

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2017-N046;
FXES11130800000-178-FF08EVEN00]

**Receipt of Application for Incidental
Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat
Conservation Plan for the Curletti Farm
Employee Housing Project, Santa
Barbara County, California**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit
application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service, have received an
application from Betteravia Farms, LLC,
for an incidental take permit under the
Endangered Species Act of 1973, as
amended. The permit would authorize
take of the federally endangered
California tiger salamander (Santa
Barbara distinct population segment)
incidental to otherwise lawful activities
associated with the Curletti Farm
Employee Housing Project Habitat
Conservation Plan. We invite public
comment.

DATES: Written comments should be
received on or before July 31, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may download a copy
of the draft habitat conservation plan
and draft low-effect screening form and
environmental action statement on the
internet at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura/>,
or you may request copies of the
documents by U.S. mail to our Ventura
office, or by phone (see **FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT**). Please address
written comments to Stephen P. Henry,
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:
Rachel Henry, Fish and Wildlife
Biologist, at the above address or by
calling (805) 644-1766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service),
have received an application from
Betteravia Farms, LLC (applicant), for an
incidental take permit under the
Endangered Species Act of 1973, as
amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; Act).
The applicant has agreed to follow all of
the conditions in the habitat
conservation plan for the project. The
permit would authorize take of the
Santa Barbara distinct population
segment of the federally endangered
California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma
californiense*) incidental to otherwise

lawful activities associated with the
Curletti Farm Employee Housing Project
Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). We
invite public comment on the
application, the draft habitat
conservation plan, draft low-effect
screening form, and environmental
action statement.

Background

The Santa Barbara distinct population
segment of the California tiger
salamander was listed by the Service as
endangered on January 19, 2000 (65 FR
3096). 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 in the Code
of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 17.32
and 17.22, respectively. Under the Act,
protections for federally listed plants
differ from the protections afforded to
federally listed animals. Issuance of an
incidental take permit also must not
jeopardize the existence of federally
listed fish, wildlife, or plant species. All
species included in the incidental take
permit would receive assurances under
our “No Surprises” regulations (50 CFR
17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)).

The applicants have applied for a
permit for incidental take of the
California tiger salamander. The
potential taking would occur as a result
of activities associated with the
construction of the farm labor camp in
suitable habitat for the covered species.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary
determination that issuance of the
permit is neither a major Federal action
that will significantly affect the quality
of the human environment within the
meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the
National Environmental Policy Act (42
U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*; NEPA), nor will it
individually or cumulatively have more
than a negligible effect on the species
covered in the HCP. Therefore, the
permit qualifies for a categorical
exclusion under NEPA.

Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit
application, plan, 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, 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 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: June 26, 2017.

Stephen P. Henry,

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

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BILLING CODE 4333-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R4-ES-2017-N024;
FXES11130900000C2-178-FF09E32000]

**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife
and Plants; 5-Year Status Reviews of
23 Southeastern Species**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of initiation of reviews;
request for information.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service (Service), are initiating
5-year status reviews of 23 species
under the Endangered Species Act of
1973, as amended (Act). We conduct
these reviews to ensure that the
classification of species as threatened or
endangered on the Lists of Endangered
and Threatened Wildlife and Plants is
accurate. A 5-year review is an
assessment of the best scientific and
commercial data available at the time of
the review. Therefore, we are requesting
submission of information that has
become available since the last review
of each of these species.

DATES: To allow us adequate time to
conduct these reviews, we must receive
your comments or information on or
before August 29, 2017. However, we

will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

ADDRESSES: For instructions on how to submit information and review information we receive on these species, see “Request for New Information.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For species-specific information, see “Request for New Information.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Why do we conduct a 5-year review?

Under the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), we maintain lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.11 (for wildlife) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Act requires us to review each listed species’ status at least once every 5 years. Our regulations at 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species under active review. For additional information about 5-year reviews, go to <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/recovery-overview.html>, scroll down to “Learn More about 5-Year Reviews,” and click on our factsheet.

Species Under Review

This notice announces our active review of 22 species that are currently listed as endangered:

Fish and Wildlife

- Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*)
- Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*)
- Puerto Rican nightjar (*Caprimulgus noctitherus*)
- Cumberland darter (*Etheostoma susanae*)
- Rush darter (*Etheostoma phytopilum*)
- Vermilion darter (*Etheostoma chermocki*)
- Pygmy madtom (*Noturus stanauli*)
- Cumberland bean (*Villosa trabalis*)
- Ring pink (*Obovaria retusa*)
- Anthony’s riversnail (*Athearnia anthonyi*)

Plants

- Arabis perstellata* (Braun’s rock-cress)
- Chamaesyce deltoidea* spp. *deltoidea* (Deltoid spurge)
- Clematis morefieldii* (Morefield’s leatherflower)
- Conradina verticillata* (Cumberland rosemary)
- Galactia smallii* (Small’s milkpea)
- Lyonia truncata* var. *proctorii* (no common name)
- Polygala smallii* (Tiny polygala)
- Pityopsis ruthii* (Ruth’s golden aster)
- Sarracenia rubra* ssp. *alabamensis* (Alabama canebrake pitcher plant)

Schwalbea americana (American chaffseed)

Vernonia proctorii (no common name)

Adiantum vivesii (no common name)

This notice also announces our active review of 1 species that is currently listed as threatened:

Fish and Wildlife

Ozark cavefish (*Troglichthys rosae*)

What information do we consider in our review?

A 5-year review considers the best scientific and commercial data that have become available since the current listing determination or most recent status review of each species, such as:

- A. Species biology, including but not limited to population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics;
- B. Habitat conditions, including but not limited to amount, distribution, and suitability;
- C. Conservation measures that have been implemented to benefit the species;

D. Threat status and trends (see five factors under heading “How Do We Determine Whether a Species Is Endangered or Threatened?”); and

- E. Other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

New information will be considered in the 5-year review and ongoing recovery programs for the species.

Definitions

A. *Species* includes any species or subspecies of fish, wildlife, or plant, and any distinct population segment of any species of vertebrate which interbreeds when mature.

B. *Endangered* means any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

C. *Threatened* means any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

How do we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened?

Section 4(a)(1) of the Act establishes that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the following five factors:

- A. The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;
- B. Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;

- C. Disease or predation;
- D. The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
- E. Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

Request for New Information

To do any of the following, contact the person associated with the species you are interested in below:

- A. To get more information on a species;
- B. To submit information on a species; or
- C. To review information we receive, which will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at the listed addresses.

Mammals

- Florida panther: South Florida Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 12085 State Road 29 S, Immokalee, FL 34142; fax 772-562-4288. For information on these species, contact David Shindle at the ES Field Office (by phone at 239-657-8013, or by email at david_shindle@fws.gov).

Birds

- Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican nightjar: Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Road 301, Km. 5.1, P.O. Box 491, Boqueron, PR 00622; fax 787-851-7440. For information on these species, contact Jose Cruz-Burgos at the ES Field Office (by phone at 787-851-7297, ext.218 or by email at jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov).

Fishes

- Ozark Cavefish: Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 110 South Amity Road, Suite 300, Conway, Arkansas 72032; fax 501-513-4480. For information on these species, contact Tommy Inebnit at the ES Field Office (by phone at 501-513-4483 or by email at thomas_inebnit@fws.gov).
- Cumberland darter: Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 330 West Broadway, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 fax 502-695-1024. For information on these species, contact Dr. Michael Floyd at the ES Field Office (by phone at 502-695-0468 ext. 102 or by email at mike_floyd@fws.gov).
- Rush darter and Vermilion darter: Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Jackson, MS 39213; fax 601-965-4340. For information on these species, contact Daniel Drennen at the ES Field Office

(by phone at 601-321-1127 or by email at daniel_drennen@fws.gov).

- **Pygmy madtom:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 446 Neal Street, Cookeville, TN 38501; fax 931-528-7075. For information on these species, contact Warren Stiles at the ES Field Office (by phone at 931-525-4977 or by email at warren_stiles@fws.gov).

Clams

- **Cumberland bean and Ring pink:** Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office (see contact information above). For information on these species, contact Leroy Koch at the ES Field Office (by phone at 502-695-0468 ext. 106 or by email at leroy_koch@fws.gov).

