DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWs–R6–ES–2014–N032; FxES11130600000–145–FF06E00000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered or threatened species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by April 11, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments or requests for copies or more information by any of the following methods. Alternatively, you may use one of the following methods to request hard copies or a CD–ROM of the documents. Please specify the permit you are interested in by number (e.g., Permit No. TE–XXXXX).

- Email: permitsR6ES@fws.gov. Please refer to the respective permit number (e.g., Permit No. TE–XXXXX) in the subject line of the message.

- U.S. Mail: Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486–DFC, Denver, CO 80225.

- In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pick-up: Call (303) 236–4212 to make an appointment during regular business hours at 134 Union Blvd., Suite 645, Lakewood, CO 80228.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Konishi, Permit Coordinator, Ecological Services, (303) 236–4212 (phone); permitsR6ES@fws.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of propagation or survival, or interstate commerce (the latter only in the event that it facilitates scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival). Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies and the public to comment on the following applications. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with their applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit Application Number</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Comm. Map Repository</th>
<th>Effective Date of Letter of Map Revision</th>
<th>Community No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TE121914</td>
<td>USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.msc.fema.gov/lomc">www.msc.fema.gov/lomc</a>.</td>
<td>February 7, 2014</td>
<td>490044</td>
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<tr>
<td>TE060668</td>
<td>Mark Bellini, Ojai, CA</td>
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Permit Application Number TE121914

Applicant: USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, 8711 37th Street SE., Jamestown, ND.

The applicant requests an amendment to their existing permit to increase the number of interior least tern (Sternula antillarum athalassos) to be banded and to add additional research localities in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit Application Number TE069539

Applicant: Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Prairie Management Program, 97 South Willow St., Eagle Butte, SD.

The applicant requests the renewal of their existing permit to take (capture, handle, and release) black-footed ferret (Mustela nigripes) for research and presence/absence surveys within the boundaries of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota, for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

Permit Application Number TE060668

Applicant: Mark Bellini, Ojai, CA 93023.

The applicant requests an amendment to an existing permit to conduct presence/absence surveys and nest monitoring throughout the range of the species in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species’ survival.

National Environmental Policy Act

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).

Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests will be available for public inspection,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

[Geological Survey

[GX14EE000101100]

Announcement of National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting


ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) will meet on April 1–2, 2014 at the South Interior Building Auditorium, 1951 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20240. The meeting will be held in the first floor Auditorium. The NGAC, which is composed of representatives from governmental, private sector, non-profit, and academic organizations, was established to advise the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) on management of Federal geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and the implementation of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–16. Topics to be addressed at the meeting include:

- Leadership Dialogue
- 2014 NGAC Guidance
- FGDC Initiatives (NSDI Strategic Plan, Geospatial Platform, Geospatial Portfolio Management)
- NGAC Subcommittee Activities
- NGAC Action Plan

The meeting will include an opportunity for public comment on April 2. Comments may also be submitted to the NGAC in writing. Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting must register in advance. Please register by contacting Arista Maher at the U.S. Geological Survey (703–648–6283, amaher@usgs.gov). Registrations are due by March 28, 2014. While the meeting will be open to the public, registration is required for entrance to the South Interior Building, and seating may be limited due to room capacity.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on April 1 and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on April 2.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Meetings of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee are open to the public. Additional information about the NGAC and the meeting is available at www.fgdc.gov/ngac.

Kenneth Shaffer,
Deputy Executive Director, Federal Geographic Data Committee.

[FR Doc. 2014–05298 Filed 3–11–14; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4311–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLUTW02100–L13300000–EN000]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Sevier Playa Project, Millard County, UT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah Fillmore Field Office intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze and disclose impacts associated with the Sevier Playa Project, a proposed potash mine located on public land in central Millard County, Utah, and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: www.ut.blm.gov. In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. Additional opportunities for public participation will be provided upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Sevier Playa Project by any of the following methods:

- Email: blm_ut_fm_comments@blm.gov.
- Mail: BLM, Fillmore Field Office, 95 East 500 North, Fillmore, UT 84631; email: blm_ut_fm_comments@blm.gov. Contact Ms. Ledbetter to have your name added to our mailing list. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to leave a message or question for Ms. Ledbetter. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant, Peak Minerals Inc. (Peak Minerals), has requested to construct an operational potash mine on BLM-leased lands which they hold the right to develop, and to use off-lease BLM-administered lands through an application for a right-of-way (ROW) authorization for supporting structures. Peak Minerals is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain the Sevier Playa Project which would include facilities to extract and process potash from the brine solution found in the leased area. Potash is defined by regulation under 43 CFR part 3500 and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 as a solid leasable mineral. The Sevier Playa leased area is located in southwestern Utah in the central portion of Millard County, and is defined generally by the geographical boundaries of the Sevier Playa. Peak Minerals controls directly, or through agreement, the BLM mineral leases on more than 124,000 acres. Potash leases grant the lessee the exclusive right and privilege to explore for, drill for, mine, extract, remove, beneficcate, concentrate, or otherwise process and dispose of the potassium deposits and other associated minerals. The leased lands for the proposed Project are predominantly administered by the