

proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submissions of responses.

#### Analysis

*Agency:* Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, DHS.

*Title:* Agency Information Collection Activities: Post-Award Contract Information.

*OMB Number:* 1600-0003.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector.

*Number of Respondents:* 11,885.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 14 hours.

*Total Burden Hours:* 499,170 hours.

Dated: July 22, 2015.

**Carlene C. Ieto,**

*Executive Director, Enterprise Business Management Office.*

[FR Doc. 2015-18656 Filed 7-29-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-9B-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-ES-2015-N130;  
FXES11130600000-156-FF06E00000]

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following recovery permit applications to conduct activities intended to enhance the survival of target endangered species.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by August 31, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments or requests for copies or more information by any of the following methods. Alternatively, you may use one of the following methods to request hard copies or a CD-ROM of the documents. Please specify the permit

you are interested in by number (*e.g.*, Permit No. TE-XXXXXX).

• *Email:* [permitsR6ES@fws.gov](mailto:permitsR6ES@fws.gov).

Please refer to the respective permit number (*e.g.*, Permit No. TE-XXXXXX) in the subject line of the message.

• *U.S. Mail:* Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486-DFC, Denver, CO 80225.

• *In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pickup:* Call (719) 628-2670 to make an appointment during regular business hours at 134 Union Blvd., Suite 645, Lakewood, CO 80228.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathy Konishi, Recovery Permits Coordinator, Ecological Services, (719) 628-2670 (phone); [permitsR6ES@fws.gov](mailto:permitsR6ES@fws.gov) (email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) prohibits certain activities with endangered and threatened species unless authorized by a Federal permit. Along with our implementing regulations at 50 CFR 17, the Act provides for permits and requires that we invite public comment before issuing permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittees to conduct activities with U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of propagation or survival, or interstate commerce (the latter only in the event that it facilitates scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival). Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

#### Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies and the public to comment on the following applications. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with their applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

#### Permit Application Number TE07858A

*Applicant:* Utah State University, Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate, AGRS 339, Logan, UT.

The applicant requests an amendment to their permit that will extend the expiration date. They wish to continue

fruit and seed research for the shrubby reed-mustard (*Schoenocrambe suffrutescens*) in Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Permit Application Number TE106387

*Applicants:* USDA Bridger-Teton National Forest, Pinedale, WY.

The applicant requests an amendment to their permit to adjust the take allocation for Kendall Warm Springs dace (*Rhinichthys osculus thermalis*). The request corrects an omission from the original consultation for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### National Environmental Policy Act

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).

#### Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**Michael G. Thabault,**

*Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region.*

[FR Doc. 2015-18673 Filed 7-29-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2015-N142];  
[FXES11130800000-154-FF08E00000]

#### Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (Act) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing recovery permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before August 31, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the Endangered Species Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 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.

**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 under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We seek review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit requests.

#### Applicants

Permit No. TE-72047A-2

Applicant: Martina Pernicano, Golden, Colorado

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey and population monitoring throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-69046B

Applicant: Jim Asmus, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta*

*sandiegonsis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-012137

Applicant: Fort Hunter Liggett, Fort Hunter Liggett, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonsis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*); take (capture, band, and release) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); and take (capture, handle, measure, test for chytrid fungus, captive rear, and release) the arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (*Anaxyrus californicus*) in conjunction with surveys and research on Fort Hunter Liggett for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-830213

Applicant: EcoPlan Associates, Inc., Mesa, Arizona

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, California, and Clark County, Nevada, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-12511A

Applicant: Kathryn Allan, San Francisco, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, mark, and release) the salt marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-225974

Applicant: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, Los Altos, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, transfer, and release)

the San Francisco garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*) and California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) (*R. aurora d.*) in conjunction with habitat management activities within the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-122632

Applicant: Kimberly Ferree, Encinitas, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (locate and monitor nests, capture, mark, band, release, and remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); and take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-headed cowbird eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys and population studies throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-001075

Applicant: Marc Blain, Pasadena, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-820658

Applicant: AECOM Technical Services, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonsis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*); take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. browni*); take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County

Distinct Population Segment (DPS) and Sonoma County DPS) (*Ambystoma californiense*); take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*), Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratooides nitratooides*), and unarmored threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring throughout the range of the species in California; take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); and take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the Pacific pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-815214

