

Supervisor, at the above Honolulu address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heather McSharry, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Honolulu address, telephone (808) 541-2749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act as amended in 1988 requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. Substantive technical comments will result in changes to the plans. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plans, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

The 21 taxa being considered in this recovery plan are: *Acaena exigua* (liliwai), *Alectryon macrococcus* (mahoe), *Argyroxiphium sandwicense* ssp. *macrocephalum* (Haleakala silversword, 'ahinahina), *Bidens micrantha* ssp. *kalealaha* (ko'oko'olau), *Clermontia oblongifolia* ssp. *mauiensis* ('oha wai), *Cyanea lobata* (haha), *Cyanea mcdowneyi* (haha), *Geranium arboreum* (nohoanu), *Geranium multiflorum* (nohoanu), *Hedyotis coriacea* (kio'ele), *Huperzia mannii* (wawae'iolo), *Lipochaeta kamolensis* (nehe), *Lysimachia lydgatei* (no common name (NCN)), *Melicope adscendens* (alani), *Melicope balloui* (alani),

Melicope mucronulata (alani), *Melicope ovalis* (alani), *Remya mauensis* (NCN), *Scaevola coriacea* (Dwarf naupaka), *Schiedea haleakalensis* (NCN) and *Tetramolopium capillare* (NCN).

Twelve of the taxa are or were endemic to the Hawaiian island of Maui; the exceptions are or were found on the Hawaiian islands of Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii as well as Maui. The 21 plant taxa and their habitats have been variously affected or are currently threatened by one or more of the following: habitat degradation by feral and domestic animals (e.g., goats, pigs, axis deer and cattle); competition for space, light, water, and nutrients by introduced vegetation; erosion of substrate produced by human- or animal-caused disturbance; recreational and agricultural activities; habitat loss from fires; disease; loss of pollinators; and predation by animals (goats, rats and mice). Due to the small number of existing individuals and their very narrow distributions, these taxa are subject to an increased likelihood of extinction and/or reduced reproductive vigor from stochastic events.

The taxa included in this plan were historically distributed throughout the island of Maui, and nine of the taxa also occur on one or more of the islands of Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii. They grow in a variety of vegetation communities (grassland, shrubland, and forests), elevational zones (coastal to montane), and moisture regimes (dry to wet). Most of the taxa included in this plan persist on steep slopes, precipitous cliffs, valley headwalls, and other regions where unsuitable topography has prevented agricultural development or where inaccessibility has limited encroachment by alien animal and plant taxa.

The objective of this plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of these 21 taxa so that their protection by the Act is no longer necessary. Immediate actions necessary for the prevention of extinction of these taxa include fencing for exclusion of ungulates, alien plant control, protection from fire, population and plant community monitoring and management, *ex situ* propagation, and augmentation of populations, as appropriate. Long-term activities necessary for the perpetuation of these taxa in their natural habitats additionally include public education, maintenance of fenced areas, long-term monitoring and management of populations and communities, and reestablishment of populations within the historic ranges of some taxa. Further

research on current range, growth requirements, reproduction and reproductive status, pollinators, life history, limiting factors, habitat requirements, and minimum viable population sizes is needed to facilitate appropriate management decisions regarding the long-term perpetuation of each of these taxa.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of these plans.

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: May 8, 1996.

Thomas Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 96-11992 Filed 5-13-96; 8:45 am]

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Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC): Application Notice Establishing the Closing Date for Transmittal of Applications Under the FGDC National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Framework Demonstration Projects Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 1996

AGENCY: Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for competitive cooperative agreement awards for fiscal year 1996.

SUMMARY: The purpose of the FGDC National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Framework Demonstration Projects Program task is to facilitate and provide resources for the development and implementation of the NSDI framework concept. Under this FY 1996 program announcement, applications are to be directed towards projects that test the framework concept. These projects will demonstrate the sustained ability, over a geographic area, to supply data to the greater geospatial data community from locally available data sources through the implementation of the framework process. These projects will provide practical examples in implementation, suggest innovative alternative approaches to accomplish the goals outlined in the framework report, and indicate topics for future research and development. Applicants are being sought who are establishing long-term organizational structures, and cooperative arrangements with other organizations in sustained efforts to

build, maintain, and disseminate framework data resources.

Outcomes of these projects will include information that will provide guidance on policies and practices for the establishment of operational framework sites. The projects will also act as examples of applied framework for other implementers and as starting points for future framework research and development.

