Grants; 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

Michael D. Brown,

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency
[FEMA–1526–DR]
Wisconsin; Major Disaster and Related Determinations


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Wisconsin (FEMA–1526–DR), dated June 18, 2004, and related determinations.

DATES: Effective Date: June 18, 2004.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated June 18, 2004, the President declared a major disaster under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121–5206 (the Stafford Act), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of Wisconsin, resulting from severe storms and flooding beginning on May 19, 2004, and continuing, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121–5206 (the Stafford Act). I, therefore, declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of Wisconsin.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes, such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Individual Assistance and Public Assistance in the designated areas, and Hazard Mitigation throughout the State. Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and the Other Needs Assistance under section 408 of the Stafford Act will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs.

Further, you are authorized to make changes to this declaration to the extent allowable under the Stafford Act.

The time period prescribed for the implementation of section 310(a), Priority to Certain Applications for Public Facility and Public Housing Assistance, 42 U.S.C. 5153, shall be for a period not to exceed six months after the date of this declaration.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice that pursuant to the authority vested in the Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response, Department of Homeland Security, under Executive Order 12148, as amended, Ron Sherman, of FEMA is appointed to act as the Federal Coordinating Officer for this declared disaster.

I do hereby determine the following areas of the State of Wisconsin to have been affected adversely by this declared major disaster:

Columbia, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Kenosha, Ozaukee, and Winnebago Counties for Individual Assistance.

Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green Lake, Kenosha, Ozaukee, Vernon, and Winnebago Counties for Public Assistance.

All counties within the State of Wisconsin are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund Program; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services Program; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance; 97.048, Individual and Household Housing; 97.049, Individual and Household Disaster Housing Operations; 97.050 Individual and Household Program—Other Needs, 97.036, Public Assistance Grants; 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

Michael D. Brown,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Notice of Availability of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Review and Comment, and Notice of Public Meetings

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft CCP/EA) is available for review and comment. The Draft CCP/EA was prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. dd et seq.) (Improvement Act), and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and describes how the Service proposes to manage this Refuge over the next 15 years. Refuge management changes proposed in the draft CCP include: Restoration of additional acres of historic riparian habitat; increasing public use opportunities including wildlife observation, photography, interpretation, and environmental education; opening additional areas of the Refuge to fishing; and opening the Refuge to waterfowl, deer, and upland gamebird hunting. Also available for review with the Draft CCP/EA, are the draft compatibility determinations for hunting; fishing; environmental education; wildlife observation, photography, and interpretation; research; camping and boating; farming; and grazing.

DATES: Please provide written comments to the address below by August 20, 2004. Public meetings will be held on:

1. July 20, 2004, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Willows, CA.
2. July 21, 2004, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Chico, CA.
3. July 27, 2004, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Red Bluff, CA.
4. July 29, 2004, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Colusa, CA.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the Draft CCP/EA should be addressed to Jackie Ferrier, Refuge Planner, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 752 County Road 99 W, Willows, California, 95988. Comments may also be submitted at the public meetings or via...
Supplementary Information:
Conference Room, 50 Sunrise East Avenue, Chico, CA.
Sacramento valley refuges@fws.gov.

For Further Information Contact:
Project Leader, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 752 County Road 99 W, Willows, California 95988, (530) 934-2801, or Jackie Ferrier, Refuge Planner, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 752 County Road 99 W, Willows, California 95988, (530) 934-2801.

Supplementary Information: Copies of the Draft CCP/EA may be obtained by writing to Jackie Ferrier, Refuge Planner, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 752 County Road 99 W, Willows, California 95988. Copies of the Draft CCP/EA may be viewed at this address and are also available for viewing and downloading online at http://sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov or http://pacific.fws.gov/planning.

Printed documents will be available for review at the following libraries: Bayliss Library in Glenn; Butte County Library in Chico; Butte County Library in Oroville; Colusa County Library in Colusa; Colusa County Library in Princeton; Corning Library in Corning; Orland City Library in Orland; Tehama County Library in Los Molinos; Tehama County Library in Red Bluff; and Willows Public Library in Willows.