Snails

- **Anthony's riversnail:** Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office (see contact information above). For information on these species, contact Stephanie Chance at the ES Field Office (by phone at 931-528-6481 ext. 211 or by email at stephanie_chance@fws.gov).

Plants

- ***Arabis perstellata*** (Braun's rock-cress): Kentucky Ecological Services Field Office. For information on these species, contact Dr. Michael Floyd (see contact information above).

- ***Chamaesyce deltoidea* ssp. *deltoidea*** (Deltoid spurge), ***Galactia smallii*** (Small's milkpea), and ***Polygala smallii*** (Tiny polygala): South Florida Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960; fax 772-562-4288. For information on these species, contact David Bender at the ES Field Office (by phone at 772-469-4294 or by email at david_bender@fws.gov).

- ***Clematis morefieldii*** (Morefield's leatherflower), ***Conradina verticillata*** (Cumberland rosemary), and ***Pityopsis ruthii*** (Ruth's golden aster): Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office (see contact information above). For information on these species, contact Geoff Call at the ES Field Office (by phone at 931-525-4983 or by email at geoff_call@fws.gov).

- ***Lyonia truncata* var. *proctorii*** (no common name), ***Vernonia proctorii*** (no common name), and ***Adiantum vivesii*** (no common name): Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office. For information on these species, contact Jose Cruz-Burgos (see contact information above).

- ***Sarracenia rubra* ssp. *alabamensis*** (Alabama canebrake pitcher plant): Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office (see contact information above).

For information on these species, contact Scott Wiggers at the ES Field Office (by phone at 228-475-0765 or by email at marion_wiggers@fws.gov).

- ***Schwalbea americana*** (American chaffseed): South Carolina Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200, Charleston, SC 29412; fax 843-727-4218. For information on these species, contact April Punsalan at the ES Field Office (by phone at 843-727-4707 ext. 218 or by email at april_punsalan@fws.gov).

We request any new information concerning the status of any of these 23 species. See "What Information Do We Consider In Our Review?" heading for specific criteria. Information submitted should be supported by documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, methods used to gather and analyze the data, and/or copies of any pertinent publications, reports, or letters by knowledgeable sources.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that the 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 publish this document under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 18, 2017.

Mike Oetker,

Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2017-13758 Filed 6-29-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R2-ES-2017-0036; FXES11130200000-178-FF02ENEH00]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Mexican Wolf Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of our Mexican Wolf (*Canis*

lupus baileyi) Draft Recovery Plan, First Revision (draft recovery plan). The Mexican wolf is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), and is currently found in Arizona and New Mexico, in the United States, and in Chihuahua, Mexico. The draft recovery plan includes specific recovery criteria to be met to enable us to remove this species from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The first Mexican wolf recovery plan was completed in 1982. We request review and comment on the revised plan from local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public, in both the United States and Mexico. We will also accept any new information on the Mexican wolf's status throughout its range to assist in finalizing the recovery plan.

DATES: Comment submission: To ensure consideration, we must receive written comments on or before August 29, 2017. However, we will accept information about any species at any time.

Public meetings: We will hold information meetings to provide the public with information on the draft recovery plan. Written comments on the draft recovery plan may be submitted at these meetings (oral comments will not be recorded). The dates and times of these information meetings are as follows:

1. July 18, 2017 (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.): Flagstaff, Arizona.

2. July 19, 2017 (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.): Pinetop, Arizona.

3. July 20, 2017 (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.): Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

4. July 22, 2017 (2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.): Albuquerque, New Mexico.

ADDRESSES: Document availability: If you wish to review the draft recovery plan and related documents, you may obtain copies by any of the following methods:

Electronically: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter FWS-R2-ES-2017-0036.

U.S. mail: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna Road NE., Albuquerque, NM 87113; or
Telephone: (505) 346-2525.

Comment submission: If you wish to comment on the draft recovery plan, you may submit your comments in writing by either of the following methods:

Electronically: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter FWS-R2-ES-2017-0036.

Hard copy: Submit by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R4-ES-2017-