie.edu.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brandi Sweet, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education. Telephone (202) 208-5504.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is seeking renewal of the approval for the information collection conducted under 25 CFR Part 40, requiring prospective students to provide certain information to allow BIE to make a determination in the eligibility of an applicant for funding. This information is collected on a grant application form. This renewal does not include any change to the form or burden hours.

II. Request for Comments

The Bureau of Indian Education requests that you send your comments on this collection to the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Your comments should address: (a) The necessity of the information collection for the proper performance of the agencies, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden (hours and costs) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways we could

enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or conduct, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number. This information collection expires November 30, 2011.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section during the hours of 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday except for legal holidays. Before including your address, telephone number, e-mail address or other personally identifiable information, be advised that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be made public at any time. While you may request that we withhold your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 1076-0101.

Title: Higher Education Grant Application, 25 CFR part 40.

Brief Description of Collection: Submission of this information allows respondents receiving a benefit to annually complete the form to demonstrate unmet financial need for consideration of a grant. Response is required to obtain a benefit.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Students through the tribally controlled institutions of higher education.

Number of Respondents: 14,000 per year, on average.

Frequency of Response: Once per year.

Estimated Time per Response: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 14,000 hours.

Dated: July 6, 2011.

Alvin Foster,

Acting Chief Information Officer—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2011-17792 Filed 7-14-11; 8:45 am]

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