

Application No.	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of take	Permit action
TE60813D ...	Nichole Lally, Bay City, MI.	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>M. sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>M. septentrionalis</i>), Ozark big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii ingens</i>), Virginia big-eared bat (<i>C. virginianus</i>).	AL, AR, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VT, VA, WV, WI, WY.	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, evaluate impacts.	Capture, handle, mist-net, band, radio-tag, release.	New.
TE62048D ...	Carly Kalina, Des Moines, IA.	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>M. sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>M. septentrionalis</i>).	AL, AR, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV.	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, evaluate impacts.	Capture, handle, mist-net, band, radio-tag, collect guano samples, release.	New.
TE65859D ...	Benjamin Schuplin, North Royalton, OH.	Gray bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>), Indiana bat (<i>M. sodalis</i>), northern long-eared bat (<i>M. septentrionalis</i>).	AL, AR, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VT, VA, WV, WI, WY.	Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, evaluate impacts.	Capture, handle, mist-net, harp trap, band, radio-tag, release.	New.

Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record associated with this action. 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. Moreover, 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.

Next Steps

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**.

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.*).

Lori Nordstrom,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services.

[FR Doc. 2020-04225 Filed 2-28-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2020-N033;
FXES11140200000-201-FF02ENEH00]

Application for an Incidental Take Permit; Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Four Corners Water Development Project, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), make available an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) supported by a low-effect habitat conservation plan (LEHCP) for the Four Corners Water Development Project, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The Pueblo of Santa Clara has applied to the Service for an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The requested ITP, which would be in effect for a period of 20 years, if granted, would authorize incidental take of the federally endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, we have determined that the proposed action qualifies for a categorical exclusion as low effect. We are accepting comments on the permit application, proposed LEHCP, and draft NEPA screening form.

DATES: *Submission of comments:* We will accept comments received or postmarked on or before April 1, 2020.

ADDRESSES: *Obtaining documents:* You may obtain copies of the ITP application, the LEHCP, or other related

documents by going to the Service's website at <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/>. Alternatively, a limited number of CD-ROM and printed copies of the LEHCP are available, by request, from the Project Leader, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113; telephone 505-346-2525; fax 505-346-2543. Please note that your request is in reference to the Pueblo of Santa Clara LEHCP.

The ITP application is available by mail from the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87103. Copies of the LEHCP are also available for public inspection and review at the following locations, by appointment and written request only, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 500 Gold Avenue SW, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87102.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2105 Osuna Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113.

Submitting Comments

You may submit written comments by one of the following methods:

- *By email:* nmesfo@fws.gov. Please note that your request is in reference to the Pueblo of Santa Clara HCP.
- *By hard copy:* Project Leader, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113; telephone 505-346-2525; fax 505-346-2542. Please note that your request is in reference to the Pueblo of Santa Clara LEHCP.

We request that you submit comments by only the methods described above. Generally, we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Public Availability of Comments section for more information).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Seth Willey, Acting Project Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2105 Osuna Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113 or (505) 761-4781.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), make available an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) supported by a low-effect habitat conservation plan (LEHCP) for the Four Corners Water Development Project, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The Pueblo of Santa Clara has applied to the Service for an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The requested ITP, which would be in effect for a period of 20 years, if granted, would authorize incidental take of the Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*; silvery minnow), which is listed as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The potential incidental take would be associated with the pumping of up to 1 million gallons per day from four existing shallow alluvial wells within the proposed plan area. This action, when considered alone, has minor effects on the silvery minnow. However, removal of this groundwater may have small impacts on the volume of the spring runoff that would reach downstream in low flow years, which, when combined with the cumulative effects of other existing and future water management actions, could affect the threshold flows needed for successful silvery minnow spawning and recruitment in the permit area. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requirements, we have determined that the proposed action qualifies for a categorical exclusion as low effect. We are accepting comments on the permit application, proposed LEHCP, and draft NEPA screening form supporting using a categorical exclusion.

National Environmental Policy Act Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of NEPA, we advise the public that:

1. We have determined that the proposed permit action qualifies for categorical exclusion as low effect. We are accepting comments on the permit application and draft NEPA screening form supporting use of a categorical exclusion; and

2. The applicant has developed a LEHCP in support of an application for an ITP, which describes the measures the applicant has volunteered to take to minimize and mitigate the effects of

incidental take of the silvery minnow to the maximum extent practicable pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA.

As described in the LEHCP, the potential incidental take of silvery minnow could occur within the Rio Grande from Cochiti Dam downstream to the headwaters of Elephant Butte Reservoir in New Mexico, and could result from otherwise lawful activities.

Background

Section 9 of the ESA and our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17 prohibit the “take” of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. Take of listed fish or wildlife is defined under the ESA as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct: (16 U.S.C. 1532(19)). However, under limited circumstances, we issue permits to authorize incidental take—*i.e.*, take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of—the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity.

Regulations governing incidental take permits for endangered and threatened wildlife species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32, respectively. In addition to meeting other criteria, the take authorized by an incidental take permit must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plants.

Proposed Action

The ITP would cover incidental “take” of the silvery minnow associated with the pumping of up to 1 million gallons per day (mgd) from four existing shallow alluvial wells within the permit area (the “covered activities”). The proposed action is the issuance of an ITP by the Service for the covered activities in the permit area, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA.

The requested term of the permit is 20 years. To meet the requirements of a section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP, the applicant has developed and proposes to implement its LEHCP, which describes the actions to reduce or avoid impacts the applicant has agreed to undertake. These actions are designed to minimize and mitigate for the impacts of the potential incidental take of the silvery minnow, to the maximum extent practicable, and ensure that incidental take will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of this species in the wild.

