

annual statewide take exposure. The amendment would not affect the 2016 HCP's sliding scale method for determining the annual allowable take of broods, nests, or territories based on the 3-year running statewide population average. In addition, the amendment would apply to only two covered activities: "Use of Roads and Parking Lots in the Vicinity of Unfledged Chicks" and "OSV Use in the Vicinity of Unfledged Chicks." It would not apply to "Recreation Management and Beach Operations." Additionally, the proposed amendment would not alter limits on the habitat, broods, or pairs affected through reduced proactive fencing, reduced buffers around nests, or nest moving.

The FONSI anticipates some site-specific impacts to piping plovers as a result of the increase in allowable take exposure and associated decrease in productivity at up to eight sites. However, the FONSI anticipates that the impacts to the piping plover and the human environment statewide will be essentially the same as those previously analyzed in our 2016 Environmental Assessment (EA), because at a full allocation of authorized take, for any increase in breeding pairs exposed to take at one site, the MADFW would have to make a corresponding reduction in the remaining number of pairs that could be exposed to take at other sites. Moreover, the nature of the activities being conducted has not changed.

National Environmental Policy Act

When we issued the initial permit to the MADFW, we thoroughly analyzed the associated impacts to the human environment in our EA, concluding our NEPA analysis with a Finding of No Significant Impacts. We prepared a draft FONSI on the proposed action and have made it available for public inspection (see Availability of Documents). In it, we tentatively determine that the proposed action would not cause significant impacts on the human environment and that supplementation of the EA is not warranted. We base that preliminary conclusion on: The limited nature of the proposed amendment that the deviation from the maximum exposure limit at a site would apply in a minority of situations; the manner in which the activities will be conducted has not been altered; and, the overall take allocation remains unchanged.

Public Comments

The Service invites the public to comment on the proposed HCP amendment and draft FONSI during a 30-day public comment period (see **DATES**). You may submit comments by

one of the methods shown under **ADDRESSES**.

Public Availability of Comments

We will post all public comments and information received electronically or via hard copy on our website at <https://regulations.gov>. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and will be available to the public. 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 request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Authority

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: February 14, 2019.

Paul Phifer,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Northeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2019-02939 Filed 2-20-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-ES-2018-N139; FXES11140400 000-189-FF04E00000]

Endangered Species; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

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

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have received applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we

receive during the public comment period.

DATES: We must receive written data or comments on the applications by March 25, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Reviewing Documents: Documents and other information submitted with the applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act. Submit a request for a copy of such documents to Karen Marlowe (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Submitting Comments: If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- **U.S. mail or hand-delivery:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, Ecological Services, 1875 Century Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30345 (Attn: Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator).

- **Email:** permitsR4ES@fws.gov. Please include your name and return address in your email message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that we have received your email message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Marlowe, Permit Coordinator, 404-679-7097 (telephone), karen_marlowe@fws.gov (email), or 404-679-7081 (fax). Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We invite review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on applications we have received for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered and threatened species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17. With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activities. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, and also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or for enhancement of propagation or survival of the species. These activities often include such prohibited actions as capture and

collection. 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.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and

enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild. The ESA requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits. Accordingly, we invite local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies.

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.

| Permit application No. | Applicant | Species/numbers | Location | Activity | Type of take | Permit action |
|------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|---------------|
| TE 21570C-1 | Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Nashville, TN. | Alabama cavefish (<i>Speoplatyrhinus poulsoni</i>), Laurel Dace (<i>Chrosomus saylori</i>), Bluemask darter (<i>Etheostoma akatulo</i>), Boulder darter (<i>Etheostoma wapiti</i>), Cherokee darter (<i>Etheostoma scotti</i>), Cumberland darter (<i>Etheostoma susanae</i>), Diamond darter (<i>Crystallaria cincotta</i>), Duskytail darter (<i>Etheostoma percnum</i>), Etowah darter (<i>Etheostoma etowahae</i>), Fountain darter (<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i>), Kentucky arrow darter (<i>Etheostoma spilotum</i>), Okaloosa darter (<i>Etheostoma okaloosae</i>), Pearl darter (<i>Percina aurora</i>), Relict darter (<i>Etheostoma chienense</i>), Rush darter (<i>Etheostoma phytophilum</i>), Vermilion darter (<i>Etheostoma chermocki</i>), Watercress darter (<i>Etheostoma nuchale</i>), Yellowcheek darter (<i>Etheostoma moorei</i>), Conasauga logperch (<i>Percina jenkinsi</i>), Roanoke logperch (<i>Percina rex</i>), Chucky madtom (<i>Noturus crypticus</i>), Pygmy madtom (<i>Noturus stanauli</i>), Scioto madtom (<i>Noturus trautmani</i>), Smoky madtom (<i>Noturus baileyi</i>), Cahaba shiner (<i>Notropis cahabae</i>), Palezone shiner (<i>Notropis albizonatus</i>), Alabama sturgeon (<i>Scaphirhynchus suttkusi</i>), Pallid sturgeon (<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>), White sturgeon (<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>), and Spring pygmy sunfish (<i>Elassoma alabamae</i>). | Tennessee | Captive propagation and release. | Collect, transport, hold in captivity for more than 45 consecutive days, release. | Amendment. |
| TE 94849B-1 | Copperhead Environmental Consulting, Paint Lick, KY. | Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>) | Alabama | Determine pregnancy timing. | Collect blood samples | Amendment. |
| TE 02332D-0 | Michelle Gilley, Mars Hill, NC. | Gray bats (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bats (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), Northern long-eared bats (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), Virginia big-eared bats (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i>), and Carolina northern flying squirrel (<i>Glaucomys sabrinus coloratus</i>). | Bats: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Carolina northern flying squirrel: North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. | Presence/absence surveys, population monitoring, and studies to document habitat use. | Bats: Capture with mist nets and harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, collect hair samples, and wing-punch. Carolina northern flying squirrel: Capture in nest boxes or live traps, handle, radio-tag, collect hair samples, and ear tag. | New. |
| TE 05528D-0 | John Manuel, Asheville, NC. | Gray bats (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bats (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>), and Northern long-eared bats (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>). | Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. | Presence/absence surveys, habitat assessments, population dynamics evaluations, and migration research. | Enter hibernacula or maternity roost caves, capture with mist nets or harp traps, handle, identify, band, radio-tag, collect hair samples, wing-punch, and swab. | New. |

