Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the administrative record associated with this action. 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 request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Next Steps

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the Federal Register.

Authority

Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).


Lori H. Nordstrom,
Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Midwest Region.

Editorial Note: The Office of the Federal Register received this document for publication on October 15, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. 2018–22764 Filed 10–18–18; 8:45 am]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Incidental Take Permit Application, Habitat Conservation Plan for the Sand Skink, Lake County, FL

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment and information.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. McDonald Ventures XXXVIII, LLC is requesting a 5-year ITP for take of the federally listed sand skink incidental to construction. We request public

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Type of take</th>
<th>Permit action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TE64235B ......</td>
<td>William O’Leary, Murphysboro, IL</td>
<td>IL, IN, KY</td>
<td>Conduct presence/absence surveys, document habitat use, conduct population monitoring, evaluate impacts.</td>
<td>Harass, salvage</td>
<td>Renew.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE95096C ......</td>
<td>Duncan Schanz, Schoharie, NY</td>
<td>GA, IL, IN, KY, TN, VA, WV</td>
<td>Add new locations—MN—to existing authorized locations: IL, IA, OH.</td>
<td>Capture, handle, mist-net, radio-tag, band, wing biopsy, collect fecal and swab samples, release.</td>
<td>New.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE71737A ......</td>
<td>Roger Klocek, Oak Brook, IL</td>
<td>Add Orangefoot pimpleback (pearlmysse) (Plethobasus cooperianus), scaleshell mussel (Leptodota lepton), and winged mapleleaf (Quadrula fragosa) to existing permitted species: Clubshell (Pleurobema clava), fanshell (Cyprogenia stegaria), fat pocketbook (Potamilus capax), Higgins eye (Lampsilis higginsii), pink mussel (Lampsilis radiata), northem riffleshell (Epioblasma torulosa rangiana), snuffbox mussel (E. triquetra), rabbitsfoot (Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica), sheepnose mussel (Plethobasus cyphus), rayed bean (Villosa fabalis), spectaclecase (mussel) (Cumberlandia monodonta).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Capture, handle, hold, release.</td>
<td>Amend.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. McDonald Ventures XXXVIII, LLC is requesting a 5-year ITP for take of the federally listed sand skink incidental to construction. We request public
comment on the permit application, which includes the proposed habitat conservation plan, as well as on our preliminary determination that the plan qualifies as low-effect under the National Environmental Policy Act. To make this determination, we used our environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, which are also available for review.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by November 19, 2018.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to review the application, including the HCP, as well as our environmental action statement or low-effect screening form, you may request the documents by email, phone, or U.S. mail. These documents are also available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the office below. Send your comments or requests for any one of the following methods.

Email: northflorida@fws.gov. Use “Attn: TE98747C–0.”
Fax: Field Supervisor, (904) 731–3191, “Attn: TE98747C–0.”
In-person drop-off: You may drop off information during regular business hours at the above office address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin M. Gawera, telephone: (904) 731–3121; email: erin_gawera@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). McDonald Ventures XXXVIII, LLC (applicant) is requesting a 5-year ITP to take sand skink (Neoselaps reynoldsii) incidental to the conversion of approximately 0.25 acres of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat for construction of a commercial development. The 9.37-acre project site is located on parcel Number Parcel ID numbers 4222600020000400, 4222600020000500, 4222600020000700, 4222600020000800, and 4222600020000900, within Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 26 East in Lake County, Florida. The project includes the clearing, infrastructure building, and landscaping associated with construction. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the threatened sand skink by purchasing 0.50 mitigation credits within the Lake Wales Ridge Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink conservation bank.

Our Preliminary Determination

We have determined that the Applicant’s proposal, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures, would have minor or negligible effects on the species covered in the HCP. Therefore, we have determined that the incidental take permit for this project would be “low effect” and qualify for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). A low-effect HCP is one involving (1) minor or negligible effects on federally listed or candidate species and their habitats, and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Next Steps

We will evaluate the HCP and comments we receive to determine whether the ITP application meets the permit issuance requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA. If the requirements for permit issuance are met, we will issue ITP number TE98747C–0 to the Applicant for incidental take of the sand skink.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and the ESA’s regulations, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Jay B. Herrington,
Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Field Office, Southeast Region.
[FR Doc. 2018–27249 Filed 10–18–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
[FWS–R8–NWRS–2018–N130; FXRS282108E8PD0–190–F2013227943]
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, Phase 2; Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge, California; Record of Decision for Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of availability; record of decision.
SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California State Coastal Conservancy, announce the availability of the record of decision (ROD) for the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge—Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project final environmental impact statement/environmental impact report. The ROD explains that the selected alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative.

ADDRESSES:
Document Availability: The ROD is available at the following places:
Internet: http://www.southbayrestoration.org/planning/phase2/.
In Person: San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex Headquarters, 1 Marshlands Rd., Fremont, CA 94555.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Barr, Deputy Project Leader, 510–792–0222 (phone), or chris_barr@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), and the California State Coastal Conservancy, announce the availability of the record of decision (ROD) for the final environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) for Phase 2 of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project (SBSP) at the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge. The ROD explains that the selected alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Background

In December 2007, the USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) published a Final EIS/EIR for the SBSP Restoration Project at the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) and the CDFW Eden Landing Ecological Reserve (December 19, 2007; 72 FR 71937). The overall south bay salt pond restoration area includes 15.10 acres, which the USFWS and CDFW