DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife

Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent Eastern Shore of Virginia/Wallkill River National Wildlife Refugees; New Jersey and New York

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.


SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare two Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) and environmental documents pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations. One CCP will be prepared for Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge, in Northampton County, Virginia. The second CCP will be prepared for the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, located in Sussex County, New Jersey, and Orange County, New York.

The Service will solicit public input via open houses, public meetings, workshops, and written comments. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and announcements will inform people of the time and place of such opportunities for public input to the CCP.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) includes 745 acres of wetland, forest, and grassland habitat. The 1,850-acre Fisherman Island NWR will be included with the Eastern Shore of Virginia CCP, since both Refuges are managed by the staff of the Eastern Shore of Virginia NWR. Comments on the protection of threatened and endangered species and migratory birds and the protection and management of their habitats will be solicited as part of the planning process. A draft CCP is planned for public review in April 2000.

The Wallkill River NWR currently consists of 3,851 acres of wetland and upland habitats. An additional 621 acres of uplands habitat, the former Army Training facility in Shawangunk, NY, Ulster County, will be transferred in whole or part by June 1999 and administered from the Wallkill NWR office. Comments on the protection of threatened and endangered species and migratory birds and the restoration and management of wetland and grassland habitats will be solicited as part of the CCP process. Additional land protection may also be considered in support of these resources. A draft CCP is planned for public review in April 2000.

Review of these projects will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.


Ronald E. Lamberton, Regional Director, U.S., Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley, Massachusetts.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of an Application To Amend the Incidental Take Permit for the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan, San Mateo County, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and receipt of application.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the County of San Mateo and the cities of South San Francisco, Daly City, and Brisbane, California (Applicants), have applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an amendment to the San Bruno Mountain incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The proposed amendment would add the callippe silverspot butterfly (Speyeria callippe callippe), listed as endangered under the Act on December 5, 1997, to the Applicants’ existing incidental take permit (PRT 2-9818), and would authorize take of the callippe silverspot butterfly incidental to development activities on San Bruno Mountain, San Mateo County, California as described in the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan). This permit was originally issued by the Service on March 4, 1983, and authorized incidental take of the federally endangered mission blue butterfly (Icaricia icarioides missionensis), federally endangered San Bruno elfin butterfly (Callophrys mossii bayensis), and federally threatened San Francisco garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia) on San Bruno Mountain, California. This notice announces receipt of this permit amendment application and the availability of...