

Source of Marine Mammals: As described above and in current permit.
Period of activity: Until February, 2002.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Division of Management Authority is forwarding copies of the application listed above to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Applicant: J. Herbert Fisher, Jr., Lancaster, PA, PRT-032816.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population, Canada for personal use.

Applicant: Noah W. Horn, Vasant, VA, PRT-032748.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted from the Southern Beaufort Sea polar bear population, Canada for personal use.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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 to the following office on or before October 19, 2000: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Charlie Chandler,

Chief, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 00-23955 Filed 9-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

ACTION: Notice of Receipt of Applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of

1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*).

Permit No. TE-28605

Applicant: SWCA, Flagstaff, Arizona. Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the following endangered species in Arizona and New Mexico:

Mexican long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris nivalis*)
 lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae*)
 Hualapai Mexican vole (*Microtus mexicanus hualpaiensis*)
 southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)
 cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*)
 desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*)
 bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*)
 humpback chub (*Gila cypha*)
 Colorado pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucius*)
 razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*)
 Gila topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis*)
 woundfin (*Plagopterus argentissimus*)
 Kanab ambersnail (*Oxyloma haydeni kanabensis*)
 Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri var. robustispina*)

Permit No. TE-31666

Applicant: Prewitt & Associates, Austin, Texas.

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to collect the following endangered or threatened species in Texas:

Peck's Cave amphipod (*Stygobromus pecki*)
 Coffin Cave Mold beetle (*Batrissodes texanus*)
 Kretschmarr Cave Mold beetle (*Texamaurops reddelli*)
 Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*)
 Tooth Cave Pseudoscorpion (*Tartarocreagris texana*)
 Bee Creek Cave harvestman (*Texella reddelli*)
 Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*)
 Tooth Cave spider (*Neoleptoneta myopica*)
 Texas blind salamander (*Typhlomolge rathbuni*)
 Mexican long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris nivalis*)
 Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*)

The following species will not be collected but potentially impacted.

San Marcos salamander (*Eurycea nana*)
 fountain darter (*Etheostoma fonticola*)
 Big Bend gambusia (*Gambusia gaigei*)

Clear Creek gambusia (*Gambusia heterochir*)

Pecos gambusia (*Gambusia nobilis*)

San Marcos gambusia (*Gambusia georgei*)

Comanche Springs pupfish (*Cyprinodon elegans*)

Leon Springs pupfish (*Cyprinodon bovinus*)

Comal Springs dryopid beetle (*Stygoparnus comalensis*)

Comal Springs riffle beetle (*Heterelmis comalensis*)

Texas wild rice (*Zizania texana*)

Permit No. TE-19458

Applicant: National Park Service, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Ajo, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization for research and recovery purposes to establish and maintain a refugium to hold approximately 600 desert pupfish, subspecies Quitobaquito desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius eremus*).

Permit No. TE-32576

Applicant: Tetra Tech EM Inc., Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in various counties in New Mexico.

DATES: Written comments on these permit applications must be received on or before October 19, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Legal Instruments Examiner, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. 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: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents. 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 30

days of the date of publication of this notice, to the address above.

Stephen C. Helfert,

Acting Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 00-23998 Filed 9-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of a Draft Recovery Plan for the Robust Spineflower (*Chorizanthe robusta* var. *robusta*) From Santa Cruz County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability for public review of a draft recovery plan for the robust spineflower (*Chorizanthe robusta* var. *robusta*) from Santa Cruz County, California. This federally endangered plant taxon is known from four coastal and near-coastal sites in Santa Cruz County, California. We solicit review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on this draft recovery plan.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before November 20, 2000, to receive our consideration.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003 (phone: 805/644-1766). The draft recovery plan will also be available at the Santa Cruz Public Library. Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to Ms. Diane K. Noda, Field Supervisor, at the above Ventura address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Rutherford, Botanist, (805) 644-1766, at the above Ventura address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure and self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of our endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, we are working to prepare recovery plans for most of the federally

listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for recovery levels to downlist or delist them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), requires the development of recovery plans for federally listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. We 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 robust spineflower is federally listed as endangered. The robust spineflower is restricted to sandy soils along the coast and near-coastal areas in Santa Cruz County, California from Santa Cruz south to Sunset State Beach. It is currently known from four sites. The first site, Pogonip Park, supports two small colonies; the Park is owned and managed by the City of Santa Cruz. The second site is Sunset Beach State Park; a large population is scattered along approximately 1 kilometer (0.5 mile) of backdune habitat. The third site is on a 115-hectare (285-acre) private parcel known as Buena Vista that has been considered for golf course development; small colonies are scattered over 4 hectares (10 acres). The fourth site, located near Rob Roy Junction, is on a 8-hectare (20-acre) private parcel that was recently proposed for a lot split; the population here is scattered over 1.2 hectares (3 acres).

The objective of this draft recovery plan is to provide a framework for delisting the robust spineflower so that protection by the Act is no longer necessary. Actions necessary to accomplish this objective include: Protect robust spineflower habitat through land acquisition, conservation easements, and Habitat Conservation Plans; managing robust spineflower

habitat; conduct management-oriented research on the taxon's ecology and biology; review and revise management and recovery plan guidelines; locate additional populations; and establish new populations of the taxon within the historic range of this variety of *Chorizanthe robusta*.

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

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Elizabeth H. Stevens,

Acting Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 00-23996 Filed 9-18-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of a Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the Westwood Tributary Point Office Project, Sacramento County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Westwood Tributary Point Limited (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service proposes to issue a 2-year permit to the Westwood Tributary Point Limited that would authorize take of the threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Such take would occur as a result of development on the Westwood Tributary Point Office Project area in Sacramento County, California. Development will result in the loss of one elderberry plant with two stems which provide habitat for the valley elderberry longhorn beetle.

We request comments from the public on the permit application, which is available for review. The application includes a Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan). The Plan describes the proposed project and the measures that Westwood Tributary Point Limited would undertake to minimize and mitigate take of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle.

We also request comments on our preliminary determination that the Plan qualifies as a "low-effect" Habitat Conservation Plan, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National