The applicant proposes to minimize and mitigate impacts to the silvery minnow by modifying pumping operations when flow condition are likely to result in the estimated

densities of silvery minnow in the permit area to be below those considered self-sustaining. That is, when the May/June runoff flows that cross downstream stream gauges are low. The Pueblo of Santa Clara will suspend the proposed new pumping amount for 1 week in May when the forecasted total May–June runoff volume of the Rio Grande at Otowi Bridge Gauge is at or below the threshold value of approximately 205,010 acre-feet. The runoff volume during the months of May and June for the Rio Grande at Otowi Bridge Gage in New Mexico is estimated in the Basin Data Reports that are released each year in April and May by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Water Climate Center (online at <https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/basin.html>). The cessation of the up to 1 million gallons per day of groundwater pumping under those specified threshold conditions would result in an increase of up to 21.5 acre-feet of surface water runoff that would contribute to spring runoff during low-flow years.

Next Steps

We have made a preliminary determination that the applicant’s LEHCP, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures has (1) minor or negligible effects on federally listed or candidate species and their habitats and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources. We will evaluate the permit application, the LEHCP, associated documents, and comments we receive to determine whether the permit application meets the requirements of the ESA, NEPA, and implementing regulations. If we determine that all requirements are met, we will approve the LEHCP and issue the ITP under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA to the Pueblo of Santa Clara for take of silvery minnow in accordance with the terms of the LEHCP and specific terms and conditions of the authorizing permit. We will not make our final decision until after the 30-day comment period ends, and we will fully consider all comments we receive during the public comment period.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Requests for copies of comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA, and Service and Department of the Interior policies and procedures. 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 to 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

We provide this notice under the authority of section 10(c) of the ESA and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32) and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: February 24, 2020.

Amy L. Lueders,

Regional Director, Southwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

[201A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900 253G]

List of Programs Eligible for Inclusion in Funding Agreements Negotiated With Self-Governance Tribes by Interior Bureaus Other Than the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Fiscal Year 2020 Programmatic Targets

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists programs or portions of programs that are eligible for inclusion in self-governance funding agreements with Indian Tribes and lists Fiscal Year 2020 programmatic targets for each of the non-Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) bureaus in the Department of the Interior (Department), pursuant to Title IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Act), as amended.

DATES: These programs are eligible for inclusion in self-governance funding agreements until September 30, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries or comments regarding this notice may be directed to Ms. Sharee M. Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance (MS 2071-MIB), 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC

20240-0001, telephone: (202) 219-0240, fax: (202) 219-4246, or to the bureau-specific points of contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kenneth D. Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance, telephone: (703) 390-6551 or (202) 821-7107.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Title IV of the Act instituted a permanent self-governance program at the Department. Under the self-governance program, certain programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, in Department bureaus other than BIA are eligible to be planned, conducted, consolidated, and administered by a self-governance Tribe.

Under section 405(c) of the Act, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) is required to publish annually: (1) A list of non-BIA programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, that are eligible for inclusion in agreements negotiated under the self-governance program and (2) programmatic targets for non-BIA bureaus.

Two categories of non-BIA programs are eligible for self-governance funding agreements:

(1) Under section 403(b)(2) of the Act, any non-BIA program, service, function, or activity that is administered by the Department that is “otherwise available to Indian tribes or Indians,” can be administered by a Tribe through a self-governance funding agreement. The Department interprets this provision to authorize the inclusion of programs eligible for self-determination contracts under Title I of the Act. Section 403(b)(2) also specifies, “nothing in this subsection may be construed to provide any tribe with a preference with respect to the opportunity of the tribe to administer programs, services, functions, and activities, or portions thereof, unless such preference is otherwise provided for by law.”

(2) Under section 403(c) of the Act, the Secretary may include other programs, services, functions, and activities or portions thereof that are of “special geographic, historical, or cultural significance” to a self-governance Tribe.

Under section 403(k) of the Act, funding agreements cannot include programs, services, functions, or activities that are inherently Federal or where the statute establishing the existing program does not authorize the type of participation sought by the Tribe. However, a Tribe (or Tribes) need not be identified in the authorizing statutes in order for a program or

element to be included in a self-governance funding agreement. While general legal and policy guidance regarding what constitutes an inherently Federal function exists, the non-BIA bureaus will determine whether a specific function is inherently Federal on a case-by-case basis considering the totality of circumstances. In those instances, where the Tribe disagrees with the bureau’s determination, the Tribe may request reconsideration from the Secretary.

Subpart G of the self-governance regulations found at 25 CFR part 1000 provides the process and timelines for negotiating self-governance funding agreements with non-BIA bureaus.

Response to Comments

A special session to discuss in detail a draft 2020 non-BIA **Federal Register** Notice was held on April 4, 2019, at the 2019 Tribal Self-Governance Annual Consultation Conference located in the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme, Michigan. Comments were requested to be provided by Friday, June 14, 2019.

Changes Made From 2019 to 2020

No requests for changes were received.

II. Funding Agreements Between Self-Governance Tribes and Non-BIA Bureaus of the Department of the Interior for Fiscal Year 2019

- A. Bureau of Land Management (2)
 - Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
 - Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation
- B. Bureau of Reclamation (5)
 - Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation
 - Chippewa Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation
 - Hoopa Valley Tribe
 - Karuk Tribe
 - Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation
- C. Office of Natural Resources Revenue (none)
- D. National Park Service (3)
 - Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
 - Sitka Tribe of Alaska
 - Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation
- E. Fish and Wildlife Service (1)
 - Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
- F. U.S. Geological Survey (none)
- G. Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (1)
 - Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation
- H. Appraisal and Valuation Services Office (29)
 - 1. The Quapaw Tribe of Indians
 - 2. Morongo Band of Mission Indians