Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. Appendix (Pub. L. 92–463). The NIAC shall provide the President, through the Secretary of Homeland Security, with advice on the security and resilience of the Nation’s critical infrastructure sectors. The NIAC met under an Exceptional Circumstance on March 13, 2020, to discuss the COVID–19 Pandemic and the ways in which the NIAC might be able to assist CISA with its ongoing response efforts. The following agenda was used for the NIAC discussion with CISA leadership.

**Agenda**

I. Call to Order
II. Opening Remarks
III. Discussion on COVID–19
IV. Closing Remarks
V. Adjournment

**Public Participation**

Meeting Registration Information

Any member of the public who wishes to provide written comment can do so by emailing NIAC@hq.dhs.gov no later than Friday, April 20, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact NIAC@hq.dhs.gov as soon as possible.

Ginger K. Norris,


[FR Doc. 2020–06961 Filed 4–2–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110–9P–P**

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**


**Block 12 Development Project, Kern County, California; Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Habitat Conservation Plan; Reopening of Public Comment Period**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; reopening of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is reopening the public comment period for the draft environmental assessment (draft EA) and draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) in support of an incidental take permit (ITP) application received from Aera Energy, LLC.

**DATES:** The comment period for the draft EA and draft HCP addressing the ITP application for incidental take, which opened via a notice that published on March 2, 2020 (85 FR 12322), is reopened. We will accept comments received or postmarked on or before April 17, 2020. Comments submitted electronically using http://www.regulations.gov (see ADDRESSES) must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date.

**ADDRESSES:** Obtaining Documents: The draft EA, draft HCP, and any comments and other materials that we receive are available for public inspection at http://www.regulations.gov in Docket No. FWS–HQ–IA–2018–0116.

Submitting Comments: To submit comments, please use one of the following methods, and note that your information requests or comments are in reference to the draft EA, draft HCP, or both. If you have previously submitted comments, please do not resubmit them, we have already incorporated them in the public record and will fully consider them in our final decision.


For more information, see Public Comments under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Justin Sloan, Senior Wildlife Biologist, or Patricia Cole, Chief, San Joaquin Valley Division, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, by email at justin_sloan@fws.gov or patricia_cole@fws.gov, by phone at 916–414–6600 or via the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received an incidental take permit (ITP) application from Aera Energy, LLC in accordance with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). For more information, see the March 2, 2020 (85 FR 12322), notice. We are reopening the public comment period on the draft EA and draft HCP documents (see DATES and ADDRESSES).

**Authority**

We issue this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32), and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6 and 43 CFR 46.305).

Jennifer Norris,

Field Supervisor, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2020–06961 Filed 4–2–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4333–15–P**
The project site encompasses approximately 9,700 acres of forestlands in Thurston and Lewis Counties, Washington. The applicant intends to initiate turbine operations in 2019, or as soon as possible thereafter. A detailed description of the project is presented in chapter 2 of the HCP. The majority of the project, including all 38 wind turbines, is located in Lewis County, Washington. Some supporting infrastructure is located in Thurston County, Washington. The wind energy generation facility is located on a prominent ridgeline on the Weyerhaeuser Company’s Vail Tree Farm, located approximately 18 miles east of Centralia, Washington. The project is expected to produce an output of approximately 137 megawatts (MW) of electricity from 38 wind turbines, each of which is 492 feet tall (from ground to vertical blade tip), with rotor diameters of 446 feet. The turbine operating prescriptions presented in chapter 2 of the HCP include curtailment regimes and site management prescriptions.

Avoidance and minimization measures in the HCP to benefit the marbled murrelet include seasonal curtailment of turbine blades (turbine blades are fully stopped and feathered into the wind) and site management prescriptions to maintain transmission and distribution line flight diverters, shield artificial light sources, and minimize the artificial increase of potential nest predators in the project area. Mitigation measures in the HCP to benefit the marbled murrelet include seasonal curtailment of turbine blades (turbine blades are fully stopped and feathered into the wind) and site management prescriptions to maintain transmission and distribution line flight diverters, shield artificial light sources, and minimize the artificial increase of potential nest predators in the project area. 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In order to issue an ITP authorizing the level of incidental take expected to result from project operations being mitigated through land acquisition, derelict net removal, and power pole retrofits. Increasing the use of avoidance and minimization measures through different turbine curtailment regimes can reduce the amount of take of the covered species and the amount of renewable electricity produced; a commensurate reduction in the amount of derelict net removal and power pole retrofits are expected with alternatives that increase turbine curtailment.

Public comments received in response to the DEIS were considered, and the FEIS reflects clarifications of the existing analysis to address public comments.

The FEIS does not identify an environmentally preferred alternative. Pursuant to NEPA implementing regulations found at 40 CFR 15.2(b), the Service identified the No Action Alternative—Option B (no approval of the HCP/no issuance of the ITP/no project construction) as the environmentally preferred alternative in the ROD.

Decision and Rationale for Decision

Based on our review of the alternatives and their environmental consequences as described in our FEIS, we have selected the Proposed Action option (Alternative 1). The Proposed Action includes the applicant’s implementation of the final HCP and the Service’s issuance of an ITP authorizing incidental take of the covered species that may occur as a result of project operations.

In order to issue an ITP for covered species under the ESA, we must determine that the HCP meets the issuance criteria set forth in 16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(2)(B). In addition, in order to issue an ITP covering bald eagles and golden eagles, we must determine that the HCP meets the issuance criteria set forth in 50 CFR 22.26(f). We have made the determination that the HCP meets both sets of criteria, as described further in the ROD.

Authority

We provide this notice in accordance with the requirements of section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539(c)) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 22.26(f)) and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6; 43 CFR part 46).

Robyn Thorson,
Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2020–06977 Filed 4–2–20; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R1–ES–2020–N047;
FXES11140100000–201–FF01E00000]

DeChaux Habitat Conservation Plan for the Yelm Subspecies of the Mazama Pocket Gopher, Thurston County, Washington; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, received an application from Duane DeChaux (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The ITP would authorize the applicant’s take of the Yelm pocket gopher, incidental to otherwise lawful activities during construction of their single-family home and agricultural shop in Thurston County, Washington. The application includes a habitat conservation plan (HCP) with measures to minimize and mitigate the impacts of the taking on the covered species. We have also prepared a draft environmental action statement (EAS) for our preliminary determination that the HCP and permit decision may be eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act. We provide this notice to open a public comment period and invite comments from all interested parties regarding the documents.

DATES: Please submit written comments by May 4, 2020.

ADDRESSES: To request further information or submit written comments, please use one of the following methods:

• Internet: You may view or download the habitat conservation plan, draft environmental action statement, and additional information on the internet at http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/.

• Email: wfwocomments@fws.gov. Include “DeChaux HCP” in the subject line of the message.


• In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pickup: Call 360–753–5823 to make an appointment (necessary for viewing or picking up documents only) during regular business hours at the above address.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), received an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531). The ITP would authorize the applicant’s “take” of the Yelm pocket gopher (Thomomys mazama velensis) incidental to otherwise lawful activities during construction of their single-family home and agricultural shop in Thurston County, Washington. The application includes a habitat conservation plan (HCP) with measures to minimize and mitigate the impacts of the taking on the covered species. We have also prepared a draft environmental action statement (EAS) for our preliminary determination that the HCP and permit decision may be eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). We provide this notice to open a public comment period and invite comments from all interested parties regarding the documents.

Background

Section 9 of the ESA prohibits “take” of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. Under the ESA, the term “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill,