
Reed R. Murray,
Program Director, Department of the Interior.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge, KS

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that the final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) are available. This final CCP/EA describes how the Service intends to manage the Refuge for the next 15 years.

ADDRESSES: Please provide written comments to Toni Griffin, Planning Team Leader, Division of Refuge Planning, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225, or electronically to toni.griffin@fws.gov. A copy of the CCP may be obtained by writing to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Refuge Planning, 134 Union Boulevard, Suite 300, Lakewood, Colorado 80228; or by download from http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/planning.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Toni Griffin, 303–236–4378 (phone); 303–236–4792 (fax); or toni.griffin@fws.gov (e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Refuge, the first national wildlife refuge in Kansas, was established in 1954 as an overlay project on a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) irrigation and flood control reservoir. Reclamation owns the land and controls reservoir water levels, while the Refuge staff manages all other activities on the land and water. Basic authority for the existence of the Refuge stems from the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, which authorized the establishment of wildlife areas on federal water projects. The primary purpose of the reservoir is to provide for flood control and provide irrigation water for the Kirwin Irrigation District. The purpose of the Refuge “* * * shall be administered by him (Secretary of the Interior) directly or in accordance with such rules and regulations for the conservation, maintenance, and management of wildlife, resources thereof, and its habitat thereon * * * in behalf of the National Migratory Bird Management Program” (Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act). The Refuge is managed in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Reclamation and the Service that was updated and signed in 1985.

The draft CCP and EA was made available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period following the announcement in the Federal Register on March 24, 2006 (71 FR 14939–14940). The draft CCP/EA identified and evaluated two alternatives for managing the Refuge for the next 15 years.

Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, would continue current management. The Refuge would continue to be managed in accordance with the MOA between Reclamation and the Service; the Cooperative Agreement between the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks; and the Kirwin Comprehensive Management Plan completed in 1996. Existing and proposed Refuge uses would be evaluated to comply with current Refuge laws, regulations, and policies.

Alternative B, the Preferred Alternative (Wildlife, Habitat, and Public Use), strives to implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. Under this alternative, the Refuge will continue to be managed in accordance with the current MOA between Reclamation and the Service. Other actions include continued habitat management for waterfowl and game species; expanded habitat management for nongame species and species of conservation concern by increasing efforts to manage and plant native grasses and forbs; promotion of wildlife-dependent recreation, with hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education, and interpretation receiving priority attention; discontinuance of non-wildlife dependent recreation uses (i.e., water and jet skiing, personal watercraft, camping, swimming, horseback riding, volleyball, basketball, tournament fishing, power and speed boating); enhanced management of invasive species; collection of in-depth baseline wildlife and habitat data on the Refuge, from which to monitor management actions; and development of partnerships with other state, federal, and conservation organizations to achieve common goals that enhance and support the Refuge program.

The Service is furnishing this notice to advise other agencies and the public of the availability of the final CCP, to provide information on the desired conditions for the Refuge, and to detail how the Service will implement management strategies. Based on the review and evaluation of the information contained in the EA, the Regional Director has determined that implementation of the final CCP does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. Future site-specific proposals discussed in the final CCP will be addressed in separate planning efforts with full public involvement.

Dated: December 8, 2006.

James J. Slack,
Deputy Regional Director, Region 6, Denver, Colorado.

Editorial Note: This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on April 19, 2007.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before May 24, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103.

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. Documents will be available for public inspection, by appointment only, during normal business hours at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 500 Gold Ave. SW., Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Chief, Endangered Species Division,
P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102,
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103, (505) 248–6920.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Permit No. TE–830213

Applicant: EcoPlan Associates, Mesa, Arizona.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the endangered woundfin (Plagopterus argentissimus) and Virgin River chub (Gila seminuda) in Arizona.

Permit No. TE–149494

Applicant: Stephen Christian d’Orgeix, Petersburg, Virginia.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the endangered Sonoya pupfish (Cyprinodon eremus) associated with Mexican garter snake (Thamnophis eques) research within Santa Cruz County, Arizona.

Permit No. TE–149153

Applicant: Kyle Winters, Moore, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) and translocations away from construction projects within Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Permit No. TE–060125

Applicant: Salt River Project, Phoenix, Arizona.

Applicant requests a permit for research and recovery purposes to survey for Gila topminnow (Poecilopsis occidentalis occidentalis) along Lime Creek, above Horseshoe Reservoir in Arizona.

Permit No. TE–149902

Applicant: Hope Woodward, La Mesa, New Mexico.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes conduct presence/absence surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus).

Permit No. TE–039716

Applicant: Paul Marsh, Arizona State University, School of Life Sciences, Tempe, Arizona.

Applicant requests an amendment to an existing permit to add monitoring and sampling for Gila chub (Gila intermedia) within Arizona.

Permit No. TE–122838

Applicant: Gumm, Jennifer, New Mexico and Texas.

Applicant requests a permit amendment for research and recovery purposes to conduct a study of mating behaviors of Comanche Springs pupfish (Cyprinodon elegans). This will require collecting individuals, placing them in small bottles, and presenting them to other free swimming Comanche Springs pupfish in the population before released unharmed within San Solomon Springs at Balmorhea State Park located in Toyahvale, Texas. Applicant also requests a permit amendment for research and recovery purposes for genetic analysis of Pecos gambusia (Gambusia nobilis) in Diamond Y Spring, Texas; Balmorhea State Park, Texas; Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico; Blue Spring, New Mexico. Fish collection methods are to be limited to minnow traps, seining, and dip nets.

