Applications and Plants; Recovery Permit
Endangered and Threatened Wildlife

Summary: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for recovery permits to conduct activities with the purpose of enhancing the survival of an endangered species. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits certain activities with endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing such permits.

Dates: To ensure consideration, please submit your written comments by January 21, 2014.

Addresses: Program Manager for Restoration and Endangered Species Classification, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Regional Office, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181. Please refer to the permit number for the application when submitting comments.

For further information contact: Colleen Henson, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by telephone (503–231–6131) or fax (503–231–6243).

Supplementary Information:

Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) prohibits certain activities with respect to endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. Along with our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17, the Act provides for certain permits, and requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittee to conduct activities (including take or interstate commerce) with respect to U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.12

Director, Office of Human Resources.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for recovery permits to conduct activities with the purpose of enhancing the survival of an endangered species. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits certain activities with endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing such permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please submit your written comments by January 21, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Program Manager for Restoration and Endangered Species Classification, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Regional Office, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181. Please refer to the permit number for the application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colleen Henson, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by telephone (503–231–6131) or fax (503–231–6243).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) prohibits certain activities with respect to endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. Along with our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17, the Act provides for certain permits, and requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittee to conduct activities (including take or interstate commerce) with respect to U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.12.

Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public to comment on the following applications. Please refer to the appropriate permit number for the application when submitting comments.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by request from the Program Manager for Restoration and Endangered Species Classification at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Permit Number: TE–22353B

Applicant: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia, Washington.

The applicant requests a new recovery permit to take (survey, monitor habitat restoration, collect, captive rear and breed, and reintroduce) the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha taylori) in Oregon and Washington for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit Number: TE–21614B

Applicant: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Salem, Oregon.

The applicant requests a new recovery permit to take (haze, capture, and relocate) the Columbian white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus leucurus) in conjunction with a translocation effort in the State of Washington for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit Number: TE–702631

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region, Portland, Oregon.

The applicant requests a renewal of their recovery permit for scientific take activities. This permit would allow Service employees, and their designated agents, to take, or remove and reduce to possession, all federally listed species in the States of Idaho, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington, and the trust territories of the Pacific Islands in conjunction with recovery activities for scientific purposes or for enhancing their propagation or survival. A list of federally listed species covered by this permit is available at the following Web site: http://www.fws.gov/pacific/ecoservices/endangered/recovery/documents/TE–702631–25R1SpeciesList2013.pdf

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R2–ES–2013–N187; FXES11120200000F02–134–FF02ENO00]

Environmental Action Statement Screening Form and Proposed Amendment to the Candidate Conservation Agreement With Assurances; Lesser Prairie Chicken, Oklahoma

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the environmental action statement screening form and the draft amendment to the Agricultural Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the lesser prairie chicken (Tympanuchus pallidicinctus) (LEPC) in Oklahoma, under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) (applicant) has applied for an amendment of their existing CCAA, with a major amendment to increase enrollment from 200,000 acres to 400,000 acres by 2037 throughout the 14 Oklahoma counties described in the CCAA.

DATES: Comment Period: To ensure consideration of your written comments, they must be received on or before close of business (4:30 p.m. CST) January 21, 2014. Any comments that we receive after the closing date may not be considered in the final decisions on these actions.

ADDRESSES: For where to view documents, see Availability of Documents in SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Acting Field Supervisor, by U.S. mail at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 9014 East 21st Street, Tulsa, OK 74129, or by telephone at 918–581–7458.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), we advise the public that:

1. We have gathered the information necessary to determine impacts in the environmental action statement screening form related to potential issuance of an amended enhancement of survival permit to the applicant; and

2. The applicant has developed a draft amendment to the CCAA, which doubles the acreage of enrollment on which ODWC could take to implement