

Environmental Policy Act. We will take comments into consideration before deciding whether to issue an incidental take permit.

**DATES:** We are extending the standard 30-day comment period by 15 days to allow additional time for public comment. Written comments should be received on or before February 5, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:**

*To obtain documents:* You may view or download copies of the draft conservation plan and draft environmental assessment at <https://www.fws.gov/carlsbad/>, or you may request hardcopies of the draft documents by contacting our Palm Springs office (see below).

*To submit written comments:* Please submit your written comments by either of the following methods:

- *Email:* [fw8cfwocomments@fws.gov](mailto:fw8cfwocomments@fws.gov). Include “Manzana Wind Power Incidental Take Permit” in the subject line of the message.

- *U.S. Mail:* Assistant Field Supervisor, Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 777 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite 208, Palm Springs, CA 92284.

We request that you send written comments by only the methods described above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peter Sanzenbacher, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, by mail at Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office (address above), by phone at 760-322-2070, extension 425, or via email at [peter\\_sanzenbacher@fws.gov](mailto:peter_sanzenbacher@fws.gov). If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled, please call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We have received an application from Manzana Wind LLC (applicant) for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The application addresses the potential take of the federally endangered California condor (condor), incidental to otherwise lawful activities at the Manzana Wind Power Project (project), as described in the applicant’s draft conservation plan. The project began operations in 2012 and is in the Antelope Valley region of Kern County, California, along the southern foothills of the Tehachapi Mountains.

**Background**

Section 9 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1538) and Federal regulations promulgated pursuant to section 4(d) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1533) prohibit the take of endangered species without special exemption. Under section 10(a)(1)(B) of

the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539), we may issue permits to authorize take of listed fish and wildlife species that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity.

Regulations governing permits for endangered and threatened species are set forth in title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations at part 17, sections 17.22 and 17.32.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requires Federal agencies to analyze their proposed actions to determine whether the actions may significantly affect the human environment. In the NEPA analysis, the Federal agency will identify the effects, as well as possible mitigation for effects on environmental resources, that could occur with the implementation of the proposed action and alternatives. The Federal action in this case is the Service’s proposed issuance of an incidental take permit for the federally endangered California condor.

**Permit Application**

The applicant has submitted a draft conservation plan that describes the activities covered by the permit, such as the operation of wind turbines and other specified activities associated with project components. To minimize the risk of incidental take, the applicant will maintain a program to detect condors approaching the project and temporarily curtail operating wind turbines when appropriate; the conservation plan also includes adaptive management to allow for maintaining the protection of condors as technologies, condor behavior, and other factors change over time. To mitigate the impact of the potential incidental take, the applicant proposes to work with an existing captive breeding facility to fund the production of additional condors for release into the wild. The Service and applicant used a population viability analysis to inform the mitigation strategy and ensure that the level of potential injury or mortality of condors permitted at the project would not impede recovery of the species. The population viability analysis report is appended to the draft conservation plan and the draft environmental assessment. A “Frequently Asked Questions” document for the population viability analysis is also attached to the draft environmental assessment. The draft conservation plan and the draft environmental assessment consider alternatives to the proposed action, including a no action alternative.

**Public Comments**

If you wish to comment on the draft conservation plan and draft environmental assessment, you may submit comments by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

**Public Availability of Comments**

You may submit comments by one of the methods shown under **ADDRESSES**. All comments and materials we receive in response to this request will become part of the decision 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 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 issue this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22), and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6 and 43 CFR 46.305).

**Scott Sobiech,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS-R7-NWRS-2020-N158;  
FF07R08000F-XRS-1263-0700000-201;  
OMB Control Number 1018-0141]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Alaska Guide Service Evaluation**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are proposing to renew an information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 21, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB/PERMA (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803 (mail); or by email to [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 1018–0141 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Madonna L. Baucum, Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, by email at [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov), or by telephone at (703) 358–2503. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance. You may also view the information collection request (ICR) at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

On August 26, 2020, we published in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 52631) a notice of our intent to request that OMB approve this information collection. In that notice, we solicited comments for 60 days, ending on October 26, 2020. We received no comments in response to that notice.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How might the agency 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 submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. 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.

*Abstract:* We collect information via FWS Form 3–2349 (Alaska Guide Service Evaluation) to help us evaluate commercial guide services on our national wildlife refuges in the State of Alaska (State). The National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd–ee), authorizes us to permit uses, including commercial visitor services, on national wildlife refuges when we find the activity to be compatible with the purposes for which the refuge was established. With the objective of making available a variety of quality visitor services for wildlife-dependent recreation on National Wildlife Refuge System lands, we issue permits for commercial guide services, including big game hunting, sport fishing, wildlife viewing, river trips, and other guided activities. We use FWS Form 3–2349 as a method to:

- Monitor the quality of services provided by commercial guides.
- Gauge client satisfaction with the services.
- Assess the impacts of the activity on refuge resources.

