

the range of the species in conjunction with surveys and ecological research for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-016591

Applicant: Wendy Weber, Hayward, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, collect, and sacrifice) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*) throughout the species range in California, in conjunction with surveys, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-017352

Applicant: Division of Fish and Wildlife, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

The permittee requests a permit renewal (previously authorized under subpermit CNMIFW-10) to: take (capture, measure, weigh, band, radio-tag, and withdraw blood) the Mariana crow (*Corvus kubaryi*) and the Mariana moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus guami*); take (capture, band, and withdraw blood) the Micronesian (or La Perouse's) megapode (*Megapodius laperouse*); take (capture and band) the Mariana gray (or Vanikoro) swiftlet (*Aerodramus vanikorensis bartschi*), Tinian monarch (*Monarcha takatsukasae*), and nightingale reed warbler (*Acrocephalus luscini*); and take (capture, measure, radio-tag, and collect tissue biopsies) the green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and the hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*); The applicant also requests a permit amendment to take (radio-tag) the nightingale reed warbler and the Mariana gray (or Vanikoro) swiftlet; and take (collect feathers) the Micronesian megapode in conjunction with scientific research in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-702631

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director-Ecological Services, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon.

The applicant requests a permit amendment to remove and reduce to possession specimens of the following plant species: *Clermontia samuelii* (oha wai); *Cyanea copelandii* ssp. *haleakalaensis* (haha); *Cyanea glabra* (haha); *Cyanea hamatiflora* ssp. *hamatiflora* (haha); *Dubautia plantaginea* ssp. *humilis* (na'ena'e); *Hedyotis schlechtendahlana* var. *remyi* (kopa); *Kanaloa kahoolawensis* (kohe

malama malama o Kanaloa); *Labordia tinifolia* var. *lanaiensis* (kamakahala); *Labordia triflora* (kamakahala); and *Melicope munroi* (alani). Collection activities will be conducted throughout the species range in conjunction with recovery efforts for the purpose of enhancing their propagation and survival.

Permit No. TE-017949

Applicant: Peter Lewendal, Junction City, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, collect, and sacrifice) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*) throughout the species range in California and Oregon, in conjunction with surveys, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

DATES: Written comments on these permit applications must be received on or before November 17, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Chief-Endangered Species, Ecological Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181; Fax: (503) 231-6243. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 20 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above; telephone: (503) 231-2063. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

Dated: October 7, 1999.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 99-27055 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Ballast Water and Shipping Committee

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Ballast Water and Shipping Committee of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. The meeting topics are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The Committee will meet from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, on Thursday, November 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Coast Guard Headquarters, Room 2415, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LT Mary Pat McKeown, U.S. Coast Guard, Chair, Ballast Water and Shipping Committee, at 202-267-0500 or by e-mail at mmckeown@comdt.uscg.mil or Sharon Gross, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, at 703-358-2308 or by e-mail at: sharon_gross@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Ballast Water and Shipping Committee. The Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701-4741).

This meeting will include briefings and updates on the ongoing ballast water related research projects, a discussion of the efforts to address environmental soundness of technologies, and a discussion of how aquatic nuisance species removal efficiency values will be developed.

Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Suite 851, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622, and the Chair, Ballast Water and Shipping Committee at the Environmental Standards Division, Office of Operations and Environmental Standards, U.S. Coast Guard (G-MSO-4), 2100 Second Street, SW., room 1309, Washington, DC 20593-0001. Minutes for the meetings will be available at these locations for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

Dated: October 12, 1999.

Hannibal Bolton,

Acting Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Acting Assistant Director—Fisheries.