Background


Sacramento River Refuge is part of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex located in the Sacramento Valley of north-central California. The Refuge is located along both banks of the Sacramento River between Red Bluff and Princeton, California, in Glenn, Butte, and Tehama Counties. The Refuge is managed to maintain, enhance and restore habitats for threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, anadromous fish and native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to adopt and implement a Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Sacramento River Refuge that best achieves the Refuge’s purposes; contributes to the National Wildlife Refuge System mission; addresses significant issues and relevant mandates; and is consistent with sound fish and wildlife management. A CCP is required by the Improvement Act of 1997. The purpose in developing CCPs is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The CCP must be consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife science and conservation; and legal mandates and Service policies. In addition to outlining refuge management direction for conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public such as hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

Alternatives

The Draft CCP/EA identifies and evaluates three alternatives for managing Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge for the next 15 years. Each alternative describes a combination of habitat and public use management prescriptions designed to achieve Refuge purposes. Of the alternatives described below, the Service believes that Alternative B would best achieve these elements, and is, therefore, identified as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative A, the no action alternative, assumes no change from current management programs and is considered the baseline to compare other alternatives. Under this alternative, the focus of the Refuge would be to continue to restore and maintain riparian habitat for threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, anadromous and native fish, wildlife, and plants. The Refuge would remain closed to visitor services other than the limited existing opportunity for fishing at Packer Lake. Hunting, camping, wildlife observation and photography would not be allowed and access to the Refuge would be limited. Riparian restoration activities would continue on the eight units (La Barranca, Ohm, Pine Creek, Capay, Phelan Island, Old Man’s Reach, Hartley Island and Drumheller Slough) covered under the Environmental Assessment for Proposed Activities on Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge (2002). Current funding and staffing levels would remain the same.

Alternative B, the preferred alternative would use active and passive management practices to achieve and maintain full restoration and enhancement of all units on the Refuge (5,855 acres), where appropriate. The agricultural program would be phased out as funding for restoration is obtained and restoration takes place. Public use activities would be optimized to allow for a balance of wildlife-dependant public uses (fishing, hunting, environmental education, interpretation, wildlife observation and photography) throughout the entire Refuge. Eighty-four percent of the Refuge would be open for environmental education, interpretation, wildlife observation and photography. Hunting would be allowed on 55 percent of the Refuge. Twenty-three river miles of seasonally submerged areas would be opened to fishing. Camping would be allowed below the ordinary high water mark on gravel bars. Trails and access to the Refuge would also be improved. Staffing and funding levels would need to increase to implement this alternative.

Alternative C would accelerate habitat restoration and maximize public use. The Refuge would use active and passive management practices to achieve and maintain full restoration and enhancement of all units on the Refuge (5,855 acres), where appropriate, as funding becomes available. The agricultural program would be phased out as funding is obtained, and full restoration efforts take place. Public use activities would allow wildlife-dependant public uses throughout the majority of the Refuge (84 percent). Hunting would be allowed on 73 percent of the Refuge. Twenty-three river miles of seasonally submerged areas would be opened to fishing, and camping would be allowed below the ordinary high water mark on gravel bars. Trails and access to the Refuge would also be improved. Funding and staffing levels would have to increase substantially to implement this alternative.

Features Common to All Alternatives

All three alternatives include a number of features in common. Under each alternative, riparian vegetation on La Barranca, Ohm, Pine Creek, Capay, Phelan Island, Dead Man’s Reach, Hartley Island and Drumheller Slough units would be restored and enhanced. These restoration activities are addressed in the Environmental Assessment for Proposed Restoration Activities on the Sacramento River.
National Wildlife Refuge (2002). Other continuing activities include baseline surveys and monitoring, fire management, law enforcement, and fishing at Packer Lake.


D. Kenneth McDermond, 
Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Fish and Wildlife Service.

The following permit requests.

To conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“we”) solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications.

**SUMMARY:** The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“we”) solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before July 29, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, 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 30 days of the date of publication of this notice at the address above (telephone: 503–231–2063). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Permit No.: TE–086996**

**Applicant:** David Hacker, Morro Bay, California. The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta conservatio), the longhorn fairy shrimp (Branchinecta longiantenna), the Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptoepephalus wootoni), the San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegonensis), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

**Permit No.: TE–082346**

**Applicant:** Elkhorn Sough Reserve, Watsonville, California. The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and release) the Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (Ambystoma macrodactylium) in conjunction with California red-legged frog (Rana aurora draytonii) research in San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

**Permit No.: TE–802094**

**Applicant:** Carl Page, Cotati, California. The permittee requests an amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the unarmored threespine stickleback (Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni) in conjunction with inventories throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

**Permit No.: TE–806679**

**Applicant:** Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, Cassel, California. The permittee requests an amendment to take (collect tissue) the Shasta crayfish (Pacifastacus fortis) in conjunction with genetic research throughout the species range in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

We solicit public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications.

Arizona. The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and collect) the Mohave tai fish (Gila bicolor mohavensis) in conjunction with parasite research in San Bernardino County, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

**Permit No.: TE–0886593**

**Applicant:** Arizona Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Tucson, Arizona. The applicant requests a permit to take (capture and collect) the Mohave tai fish (Gila bicolor mohavensis) in conjunction with parasite research in San Bernardino County, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.


Paul Henson, 
Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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