Permit No. TE–22838

Applicant: Martin, Keith, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests a permit for research and recovery purposes to mist net in upland, woodland, and riparian habitat to determine species richness and use of harp traps at cave entrances to determine colony compositions of Gray bat (Myotis grisescens), Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis), and Ozark Big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii insiguis) in Adair, Cherokee, Delaware, LeFlore, and Ottawa counties, Oklahoma.

Permit No. TE–820022

Applicant: PB&S J, Austin, Texas.

Applicant requests a permit renewal for research and recovery purposes for the American burying beetle (Nicrophorus americanus) in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Permit No. TE–150490

Applicant: Maresh, John, Texas.

Applicant requests a new permit to conduct presence/absence surveys for the golden-cheeked warbler (Dendroica chrysopectra) and black capped-vireo (Vireo atricapilla) for research and recovery purposes in central and west central Texas.

Permit No. TE–037155

Applicant: Bio-West, Logan, Utah.

Applicant requests an amendment to their permit for research and recovery purposes conduct presence/absence surveys for black-capped vireo (Vireo atricapillus), golden-cheeked warbler (Dendroica chrysoparia), northern Aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis), piping plover (Charadrius melodus), red-cockaded woodpecker (Picoides (=Dendrocopos) borealis), interior least tern (Sterna antillarum), Concho water snake ( Nerodia taximaculata (=harteri p.)), Barton Springs salamander (Eurycea sosorum), Houston Toad (Bufo houstonensis), Texas Blind Salamander (Typhlonoloe rathbuni), and karst invertebrates, including: (Rhadin exilis) ground beetle, no common name, (Rhadin infernalis) ground beetle, no common name, (Batrisodes venyvi) Helotes mold beetle, (Texella cokendolphi) Cokendolpher cave harmanist, (Gicroirina baronii) Robber Baron Cave meshweaver, (Cicirina madia) Madia cave meshweaver, (Cicirina venit) Bracken Bat Cave meshweaver, (Neoleptoneta verbora) Government Canyon Bat Cave meshweaver, (Neoleptoneta myopica) Tooth Cave harmanist, (Texella reyesi) Bone Cave harmanist, (Rhadine Persepho) Tooth Cave ground beetle, (Texamanopus reyesi) Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle, (Batrisodes texanus) Coffin Cave mold beetle, (Taratocoreagris texana) Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion.

Permit No. TE–151216

Applicant: Larry Stevens, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct surveys and salvage dead specimens of humpback chub (Gila cypha), Kanab ambersnail (Oxyloma haydeni kanabensis), and southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) within northern Arizona.

Permit No. TE–150338

Applicant: Crouch Environmental, Houston, Texas.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the following species within Texas: black-capped vireo (Vireo atricapillus), golden-cheeked warbler (Dendroica chrysoparia), red-cockaded woodpecker (Picoides (=Dendrocopos) borealis), interior least tern (Stern...
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in the BLM Idaho Falls District (IFD), which covers eastern Idaho. All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Howell, RAC Coordinator, Idaho Falls District, 1405 Hollipark Dr., Idaho Falls, ID 83401. Telephone (208) 524-7559. E-mail: David_Howell@blm.gov.


David Howell,
RAC Coordinator.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Notice and Agenda for Meeting of the Royalty Policy Committee

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the May 10 meeting of the Royalty Policy Committee (RPC). Agenda items for the meeting of the RPC will include remarks from the Director, MMS, and the Associate Director, Minerals Revenue Management (MRM), as well as presentations on the MRM Financial Management, Audit and Compliance, and Enforcement Programs. Updates will be provided by the Federal Oil and Gas Valuation, Oil and Gas Royalty Reporting, Coal, Indian Oil Valuation, and Royalty Management subcommittees. The RPC membership includes representatives from states, Indian Tribes, various mineral interests, the public-at-large (with knowledge and interest in royalty issues), and other Federal departments.

DATES: Thursday, May 10, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mountain Daylight Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Denver West, 360 Union Boulevard, Lakewood, Colorado, telephone number 303–987–2000 or 1–800–325–3535.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gina Dan, Minerals Revenue Management, Minerals Management Service; P.O. Box 25165, MS 300B2, Denver, Colorado 80225–0165; telephone number (303) 231–3392, fax number (303) 231–3780; e-mail gina.dan@mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RPC provides advice to the Secretary and top Department officials on minerals policy, operational issues, and the performance of discretionary functions under the laws governing the Department’s management of Federal and Indian mineral leases and revenues. The RPC will review and comment on revenue management and other mineral-related policies and provide a forum to convey views representative of mineral lessees, operators, revenue payors, revenue recipients, governmental agencies, and the interested public. The location and dates of future meetings will be published in the Federal Register and posted on our Internet site at http://www.mms.gov/mmb/royaltypolicycommittee/rpc_homepage.htm. Meetings will be open to the public without advanced registration on a space-available basis. The public may make statements during the meetings, to the extent time permits, and file written statements with the RPC for its consideration. Copies of these written statements should be submitted to Ms. Dan by May 1, 2007. Transcripts of this meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at our offices in Building 85 on the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, Colorado. The minutes will also be posted on our Internet site.

These meetings are conducted under the authority of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 1) and the Office of Management and Budget (Circular No. A–63, revised).


Lucy Querques Denett,
Associate Director, Minerals Revenue Management.