[FR Doc. 99-27078 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-923-1150-AA]

Closure of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Malta Field Office, DOI.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately, the area described below is closed to the discharge or use of firearms. This closure only affects public lands. The areas closed are described as the 40 Complex between Dry Fork and Beauchamp Creek and an area south of Pea Ridge in south Phillips County, Montana. The public lands in the 40 Complex include: T. 24 N., R. 27 E., sec. 20, all; sec. 21, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 34, all; sec. 35, all; T. 24 N., R. 28 E., sec. 31, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 32, all; T. 23 N., R. 27 E., sec. 1, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 2, lots 1 through 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 3, lot 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 10, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 11, all; sec. 12, all; sec. 13, all; T. 23 N., R. 28 E., sec. 5, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 6, lots 1 through 7 inclusive, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 7, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 8, all; sec. 17, all; sec. 18, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; which included prairie dog colonies B040, B041, B042, B043, B045, B047, B069, B072, and B148. The public lands in the area south of Pea Ridge includes T. 22 N., R. 29 E., sec. 9, all; sec. 10, all; sec. 11, all; sec. 13, all; sec. 14, all; sec. 15, all; sec. 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 20, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 21, all; sec. 22, all; sec. 23, all; sec. 24, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, all; T. 22 N., R. 30 E., sec. 18, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 19, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 30, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; which includes prairie dog colonies B095, B096, B090, B111, B163 and B164. Signs noting this closure will be placed at strategic access points around the area and maps depicting the area are

available to the public at the Bureau of Land Management's Malta Field Office in Malta, Montana, 501 South Second East. Telephone 406-654-1240.

The purpose of the closure is to protect habitat for the reintroduction of the endangered black-footed ferret (*MUSTELA NIGRIPES*). That habitat is black-tailed prairie dog (*CYNOMYS LUDOVICIANUS*) colonies. The area within the closure has been identified as a key reintroduction site for black-footed ferrets because of the presence of viable black-tailed prairie dog colonies in close proximity to each other. Prairie dogs are critical prey species for ferrets and the number of prairie dogs has declined in recent years. The closure area has been identified to protect the prairie dog population from further decline due to recreational shooting. The area will remain closed until further notice. The authority for this closure is found in 43 CFR 8364.1.

In accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1(b)(4), persons who hold valid authorization from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to hunt big game, upland game birds, or waterfowl may use or discharge firearms in the closed area for the purpose of taking these permitted animals in accordance with the applicable state regulations. Authorized personnel of the Bureau of Land Management, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, state and local law enforcement agencies, and other emergency services are exempt from this closure when executing their official duties.

In accordance with 43 CFR 8360.0-7, persons who violate this closure may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not-to-exceed 12 months.

DATES: October 18, 1999.

LOCATION: Public lands in south Phillips County, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard M. Hotaling, Field Manager, Malta Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, HC 65 Box 5000, 501 South Second Street East, Malta, Montana 59538-0047, 406-654-1240.

Dated: October 7, 1999.

John E. Moorhouse,

Acting Deputy State Director, Division of Resources.

[FR Doc. 99-27043 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-040-00-1040-AE]

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the next meeting of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee Meeting. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide informed advice to the Safford Field Office Manager on management of public lands in the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA). The committee meets as needed, generally between two and four times a year.

The meeting will take place at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office on November 5, 1999 commencing at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will consist of a field trip to the west end of the NCA to look at a new recreation facilities, road closures and signing effort, salt cedar invasion, and road standards for road infrastructure in and around the NCA. A public comment period will be provided from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office prior to departing for the field trip. The public is invited to participate on the field trip but must provide their own transportation to and from the field. Field trip will depart at 10:00 a.m. and arrive back at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office at 4:00 p.m.

DATES: Meeting will be held on November 5, 1999 starting at 9:00 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jon Collins, Gila Box NCA Project Coordinator, Safford Field Office, 711 14th Ave., Safford AZ 85546, (520) 348-4400.

Dated: October 4, 1999.

Frank L. Rowley,

Program Manager for Support Services.

[FR Doc. 99-27044 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1220-XU; GP0-0007]

Temporary Restrictions on Public Lands; Escure Ranch (Rock Creek Area, Adams and Whitman Counties); Spokane District, Washington

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.