DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. 2014–03602 Filed 2–19–14; 8:45 am]

Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (Act) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before March 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Endangered Species Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W–2606, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone: 916–414–6464; fax: 916–414–6486). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). We seek review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit requests.

Applicant

Permit No. TE–157216

Applicant: United States Geological Survey, Dixon, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (harass by palpation of captured individuals for stomach contents) the San Francisco garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis tetrateaenia) in conjunction with scientific research activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.
Permit No. TE–207867
Applicant: Michael A. Richard, Orange, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami parvus) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–095858
Applicant: Veronica A. Wunderlich, Pleasant Hill, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment (DPS)) (Ambystoma californiense) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–095858
Applicant: Arianne B. Preite, Orange, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino); take (survey and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the Stephens kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami parvus); Pacific pocket mouse (Perognathus longimembris pacificus), arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (Anaxyrus californicus (Bufo microscaphus c.), and desert pupfish (Cyprinodon macularius); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino) in conjunction with surveys, research, and population monitoring activities within the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–217663
Applicant: Ann M. Dalkey, Redondo Beach, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Palos Verdes blue butterfly (Glauca symphy CA sylygdamus palosverdesensis) and El Segundo blue butterfly (Euphilotes battoides alyni) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–31406A
Applicant: California State Parks, Ventura, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and install symbolic fencing) the California least tern (Sternula antillarum brownii) (Sterna a. b.) in conjunction with survey and nest monitoring activities in Ventura County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–844030
Applicant: Arthur E. Davenport, Barstow, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests) the least Bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) (survey by pursuit) the Quino bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the Stephens kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami parvus); Pacific pocket mouse (Perognathus longimembris pacificus), arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (Anaxyrus californicus (Bufo microscaphus c.), and desert pupfish (Cyprinodon macularius); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino) in conjunction with surveys, research, and population monitoring activities within the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–31406A
Applicant: Anita M. Hayworth, Redding, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests) the least Bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) (survey by pursuit) the Quino bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the Stephens kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami parvus); Pacific pocket mouse (Perognathus longimembris pacificus), arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (Anaxyrus californicus (Bufo microscaphus c.), and desert pupfish (Cyprinodon macularius); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino) in conjunction with surveys, research, and population monitoring activities within the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–844030
Applicant: Arthur E. Davenport, Barstow, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests) the least Bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) (survey by pursuit) the Quino bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the Stephens kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi); take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Dipodomys merriami parvus); Pacific pocket mouse (Perognathus longimembris pacificus), arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (Anaxyrus californicus (Bufo microscaphus c.), and desert pupfish (Cyprinodon macularius); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino) in conjunction with surveys, research, and population monitoring activities within the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–844030
Applicant: Eda C. Eggeman, Redding, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta consotervatio) and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in Shasta and Tehama Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–051248
Applicant: Paul M. Lemons, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino) and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta consotervatio), longhorn fairy shrimp (Branchinecta longianenna), Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni), San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegensis), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–781084
Applicant: Anita M. Hayworth, Encinitas, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus); take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell’s vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta consotervatio), longhorn fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegensis), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–72045A
Applicant: Alisa C. Zych, Cardiff by the Sea, California

The applicant requests a permit amendment to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailli extimus) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit No. TE–045153
Applicant: Dustin S. Janeke, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the
Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta conservatio), longhorn fairy shrimp (Branchinecta longipecten), Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni), San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegonensis), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

**Permit No. TE–795934**

**Applicant:** ICF Jones and Stokes, Incorporated, Sacramento, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus), delta smelt (Hypomesus transpacificus), and California tiger salamander (Ambystoma californiense); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta conservatio), longhorn fairy shrimp (Branchinecta longipecten), Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni), San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegonensis), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species as specified in the permit in California and Oregon for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

**Public Comments**

We invite public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications. Comments and materials we receive will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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 in your comment, you should be aware that the Service may disclose this information in the course of its ongoing duty to further the public interest, including in any appeal process, or when required or allowed by law.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**


**Record of Decision for Final Environmental Impact Statement; Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Proposed Land Exchange/Road Corridor, Cold Bay, Alaska**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability: record of decision.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Department of the Interior (Department) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the record of decision (ROD) for the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposed land exchange/road corridor on the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge), Alaska. We prepared this ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. We provide this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of availability of the ROD.

**DATES:** Both the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Secretary of the Interior signed the ROD on December 23, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** You may view or obtain copies of the ROD by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** Download a copy of the document(s) at http://izenbek.fws.gov/eis.htm.
- **Email:** izembek_eis@fws.gov; include “Izembek National Wildlife Refuge ROD” in the subject line of the message.
- **Fax:** Attn: Stephanie Brady, Project Team Leader, 907–786–3901.
- **U.S. Mail:** Stephanie Brady, Project Team Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Rd., MS–231, Anchorage, AK 99503.
- **In-Person Viewing or Pickup:** You may view or pick up a copy of the ROD during regular business hours at the address listed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephanie Brady, 907–306–7448, or by one of the addresses above.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:** With this notice, we finalize the EIS process for the Proposed Land Exchange/Road Corridor in the Izembek Refuge, Alaska. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.6(b)) requirements, this notice announces the availability of the ROD for the final EIS for a Proposed Land Exchange/Road Corridor in the Izembek Refuge. We completed a thorough analysis of the effects on the human environment of each alternative considered, including environmental, social, and economic considerations, which were included in the final EIS. The ROD documents our selection of Alternative 1, the No Land Exchange Alternative (No Action Alternative), which was the Service’s preferred alternative in the final EIS. Under this decision, the Service will not exchange land with the State of Alaska and the King Cove Corporation for the purpose of constructing a road between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska. Under this decision, we will continue to manage lands within the Refuge consistent with and following the Izembek Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan. For more background on the Refuge, and the public involvement process to date, please see our notice published Wednesday, February 6, 2013 (78 FR 8577).

**Background**

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11, Title VI, Subtitle E) (OPLMA) directed the Secretary of the Interior to analyze the land exchange, alternatives for road construction and operation, and a specific road corridor through the Izembek Refuge and the Izembek Wilderness. The proposed land exchange would transfer to the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest to a specific road corridor through the Izembek Refuge and Cold Bay, Alaska. As provided by OPLMA, the road “shall be used primarily for health and safety purposes (including access to and from the Cold Bay Airport) and only for noncommercial purposes.” The OPLMA requires the Secretary to make this decision in compliance with NEPA, which requires analysis of the effects of alternatives, including a “no action” alternative, and any other applicable law.

**Alternatives Considered**

The Final EIS evaluated in detail five alternatives, including a No Action Alternative and four action alternatives: **Alternative 1—No Action and Preferred Alternative**

Under Alternative 1, the Service would not exchange lands with the King Cove Corporation and the State of Alaska for the purpose of constructing a road between King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska. Current modes of transportation