

Georgia (collectively “Quail Country”). Covered species include the eastern diamondback rattlesnake (*Crotalus adamanteus*), Florida pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus*), frosted elfin (*Callophrys irus*), gopher frog (*Lithobates (Rana) capito*), gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), Henslow’s sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*), monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), southeastern American kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*), southeastern pocket gopher (*Geomys pinetis*), southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*), striped newt (*Notophthalmus perstriatus*), and a raptor, the swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) (collectively, “covered species”).

The CCAA was developed to facilitate collaboration between private property owners and State and Federal agencies to benefit the covered species on enrolled lands in accordance with the Service’s CCAA policy (81 FR 95164; December 27, 2016) and regulations (50 CFR 17.22(d) and 50 CFR 17.32(d)). Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy will act as a cooperator under this CCAA. Successful implementation of the CCAA is expected to enhance and protect the habitat of the covered species from destruction and degradation, which are the most common threats to the species. This CCAA is unique in that some of the covered species are listed by the FWC as State endangered, threatened, species of special concern, or rare species. Typically, a CCAA and an enhancement of survival permit would provide an enrolled non-Federal property owner with Federal regulatory assurances any CCAA-covered species that become federally listed under the ESA in the future. In this case, an enrolled property owner would not only receive assurances from the Service in the event of Federal listing, but also regulatory assurances from the FWC for species that are already State listed in Florida [Rule 68A–27.007(2)(c), F.A.C.].

The applicants have requested a term of 30 years for the permits, with the possibility of extension if requested by the applicants prior to permit expiration. We request public comment on the applications, which include the applicants’ CCAA, and on the Service’s preliminary determination that the proposed permitting actions may qualify for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality’s National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1501.4), the Department of the Interior (DOI) NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46), and the DOI Departmental Manual (516 DM 8.5(C)(2)). To make this preliminary

determination, we prepared a draft environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review.

#### Candidate Conservation Agreements With Assurances

Under a CCAA, participating property owners voluntarily undertake management activities on their lands to remove or reduce threats and enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefiting species that may warrant listing under the ESA. CCAAs encourage private and other non-Federal property owners to implement conservation efforts for candidate and at-risk species on their lands by assuring they will not be subjected to increased property use restrictions should the species become listed as “threatened” or “endangered” under the ESA in the future. Application requirements and issuance criteria for CCAAs are found in 50 CFR 17.22(d) and 17.32(d).

#### National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

The issuance of these permits is a Federal action that triggers the need for compliance with NEPA. The Service has made a preliminary determination that the proposed permit issuance is eligible for categorical exclusion under NEPA, based on the following criteria: (1) Implementation of the CCAA would result in minor or negligible adverse effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the CCAA would result in minor or negligible adverse effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts of the CCAA, considered together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects, would not result over time in significant cumulative adverse effects to environmental values or resources. To make this determination, we used our low-effect screening form, which is also available for public review.

#### Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made available to the public. While you may request that we withhold your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the applications and the comments to determine whether to issue the

requested permits. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take of the species. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue a permit to each of the applicants (Georgia PER0119056 and Florida PER0119117) for incidental take of the covered species in accordance with the CCAA.

#### Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32) and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508 and 43 CFR 46).

#### Peter Maholland,

Field Supervisor, Georgia Ecological Services Field Office.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–HQ–FAC–2022–N053; FF09F42300 FVWF9792090000 053]

#### Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council; Call for Nominations

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

**ACTION:** Call for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce (Secretaries) seek nominations for individuals to be considered for membership on the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council.

**DATES:** Email submissions must be received by May 11, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Please email nominations to Tom McCann, Designated Federal Officer, Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, at [thomas\\_mccann@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_mccann@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom McCann, Designated Federal Officer, via email at [thomas\\_mccann@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_mccann@fws.gov), or by telephone at 703–358–2056. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make

international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secretaries seek nominations for individuals to be considered for membership on the Council. The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, through the Designated Federal Officer, on aquatic conservation and restoration endeavors in fresh, estuarine, and marine environments that benefit recreational fishery resources, enhance recreational boating, and encourage partnerships among industry, the public, and government to advance these efforts. The Council conducts its operations in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. appendix 2). The Council functions solely as an advisory body. This call for nominations will fill 16 members' terms.

#### Council Duties

The Council's duties are solely advisory and include:

a. Providing advice that will assist the Secretaries in compliance with the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and other applicable statutes;

b. Fulfilling responsibilities established by Executive Order 12962, as modified by Executive Order 13474:

1. Monitoring specific Federal activities affecting aquatic systems and the recreational fisheries they support, and

2. Reviewing and evaluating the relation of Federal policies and activities to the status and conditions of recreational fishery resources;

c. Providing advice that will assist the Secretaries in fulfilling responsibilities established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, including, but not limited to:

1. Studying the impact of derelict vessels and identifying recyclable solutions for recreational vessels, and

2. Reviewing the study from the Comptroller General of the United States that documents the impacts of nonmotorized vessels on waterway access points and the use of funding sources to improve access issues and provide nonmotorized boating safety programs, and identifying potential recommendations for the Secretaries based on that study;

d. Recommending policies or programs to increase public awareness and support for the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund;

e. Recommending policies or programs that foster conservation,

stewardship, and ethical practices in recreational fishing and boating;

f. Recommending policies or programs to address climate change and strengthen climate resilience by protecting and restoring aquatic ecosystems and supporting biodiversity while maintaining or enhancing fishing and boating opportunities;

g. Recommending policies or programs to stimulate and expand angler and boater participation in the conservation and restoration of aquatic resources;

h. Recommending policies and programs to stimulate recreational fishing and boating opportunities for all Americans, and to remove barriers to access for youth, veterans, urban residents, and other underrepresented communities; and

i. Advising how the Secretaries can foster communication, education, and coordination among government, industry, anglers, boaters, and the public.

#### Council Makeup

The Council may consist of no more than 19 members, including ex officio members. Non-voting ex officio members include:

1. The Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;

2. The Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

3. The President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The Secretaries will select the remaining members from among, but not limited to, the organization/interests listed below. Appointed members must be senior-level representatives of their organizations and must have the ability to represent their designated constituencies.

1. State fish and wildlife resource management agencies (two members, one a director of a coastal State, and one a director of an inland State),

2. Saltwater and freshwater recreational fishing organizations,

3. Recreational boating organizations,

4. Recreational fishing and boating industries,

5. Recreational fishery resources conservation organizations,

6. Tribal resource management organizations,

7. Aquatic resource outreach and education organizations, and

8. Recreational fishing and/or boating diversity-based organizations.

Members will be appointed on a staggered term basis for terms that are not to exceed 3 years.

Members of the Council serve without compensation. However, while away

from their homes or regular places of business, Council and subcommittee members engaged in Council or subcommittee business that the Designated Federal Official approves may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5703, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Federal Government service.

#### Nomination Method and Eligibility

Nominations should include a resume that provides contact information and a description of the nominee's qualifications that would enable the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce to make an informed decision regarding the candidate's suitability to serve on the Council. Send nominations to the Designated Federal Officer at the email provided in **ADDRESSES**.

#### Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your nomination, you should be aware that your entire nomination—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.

*Authority:* 5 U.S.C. appendix 2.

**David A. Miko,**

*Acting Assistant Director, Fish and Aquatic Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[BLM\_UT\_FRN\_MO4500169717]

#### Notice of Public Meetings, Utah Resource Advisory Council, Utah

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Utah Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet as indicated below.

**DATES:** The Utah RAC will hold meetings on August 15, 2023, with a