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News Release



For Immediate Release
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Environmental Impact Statement released for proposal to restore Paiute cutthroat trout to Silver King Creek

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), today, released a final Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/EIR) for a Paiute Cutthroat Trout Restoration Project. The Service, in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Forest Service, developed the EIS/EIR to evaluate alternatives for restoring the threatened Paiute cutthroat trout to its historic habitat in Alpine County, California.

The preferred alternative removes non-native fish in Silver King Creek from Llewellyn Falls downstream to Silver King Canyon, as well as the accessible reaches of three small tributaries: Tamarack Creek, Tamarack Lake Creek and the lower reaches of Coyote Valley Creek. Methods for fish removal include the application of rotenone (a natural piscicide).

“After multiple years of evaluation, agency biologists and researchers have determined the preferred alternative is the best option to restore and recover this native species within its historic habitat,” said Bob Williams, Nevada State Supervisor for the Service. “We believe implementation of the preferred alternative will recover Paiute cutthroat trout so that it will no longer need protection under the Endangered Species Act.”

A Record of Decision will be signed no sooner than 30 days after the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency notice. Comments on the EIS/EIR must be received by 5p.m. on May 10, 2010. Submit comments to Robert D. Williams, State Supervisor, by U.S. mail at Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234, Reno, NV 89502; or by fax at (775) 861-6301. Information on Paiute cutthroat trout and copies of the EIS/EIR are available at www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/Resources/WildTrout/WT_Paiute/WT_PaiuteCutDocs.asp, at www.fws.gov/nevada or by calling the Service at 775-861-6300.

Copies of the EIS/EIR are also available at the following locations:

- Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234, Reno, NV 89502, 775-861-6300;
- California Department of Fish and Game, North Central Region Office, 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, 916-358-2900; or
- By sending an email request to silverkingpubliccomment@dfg.ca.gov.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.