

the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties, California to conduct presence or absence surveys and population management activities for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

*Permit No. 769931*

*Applicant:* James M. Greaves, Santa Barbara, California.

The applicant requests an amendment of their permit to include taking (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and capture, band, and release) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*), and western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*) in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Riverside, Kern, Orange, San Diego, Monterey, and San Benito Counties, California for presence or absence surveys and population monitoring activities for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

*Permit No. 793646*

*Applicant:* Clifford M. Anderson, Bow, Washington.

The applicant requests an amendment of their permit to take (harass by survey, capture, band, and release) the peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) to include King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties, Washington while conducting population monitoring activities for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

*Permit No. 799558*

*Applicant:* Idaho Power Company, Boise, Idaho.

The applicant requests an amendment of their permit to take (collect, release, sacrifice voucher specimens) the Snake River physa snail (*Physa natricina*), Idaho springsnail (*Fontellecella idahoensis*), Utah valvata snail (*Valvata utahensis*), and Banbury Springs Limpet (*Lanx n. sp.*) in the Snake River, Idaho, and its tributaries to extend the area of activities to (and including) river mile 525 (Clover Creek) while conducting presence or absence surveys and various life history and ecological studies for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

*Permit No. 787644*

*Applicant:* William J. Vanherweg, Bakersfield, California.

The applicant requests an amendment of their permit to include taking (capture and release) the Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) and Pacific pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*) throughout the species' range in California to conduct

presence or absence surveys for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

*Permit No. 813431*

*Applicant:* Peter Famolaro, Spring Valley, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) throughout the species' range in California to conduct presence or absence surveys and population monitoring for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

*Permit No. 811081*

*Applicant:* Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The applicant requests a permit to take (euthanize) desert tortoises (*Gopherus agassizii*) that test positive for the Upper Respiratory Tract Disease (for the purpose of enhancing the survival of the species). These tortoises were previously captured, removed from the wild, and placed at the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center, Las Vegas, Nevada pursuant to permit numbers PRT-747182 and PRT-756360, and biological opinions 1-5-91-F-112 and 1-5-91-F-25.

*Permit No. 812740*

*Applicant:* Ingri S. Quon, San Diego, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), and California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*) in San Diego, Orange, Riverside, and Imperial Counties, California to conduct presence or absence surveys and population monitoring for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

**DATES:** Written comments on the permit applications must be received by June 13, 1996.

**ADDRESS:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the Chief, Division of Consultation and Conservation Planning, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments, including names and addresses, received will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Documents and other information submitted with these applications are

available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice, to the following office: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Consultation and Conservation Planning, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181. Telephone: 503-231-2063; FAX: 503-231-6243. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Thomas Dwyer,

Deputy Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

### Availability of Draft Recovery Plan for the Maui Plant Cluster for Review and Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of a draft Maui Plant Cluster Recovery Plan. This plan addresses 21 taxa of plants. Twelve of the taxa are or were endemic to the Hawaiian island of Maui. The plants that are not endemic to Maui are or were also found on the islands of Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before July 15, 1996 to receive consideration by the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the draft recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following locations: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, room 6307, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., P.O. Box 50167, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 [telephone (808) 541-2749]; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, Ecological Services, 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Eastside Federal Complex, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 [telephone (503) 231-6131]; the Wailuku Public Library, 251 High Street, Wailuku, Maui 96793; the Kauai Public Library, 4344 Hardy Street, Lihue, Kauai 96766; and, the Kailua-Kona Public Library, 75-138 Hualalai Road, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740. Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to Brooks Harper, Field

Supervisor, at the above Honolulu address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Heather McSharry, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Honolulu address, telephone (808) 541-2749.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act as amended in 1988 requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. Substantive technical comments will result in changes to the plans. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plans, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