The client is the best source of information on the quality of commercial guiding services. We collect:

- Client name.
- Guide name(s).
- Type of guided activity.
- Dates and location of guided activity.

- Information on the services received, such as the client’s expectations, safety, environmental impacts, and client’s overall satisfaction.

We encourage respondents to provide any additional comments that they wish regarding the guide service or refuge experience, and ask whether or not they wish to be contacted for additional information.

The above information, in combination with State-required guide activity reports and contacts with guides and clients in the field, provides a comprehensive method for monitoring permitted commercial guide activities. A regular program of client evaluation helps refuge managers detect potential problems with guide services so that we can take corrective actions promptly. In addition, we use this information during the competitive selection process for big game and sport fishing guide permits to evaluate an applicant’s ability to provide a quality guiding service.

The Service is actively reviewing the current evaluation form to identify ways to improve the information collected to:

- Provide more quantifiable and defensible data;
- Provide statistical data for each completed and submitted form;
- Provide more quantifiable rather than qualitative information; and
- Translate the client responses into useful information, in order for refuge management to make informed decisions.

The Service initially planned to submit the new form (tentatively assigned FWS Form 3–2538, “Alaska Guide Service Evaluation”) to OMB for approval to conduct usability testing under OMB Control No. 1090–0011, “DOI Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery,” in time to pretest it during the 2020 Alaska guide season. However, the pandemic significantly limited the number of guide trips during the 2020 guide season, necessitating the usability testing be conducted during the 2021 Alaska guide season (and possibly the 2022 season). At the conclusion of the usability testing, the Service will evaluate all feedback of the new evaluation form to determine whether additional updates need to be made to it. At that time, we will begin the process to initiate a revision to this information collection by publishing the required notices in the **Federal Register** announcing to the public our intention to submit the final evaluation form to OMB for approval prior to the calendar year 2023 Alaska guide season. In addition, the Service will provide the

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Coordinator for the State of Alaska with a copy of the proposed new guide form for review/comment.

*Title of Collection:* Alaska Guide Service Evaluation.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018–0141.

*Form Number:* FWS Form 3–2349.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Clients of permitted commercial guide service providers.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:* 264.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 264.

*Estimated Completion Time per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 66.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Frequency of Collection:* One time, following use of commercial guide services.

*Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:* None.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Dated: December 17, 2020.

**Madonna Baucum,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS–R8–ES–2020–N161;  
FXES11130800000–212–FF08E00000]

**Endangered and Threatened Species;  
Receipt of 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 or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. 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 your written comments on or before January 21, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** *Document availability and comment submission:* Submit requests for copies of the applications and related documents and submit any comments by one of the following methods. All requests and comments should specify the applicant name(s) and application number(s) (*e.g.*, TXXXXXX).

- *Email:* [permits8es@fws.gov](mailto:permits8es@fws.gov).

- *U.S. Mail:* Susie Tharratt, Regional Recovery Permit Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W–2606, Sacramento, CA 95825.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susie Tharratt, via phone at 916–414–6561, via email at [permits8es@fws.gov](mailto:permits8es@fws.gov), or via the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on applications for permits under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The requested permits would allow the applicants to conduct activities intended to promote recovery of species that are listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA.

**Background**

With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities that constitute take

of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA's definition of "take" includes such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting, in addition to hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing.

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 in the Code of Federal Regulations 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.

| Application No. | Applicant, city, state               | Species  | Location | Take activity   | Permit action    |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------|---|------------------|
| TE–115370 ..... | Gage Dayton, Santa Cruz, California. | • Ohlone tiger beetle ( <i>Cicindela ohlone</i> ).   | CA ..... | Capture, handle, release, habitat enhancement, mark burrows, and translocation. | Amend.           |
| TE–88650D ..... | Joshua Goodwin, Rocklin, California. | • California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County and Sonoma County Distinct Population Segments (DPSs)) ( <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> ). | CA ..... | Capture, handle, and release ....   | New.             |
| TE–72045A ..... | Alisa Zych, Oceanside, California.   | • Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ).  | CA ..... | Play taped vocalizations .....  | Renew.           |
| TE–52816B ..... | David Davis, Barstow, California     | • Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ).  | CA ..... | Play taped vocalizations .....  | Renew and Amend. |