Applicant: Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, Pismo Beach, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, erect fence and nest enclosures, use remote sensing cameras, remove nonviable eggs, translocate viable eggs from abandoned nests, transport eggs, capture, band, and release chicks, and carry out predator control) the California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. browni*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring within Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-72045A

Applicant: Alisa Zych, Cardiff by the Sea, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-758175

Applicant: Griffith Wildlife Biology, Calumet, Michigan

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-

headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (harass by survey) the light-footed Ridgway's rail (light-footed clapper r.) (*Rallus obsoletus levipes*) (*R. longirostris l.*) and Yuma Ridgway's rail (Yuma clapper r.) (*Rallus obsoletus yumanensis*) (*R. longirostris y.*); and take (use recorded vocalizations, locate and monitor nests, capture, band, release, and remove brown-headed cowbird eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in conjunction with surveys and population studies throughout the range of the species in Arizona, California, Nevada, and New Mexico, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-816187

Applicant: David Cook, Santa Rosa, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County DPS and Sonoma County DPS) (*Ambystoma californiense*) and Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum croceum*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-07059A

Applicant: Paul Marsh, Tempe, Arizona

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (capture, mark, tag, measure, and release) the Virgin River chub (*Gila robusta seminuda*), woundfin (*Plagopterus argentissimus*), and Colorado pikeminnow (squawfish) (*Ptychocheilus lucius*); take (capture, mark, tag, measure, and release or collect) the razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*); and take (capture, mark, tag, measure, fin clip, collect vouchers, and release) the desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*) in conjunction with survey, research, genetic analysis, and population monitoring activities in California and Nevada for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-70888B

Applicant: Robert Klinger, Oakhurst, California

The applicant requests a new permit to take (harass by survey, capture, mark, handle, release, and construct predator enclosures) the Amargosa vole (*Microtus californicus scirpensis*) in conjunction

with research activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-778195

Applicant: HELIX Environmental Planning, La Mesa, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, collect branchiopod cysts, collect, process, and analyze soil samples for egg identification) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*); take (locate and monitor nests and remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-065741

Applicant: John Lovio, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*); take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (locate and monitor nests and remove brown-headed cowbird eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-055013

Applicant: San Bernardino National Forest, San Bernardino, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to remove/reduce to possession the following species, in conjunction with implementing land management strategies on and adjacent to the San Bernardino National Forest, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

- *Eremogone ursina* (Bear Valley sandwort),
- *Astragalus albens* (Cushenbury milk-vetch),
- *Astragalus brauntonii* (Braunton's milk-vetch),
- *Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *coachellae* (Coachella Valley milk-vetch),
- *Astragalus tricarinatus* (triple-ribbed milk-vetch),
- *Berberis nevini* (Nevin's barberry),
- *Brodiaea filifolia* (thread-leaved brodiaea),
- *Castilleja cinerea* (ash-grey paintbrush),
- *Dodecahema leptoceras* (slender-horned spineflower),
- *Eriastrum densifolium* subsp. *sanctorum* (Santa Ana River woolly-star),
- *Eriogonum kennedyi* var. *austromontanum* (southern mountain wild-buckwheat),
- *Eriogonum ovalifolium* var. *vineum* (Cushenbury buckwheat),
- *Erigeron parishii* (Parish's daisy),
- *Physaria kingii* subsp. *bernardina* (*Lesquerella k.* subsp. *b.*) (San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod),
- *Acanthoscyphus parishii* var. *goodmaniana* (*Oxytheca p.* var. *g.*) (Cushenbury oxytheca),
- *Poa atropurpurea* (San Bernardino bluegrass),
- *Sidalcea pedata* (pedate checker-mallow),
- *Taraxacum californicum* (California taraxacum), and
- *Thelypodium stenopetalum* (slender-petaled mustard)

## Permit No. TE-100008

Applicant: Daniel Cooper, Oak Park, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-36500A

Applicant: Western Foundation for Vertebrate Zoology, Camarillo, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (locate and monitor nests, remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests, capture, band, and release) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring throughout the Santa Clara River corridor in Ventura County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-139628

Applicant: Garcia and Associates, San Francisco, California

The applicant requests a permit amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (*Rana sierrae*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-119861

Applicant: Quad Knopt, Inc., Fresno, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take the (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*); take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County DPS and Sonoma County DPS) (*Ambystoma californiense*) and California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) (*R. aurora d.*); take (harass by survey, capture, handle, mark, fit with radio transmitters, hold in captivity, and release) the Fresno kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratooides exilis*), giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*), and Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratooides nitratooides*); and take (harass by survey, capture, handle, mark, take biological samples, and release) the Buena Vista Lake shrew (*Sorex ornatus relictus*) in conjunction with surveys, population monitoring, and research activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-137006

Applicant: Thea Benson, Paso Robles, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-799557

Applicant: Robert Hamilton, Long Beach, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-71214B

Applicant: Tara Collins, Sacramento, California

The applicant requests a new permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

## Permit No. TE-95006A

Applicant: Stephen Chen, San Luis Obispo, California

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

## Permit No. TE-172638

Applicant: Kevin Livergood, Lake Forest, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect adult vouchers, collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta*

*sandiegensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-71221B-0

Applicant: Kimberly Boydston, Temecula, California

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

Permit No. TE-105545-3

Applicant: Wendy Knight, San Luis Obispo, California

The applicant requests a permit amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, take biological samples, hold, and release) the California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County DPS and Sonoma County DPS) (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with surveys and research activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-005956

Applicant: U.S. Geological Survey, Western Fisheries Research Center, Reno, NV

The applicant requests a permit amendment to take (capture, mark, tag, measure, transport, and release) the Pahrnagat roundtail chub (*Gila robusta jordani*) in conjunction with survey, research, genetic analysis, and population monitoring activities in Nevada for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Public Comments

We invite 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.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

Dated: July 24, 2015.

**Michael Long,**

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2015-18707 Filed 7-29-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R8-ES-2015-N126; FXES11130000-156-FF08E00000]**

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Draft Recovery Plan for Vine Hill Clarkia

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for Vine Hill Clarkia (*Clarkia imbricata*) for public review and comment. The draft recovery plan includes recovery objectives and criteria, and specific actions necessary to achieve downlisting and delisting from the Federal Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.

**DATES:** We must receive any comments on the draft recovery plan on or before September 28, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may obtain a copy of the recovery plan from our Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/species/recovery-plans.html>.

Alternatively, you may contact the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-2605, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone 916-414-6700).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Norris, Field Supervisor, at the above street address or telephone number (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Recovery of 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 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Recovery means improvement of the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer appropriate under the criteria specified in section 4(a)(1) of the Act.

The Act requires the development of recovery plans for listed species, unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species.

We listed Vine Hill clarkia throughout its entire range as endangered on October 22, 1997 (62 FR 55791). It is a narrow endemic, historically known from three locations in central Sonoma County, California, all three of which may be extirpated. Currently, the species is only known to exist as a single introduced population on the 0.6-hectare (1.5-acre) Vine Hill Preserve, owned and managed by the California Native Plant Society. Between 2007 and 2012, the population fluctuated from approximately 500 to 8,781 plants.

All known populations of Vine Hill clarkia are located between 60 to 75 meters (197 to 246 feet) elevation, on what has been mapped as Goldridge acidic sandy loams, in an area sometimes referred to as the Sonoma Barrens. The ability of Vine Hill clarkia to persist naturally outside of Sonoma Barrens conditions is unknown. The Sonoma Barrens are an area within Sonoma County located halfway between maritime and inland climates, in a pronounced fog gap that makes it subject to peculiar climatic fluctuations (Roof 1972).

At this time, the primary threats to Vine Hill clarkia are competition for light and space with native and non-native species and risk of extinction from stochastic environmental events associated with small populations. Because of the extreme range restriction of this already-narrow endemic, and its small population size, the plant is highly vulnerable to extinction from random events, including wildfire, herbivory, disease and pest outbreaks, and human disturbance.

Two species of concern are also addressed in this draft recovery plan, Vine Hill manzanita (*Arctostaphylos densiflora*) and Vine Hill ceanothus (*Ceanothus foliosus* var. *vineatus*), which historically coexisted with Vine Hill clarkia. Vine Hill manzanita and Vine Hill ceanothus are included in this draft recovery plan because a community-based recovery strategy provides for conservation of species with similar habitat requirements to those of Vine Hill clarkia, and because recovery actions implemented for Vine Hill clarkia that do not consider these other rare species may negatively affect the community. These two species are, respectively, State listed as endangered and listed Rank 1B by the California Native Plant Society.