DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Radiological Emergency Preparedness: Reasonable Assurance Finding for the Indian Point Energy Center


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On July 25, 2003, FEMA made a finding of reasonable assurance that there is adequate offsite preparedness for the Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, New York.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vanessa E. Quinn, Chief, Radiological Emergency Preparedness Section, Nuclear and Chemical Hazards Branch, FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472; (202) 646–3664; Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 25, 2003, FEMA made a finding of reasonable assurance that appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of communities surrounding the Indian Point Energy Center can be taken and are capable of being implemented. A link to the full text of the document transmitting the finding to George Pataki, Governor of New York, is available at http://www.fema.gov.


R. David Paulison,
Director of the Preparedness Division,
Emergency Preparedness and Response,
Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 03–25216 Filed 10–3–03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6718–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

[UT–030–02–1610–DE–24–1A]

Establishment of Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Utah State Office, Interior.


SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, Pub. L. 92–463. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior has established the Bureau of Land Management’s Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Advisory Committee.

The purpose of the Committee will be to advise Monument Managers on science and management issues and the achievement of objectives set forth in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Cohn, National Landscape Conservation System (171), Bureau of Land Management, 1620 L Street, NW., Room 301 LS, Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 785–6589.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Permit Application and Safe Harbor Agreement Between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Malpai Borderlands Group


ACTION: Notice of availability and 30-day public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Malpai Borderlands Group (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (Act). The Applicants have been assigned permit number TE–073684–0. The requested permit, which is for a period of 50 years, would authorize the take of the Threatened Chiricahua leopard frog (Rana chiricahuensis). The proposed take could occur as a result of conservation measures implemented on the approximately 1 million acres (404,700 hectares) identified in the application and associated documents in Cochise County, Arizona and Hidalgo County, New Mexico. Conservation measures consist of stock tank development and restoration, including modification of stock tanks to enhance their use by Chiricahua leopard frogs and renovation to remove bullfrogs and other non-native predators. Currently, within the Agreement area, Chiricahua leopard frogs are only known to occur in a few locations, including three populations on the Magoffin property. These three populations on the Magoffin property exist solely due to the extraordinary efforts of the landowners to establish and maintain them prior to listing of the species. Thus, they are excluded from the baseline for the purposes of this Safe Harbor Agreement (Agreement). The Applicants, in cooperation with the Service, have prepared the Agreement to provide a conservation benefit to the species and allow for the take of the species. Based upon guidance in the Service’s June 17, 1999, Final Safe Harbor Policy, if an Agreement and associated permit are not expected to individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment or other natural resources, the Agreement/permit may be categorically excluded from undergoing National Environmental Policy Act review. The Malpai Agreement qualifies as a “Low Effect” Agreement, thus, this action is a categorical exclusion. The “Low Effect” determination for the Malpai Agreement is also available for public comment. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

DATES: Written comments on the application should be received by November 5, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the application, Agreement, and “Low Effect” determination may obtain copies by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103, or by contacting the Field Supervisor, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona 85021–4951 (602) 242–0210. Documents relating to the application will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, Phoenix, Arizona.

Written data or comments concerning the application and Agreement should be submitted to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona 85021–4951. Please refer to permit number TE–073684–0 (Malpai) when submitting comments.
includes the endangered San Francisco Manzanita Recovery Plan. Additional species of concern that will benefit from recovery actions taken for these plants are also discussed in the recovery plan. This recovery plan includes recovery criteria and measures for the San Francisco lessingia and Raven’s manzanita.

ADDRESSES: Hard copies of the final recovery plan will be available in 4 to 6 weeks by written request addressed to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W–2605, Sacramento, California 95825–1888. This final recovery plan is currently available on the World Wide Web at http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/index.html#plans.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Larry Host or Kirsten Tarp, Fish and Wildlife Biologists, at the above Sacramento address (telephone 916–414–6600).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Malpai Borderlands Group (Applicants) plan to implement conservation measures on approximately 1 million acres (404,700 hectares) in Cochise County, Arizona, and Hidalgo County, New Mexico. The conservation measures will improve and maintain livestock tanks and other artificial waters and use them to establish Chiricahua leopard frog populations. The Agreement as currently written is expected to provide a net conservation benefit to the Chiricahua leopard frog. The Agreement will provide protection to the Applicants against further regulation under the Endangered Species Act in the event that the Chiricahua leopard frog naturally or artificially establishes populations in the area as a result of implementation of the proposed conservation measures.

Section 9 of the Act prohibits the “taking” of threatened or endangered species. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened and endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened species.

Bryan Arroyo,
Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 03–25236 Filed 10–3–03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Recovery Plan for Coastal Plants of the Northern San Francisco Peninsula


ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“we”) announces the availability of the Recovery Plan for Coastal Plants of the Northern San Francisco Peninsula. This recovery plan includes the endangered San Francisco lessingia (Lessingia germanorum) and Raven’s manzanita (Arctostaphylos hookeri ssp. ravenii). The portion of the plan dealing with Raven’s manzanita is a revision of the 1984 Raven’s Manzanita Recovery Plan. Additional species of concern that will benefit from recovery actions taken for these plants are also discussed in the recovery plan. This recovery plan includes recovery criteria and measures for the San Francisco lessingia and Raven’s manzanita.

The plan also makes reference to several other federally listed species which are ecologically associated with San Francisco lessingia and Raven’s manzanita, which are treated comprehensively in other recovery plans. These species are beach layia (Layia carnosa), Presidio clarkia (Clarkia franciscana), Marin dwarf-flax (Hesperolinon congestum), Myrtle’s silverspot butterfly (Speyeria zere ne myrtleae), and bay checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha boyensis). In addition, 16 plant species of concern and 17 plant species of local or regional conservation significance are considered in this recovery plan.

The recovery plan stresses re-establishing dynamic, persistent populations of San Francisco lessingia and Raven’s manzanita within plant communities which have been restored to be as “self-sustaining” as possible within urban wildland reserves. Because the species has been reduced to small remnant areas of habitat, specific recovery actions for San Francisco lessingia focus on the restoration and management of larger, dynamic mosaics of coastal dune areas supporting shifting populations within the species’ narrow historic range. Recovery of Raven’s manzanita will include, but will not be limited to, the strategy of the 1984 Raven’s Manzanita Recovery Plan, which emphasized the establishment of the single remaining genetic individual. The plan also seeks to re-establish...