The 21 taxa being considered in this recovery plan are: *Acaena exigua* (liliwai), *Alectryon macrococcus* (mahoe), *Argyroxiphium sandwicense* ssp. *macrocephalum* (Haleakala silversword, 'ahinahina), *Bidens micrantha* ssp. *kalealaha* (ko'oko'olau), *Clermontia oblongifolia* ssp. *mauiensis* ('oha wai), *Cyanea lobata* (haha), *Cyanea mcdowneyi* (haha), *Geranium arboreum* (nohoanu), *Geranium multiflorum* (nohoanu), *Hedyotis coriacea* (kio'ele), *Huperzia mannii* (wawae'iolo), *Lipochaeta kamolensis* (nehe), *Lysimachia lydgatei* (no common name (NCN)), *Melicope adscendens* (alani), *Melicope balloui* (alani),

*Melicope mucronulata* (alani), *Melicope ovalis* (alani), *Remya mauiensis* (NCN), *Scaevola coriacea* (Dwarf naupaka), *Schiedea haleakalensis* (NCN) and *Tetramolopium capillare* (NCN).

Twelve of the taxa are or were endemic to the Hawaiian island of Maui; the exceptions are or were found on the Hawaiian islands of Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii as well as Maui. The 21 plant taxa and their habitats have been variously affected or are currently threatened by one or more of the following: habitat degradation by feral and domestic animals (e.g., goats, pigs, axis deer and cattle); competition for space, light, water, and nutrients by introduced vegetation; erosion of substrate produced by human- or animal-caused disturbance; recreational and agricultural activities; habitat loss from fires; disease; loss of pollinators; and predation by animals (goats, rats and mice). Due to the small number of existing individuals and their very narrow distributions, these taxa are subject to an increased likelihood of extinction and/or reduced reproductive vigor from stochastic events.

The taxa included in this plan were historically distributed throughout the island of Maui, and nine of the taxa also occur on one or more of the islands of Niihau, Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii. They grow in a variety of vegetation communities (grassland, shrubland, and forests), elevational zones (coastal to montane), and moisture regimes (dry to wet). Most of the taxa included in this plan persist on steep slopes, precipitous cliffs, valley headwalls, and other regions where unsuitable topography has prevented agricultural development or where inaccessibility has limited encroachment by alien animal and plant taxa.

The objective of this plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of these 21 taxa so that their protection by the Act is no longer necessary. Immediate actions necessary for the prevention of extinction of these taxa include fencing for exclusion of ungulates, alien plant control, protection from fire, population and plant community monitoring and management, *ex situ* propagation, and augmentation of populations, as appropriate. Long-term activities necessary for the perpetuation of these taxa in their natural habitats additionally include public education, maintenance of fenced areas, long-term monitoring and management of populations and communities, and reestablishment of populations within the historic ranges of some taxa. Further

research on current range, growth requirements, reproduction and reproductive status, pollinators, life history, limiting factors, habitat requirements, and minimum viable population sizes is needed to facilitate appropriate management decisions regarding the long-term perpetuation of each of these taxa.

**Public Comments Solicited**

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of these plans.

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: May 8, 1996.

Thomas Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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**Geological Survey**

**Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC): Application Notice Establishing the Closing Date for Transmittal of Applications Under the FGDC National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Framework Demonstration Projects Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 1996**

**AGENCY:** Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice inviting applications for competitive cooperative agreement awards for fiscal year 1996.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of the FGDC National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Framework Demonstration Projects Program task is to facilitate and provide resources for the development and implementation of the NSDI framework concept. Under this FY 1996 program announcement, applications are to be directed towards projects that test the framework concept. These projects will demonstrate the sustained ability, over a geographic area, to supply data to the greater geospatial data community from locally available data sources through the implementation of the framework process. These projects will provide practical examples in implementation, suggest innovative alternative approaches to accomplish the goals outlined in the framework report, and indicate topics for future research and development. Applicants are being sought who are establishing long-term organizational structures, and cooperative arrangements with other organizations in sustained efforts to