The deliverable will be a report from the project site describing the successes and failures in implementing the framework concept; alternatives that were developed; descriptions of institutional and technical practices; evaluations of user satisfaction; and suggestions for future efforts.

Authority for this program is contained in the 1996 Congressional Act entitled "Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriation Act of 1996" that furnishes the appropriation for the Department of the Interior as well as other agencies. Applications may be submitted by State and local government agencies, educational institutions, private firms, private foundations, and Federally acknowledged or state-recognized Native American tribes or groups. Each project must involve two or more organizations.

DATES: The program announcement and application forms are expected to be available on or about May 29, 1996. Applications must be received on or before June 28, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Copies of Program Announcement 1434-HQ-96-PA-00003 may be obtained by writing to Patrick N. Robertson, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Acquisition and Federal Assistance, Mail Stop 205A, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092, facsimile telephone number (703) 648-7901.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick N. Robertson, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Acquisition and Federal Assistance, Mail Stop 205A, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092, voice telephone number (703) 648-7368, facsimile telephone number (703) 648-7901.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Applications of digital geospatial data vary greatly, but users have a recurring need for a few common themes of data. The framework concept outlined in the report "Development of a National Digital Geospatial Data Framework" (April, 1995) proposes a means by which the geospatial data community can work together to produce and maintain commonly needed data for national, regional, state, and local

analyses. The report and additional information about the framework are available from the FGDC Secretariat. The materials can be retrieved from the committee's World Wide Web page at <http://www.fgdc.gov>, or by contacting the committee by mail at the U.S. Geological Survey, 590 National Center, Reston, Virginia 22092; by Internet at gdc@usgs.gov; by facsimile at (703) 648-5755; or by voice telephone at (703) 648-5514. There will be up to 4 awards each not exceeding \$125,000. The awards will be cooperative agreements and not contracts.

Within the geospatial data community, multi-agency, and multi-sector partnerships are being established in local and regional areas to collaboratively leverage resources and funding, and coordinate data collection, utilization, and access. The framework concept builds on these activities by identifying a basic information content, and the technical, operational, and business contexts by which a distributed, collaborative data collection and maintenance effort for the framework would operate. The information content proposed for framework consists of geodetic control, digital orthoimagery, elevation, transportation, hydrography, governmental units, and cadastral data categories.

While the framework concept has been well received by the geospatial data community, questions remain as to its practical implementation, and the modifications in approach that will be necessary as the concept is tested. This program is a means by which the FGDC facilitates, and provides resources, for the development and implementation of the NSDI Framework concept.

This program will fund the development and testing of institutions and technology needed for framework operations. Proposals should be from multiple parties in geographic areas that have data to share for at least a subset of the framework data content. Project activities may include establishment of the following institutional roles: evaluating, developing and implementing technical standards; coordinating data creation, maintenance, and dissemination for a geographic area; ensuring updates of framework data from local data contributions; developing data quality certification policies; and ensuring data integration among themes, and geographic areas. Technical development and applications may include the following: permanent feature-based identification; the support of multiple resolution data; mechanisms for maintaining the users' data

investment when updating their data holding from the framework; processes for gathering and evaluating user satisfaction to the framework; and the evaluation of methods for implementing metadata (including data quality information) required for the framework data.

Dated: May 3, 1996.

Richard E. Witmer,

Acting Chief, National Mapping Division.

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Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1020-00; GP6-0154]

Notice of Meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council; June 13 and 14, 1996, in Odessa, Washington, and Spokane, Washington.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will meet at 10:00 a.m., June 13, 1996 at the Odessa Community Center, 21 East First Avenue, Odessa, Washington 98823 for the purpose of a field trip to Bureau of Land Management public lands in the local area. If weather is inclement or if the Council wishes, the field trip may be canceled and the council will meet at the Odessa Community Center to discuss rangeland issues. The meeting and/or field trip will recess at approximately 4:00 p.m. on June 13, 1996 or upon completion of business. The meeting will reconvene at 9:00 a.m., June 14, 1996, at Cavanaugh's Inn at the Park, 303 West North River Drive, Ballroom "D", Spokane, Washington 99201, 509-326-8000. Public comments will be received from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., on June 14, 1996.

At an appropriate time, on June 14, 1996, the meeting will adjourn for approximately one hour for lunch. The meeting will conclude at 4:00 p.m. or upon conclusion of business. The topics to be discussed are Standards for Rangeland Health and Livestock Grazing Guidelines, and the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Hubbard, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington 99212; or call 509-536-1200.