| Permit application No. | Applicant | Species/numbers | Location | Activity | Type of take | Permit action |
|------------------------|--|--|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| TE 95412A-0 | Kentucky Division of Water, Frankfort, KY. | Big Sandy crayfish (<i>Cambarus callainus</i>), Blackside dace (<i>Chrosomus cumberlandensis</i>), Cumberland darter (<i>Etheostoma susanae</i>), Duskytail darter (<i>Etheostoma percnurum</i>), Kentucky arrow darter (<i>Etheostoma spilotum</i>), Palezone shiner (<i>Notropis albizonatus</i>), Relict darter (<i>Etheostoma chienense</i>), Clubshell (<i>Pleurobema clava</i>), Cumberland bean (<i>Villosa trabalis</i>), Cumberland combshell (<i>Epioblasma brevidens</i>), Cumberland elktoe (<i>Alasmidonta atropurpurea</i>), Dromedary pearlymussel (<i>Dromus dromas</i>), Fanshell (<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>), Fat pocketbook (<i>Potamilus capax</i>), Fluted kidneyshell (<i>Ptychobranchus subtentum</i>), Littlewing pearlymussel (<i>Pegias fabula</i>), Northern riffleshell (<i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i>), Orangefoot pimpleback (<i>Plethobasus cooperianus</i>), Oyster mussel (<i>Epioblasma capsaeformis</i>), Pink mucket (<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>), Purple cat's paw (<i>Epioblasma obliquata obliquata</i>), Rabbitsfoot (<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>), Rayed bean (<i>Villosa fabalis</i>), Ring pink (<i>Obovaria retusa</i>), Rough pigtoe (<i>Pleurobema plenum</i>), Scaleshell mussel (<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>), Sheepnose mussel (<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>), Slabside pearlymussel (<i>Pleuonaia dolabellioides</i>), Snuffbox mussel (<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>), Spectaclecase (<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>), and Tan riffleshell (<i>Epioblasma florentina walkeri</i> (=E. walkeri)). | Kentucky | Presence/absence surveys. | Collect, handle, and release. | New. |

Authority

We publish this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Franklin Arnold,

Acting Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2019-02914 Filed 2-20-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[190A2100DD/AAKC001030/A0A501010.999900 253G]

Notice of Deadline for Submitting Completed Applications To Begin Participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Program in Fiscal Year 2020 or Calendar Year 2020

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of application deadline.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) establishes a March 1, 2019 deadline for Indian Tribes/consortia to submit completed applications to begin participation in

the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2020 or calendar year 2020.

DATES: Completed application packages must be received by the Director, Office of Self-Governance, by March 1, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Application packages for inclusion in the applicant pool should be sent to Ms. Sharee M. Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance, Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 2071-MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance, Telephone (703) 390-6551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-413), as amended by the Fiscal Year 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Pub. L. 104-208), and section 1000.15(a) of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Director, Office of Self-Governance may select up to 50 additional participating Tribes/consortia per year for the Tribal self-governance program and negotiate and enter into a written funding agreement with each participating Tribe. The Act mandates that the Secretary of the Interior submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each Tribe that is served by the

Bureau of Indian Affairs' agency that is serving the Tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a Tribe/consortium located in a region and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations will take approximately 2 months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 funding year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 funding year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Purpose of Notice

The regulations at 25 CFR 1000.10 to 1000.31 will be used to govern the application and selection process for Tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2020 and calendar year 2020. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in these subparts in preparing their applications. Copies of these subparts may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the Tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2020 or calendar year 2020 must respond to this notice, except for those Tribes/consortia which are: (1) Currently involved in negotiations with