DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA–2008–0010]

Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Committee management; notice of open Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy (Board) will meet via teleconference on Wednesday, December 18, 2019. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Please note that the meeting may close early if the Board has completed its business.

ADDRESSES: Members of the public who wish to participate in the teleconference should contact Deborah Gartrell-Kemp as listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section by close of business December 10, 2019, to obtain the call-in number and access code for the December 18, 2019, meeting. For more information on services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance, contact Debbie Gartrell-Kemp as soon as possible.

To facilitate public participation, we are inviting public comment on the issues to be considered by the Board as listed in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section. Participants seeking their comments to be considered during the meeting should submit them in advance or during the public comment segment. Comments submitted up to 30 days after the meeting will be included in the public record and may be considered at the next meeting. Comments submitted in advance must be identified by Docket ID FEMA–2008–0010 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- Mail/Hand Delivery: Deborah Gartrell-Kemp, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727, post marked no later than December 1, 2019.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the words “Federal Emergency Management Agency” and the Docket ID for this action. Comments received will be posted without alteration at http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received by the National Fire Academy Board of Visitors, go to http://www.regulations.gov, click on “Advanced Search,” then enter “FEMA–2008–0010” in the “By Docket ID” box, then select “FEMA” under “By Agency,” and then click “Search.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alternate Designated Federal Officer: Kirby E. Kiefer, telephone (301) 447–1117, email Kirby.Kiefer@fema.dhs.gov.

Logistical Information: Deborah Gartrell-Kemp, telephone (301) 447–7230, email Deborah.GartrellKemp@fema.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. appendix.

Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Board is to review annually the programs of the National Fire Academy (Academy) and advise the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the United States Fire Administrator, on the operation of the Academy and any improvements therein that the Board deems appropriate. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Board examines Academy programs to determine whether these programs further the basic missions that are approved by the Administrator of FEMA, examines the physical plant of the Academy to determine the adequacy of the Academy’s facilities, and examines the funding levels for Academy programs. The Board submits a written annual report through the United States Fire Administrator to the Administrator of FEMA. The report provides detailed comments and recommendations regarding the operation of the Academy.

Agenda

On Wednesday, December 18, 2019, there will be four sessions, with deliberations and voting at the end of each session as necessary. The board will discuss the following:

1. United States Fire Administration Data, Research, Prevention and Response.

2. Deferred maintenance and capital improvements on the National Emergency Training Center campus and Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request/Budget Planning.

3. Recommendations on Academy program activities to include
developments, deliveries, staffing, and admissions.

4. Updates on the Board of Visitors Subcommittee Groups for the Professional Development Initiative Update and the National Fire Incident Report System.

There will be a 10-minute comment period after each agenda item and each speaker will be given no more than 2 minutes to speak. Please note that the public comment period may end before the time indicated following the last call for comments. Contact Deborah Gartrell-Kemp to register as a speaker. Meeting materials will be posted at https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/about/bov.html by December 10, 2019.

Tonya L. Hoover,
Superintendent, National Fire Academy,
United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R8–ES–2019–N064; FXES11140800000–189–FF08EVEN00]

Draft Habitat Conservation Plan for Eight Species; Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Habitat Conservation Plan for Fort Ord, Monterey County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an incidental take permit application under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The permit would authorize take of the federally threatened California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western snowy plover, and the federally endangered Smith’s blue butterfly, incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with commercial, residential and recreational development, recreational use, and habitat management within portions of the former Fort Ord Army base in the draft habitat conservation plan (HCP). We invite public comment on the applicant’s draft HCP and the draft environmental impact statement, which the Service prepared in response to the application for an incidental take permit.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before December 16, 2019.

ADDRESSES: To obtain documents: You may download a copy of the draft habitat conservation plan and environmental impact statement at http://www.fws.gov/ventura/, or you may request copies of the documents by sending U.S. mail to our Ventura office (see below), or by phone (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT). For information on reviewing U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) comments on the draft EIS, see EPA’s Role in the EIS Process under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

To submit written comments: Please send us your written comments using one of the following methods:

• U.S. mail: Send your 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.

• Facsimile: Fax your comments to 805–644–3958.

• Electronic Mail: Send your comments to fw8fortordhcp@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leilani Takano, Assistant Field Supervisor, by phone at 805–644–1766, at the Ventura address in ADDRESSES, or via the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The applicant has developed a draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the project that includes measures to mitigate and avoid/ minimize impacts to the federally threatened California tiger salamander (Ambystoma californiense), California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii), western snowy plover (Charadrius nivosus nivosus), and Monterey spineflower (Chorizanthe pungens var. pungens); the federally endangered Smith’s blue butterfly (Euphilotes enoptes smithi), Monterey (sand) gilia (Gilia tenuiflora ssp. arenaria), and Yadon’s piperia (Piperia yadonii); and the State endangered seaside bird’s beak (Cordylyanthus rigidus ssp. littoralis).

The permit would authorize take of the California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, western snowy plover, and Smith’s blue butterfly incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with the Fort Ord HCP. We invite public comment on the draft HCP, and draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

Background

The California tiger salamander was listed as threatened on August 4, 2004 (69 FR 47212); the California red-legged frog was listed as threatened on May 23, 1999 (61 FR 25813); the western snowy plover was listed as threatened on March 5, 1993 (58 FR 12864); the Monterey spineflower was listed as threatened on February 4, 1994 (59 FR 5499); the Smith’s blue butterfly was listed as endangered on June 1, 1976 (41 FR 22041); the Monterey (sand) gilia was listed as endangered on June 22, 1992 (57 FR 27848); and the Yadon’s piperia was listed as endangered on December 19, 1998 (63 FR 43100). The seaside bird’s beak has no Federal status, but was listed as endangered by the State of California in 1982 (https://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/list.html), and the applicant has chosen to address this species in the HCP to facilitate State permitting.

Section 9 of the ESA and its implementing regulations in effect at the time the above-referenced species were listed prohibited the take of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. “Take” is defined under the ESA 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 ESA, we may issue permits to authorize incidental take of listed fish or wildlife species. “Incidental take” is defined by the ESA as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively. Under the ESA, 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. The permitees would receive assurances under our “No Surprises” regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)) regarding conservation activities for the California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, western snowy plover, Monterey spineflower, Smith’s blue butterfly, Monterey (sand) gilia, Yadon’s piperia, and seaside bird’s beak.

Applicant’s Proposed Activities

The applicant has applied for a permit for incidental take of the California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog,