

Camp Johnson Area
Camp Lejeune Co: Onslow NC 28542-0004
Landholding Agency: Navy
Property Number: 779720044
Status: Unutilized
Reason: Extensive deterioration, Secured Area

Bldg. TC1059, Camp Lejeune
French Creek Area
Camp Lejeune Co: Onslow NC 28542-0004
Landholding Agency: Navy
Property Number: 779720045
Status: Unutilized
Reason: Extensive deterioration, Secured Area

Oklahoma
Bldgs. 4a, 4b, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12
NIPER
Bartlesville, Co: Washington, OK 74003-
Landholding Agency: Energy
Property Number: 419720003
Status: Unutilized
Reason: Extensive deterioration

Wisconsin
North Point Light Station
North Point Co: Milwaukee WI 53211-5860
Landholding Agency: GSA
Property Number: 549720004
Status: Excess
Reason: Other
Comment: No legal access, GSA Number: 1-U-WI-577

Port Washington Light Station
Port Washington Co: Ozaukee WI 53074-
Landholding Agency: GSA
Property Number: 549720006
Status: Excess
Reason: Within 2000 ft. of flammable or explosive material, GSA Number: 1-U-WI-577

Land (by State)

Louisiana
Harrison Lock & Dam No. 2
Harrisonburg Co: Catahoula LA 71340-
Landholding Agency: GSA
Property Number: 549720003
Status: Excess
Reason: Floodway, GSA Number: 7-D-LA-0552

[FR Doc. 97-14522 Filed 6-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Draft Recovery Plan for the Santa Cruz Cypress (*Cupressus Abramsiana*) 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 Recovery Plan for the Santa Cruz cypress (*Cupressus abramsiana*). The Santa Cruz cypress is a tree restricted to

5 populations totalling approximately 5,100 individuals in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties, California.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before August 5, 1997 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 location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003; and the Santa Cruz Public Library, 224 Church St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060. Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to Judy Hohman, Acting Field Supervisor, at the above Ventura address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Constance Rutherford, Botanist, at the above Ventura address, (805) 644-1766.

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 Santa Cruz cypress is a tree in the Cypress family (Cupressaceae) currently and historically located in patches within coastal chaparral and mixed evergreen forests on sandy or gravelly, well drained soils in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties, California. This species has been threatened by conversion of habitat to agriculture, logging, residential development, genetic introgression, interruption of natural fire patterns, disease and insect infestations, and invasion of alien plant species.

This plan provides a framework for the recovery of the Santa Cruz cypress so that protection by the Act is no longer necessary. To accomplish this objective, needed tasks include: protection from incompatible land uses (i.e., timber harvest, agriculture, developments, recreation), implementation of resource management plans that would manage for long-term viability of the populations (i.e., mimic natural fire regime, address genetic introgression, and control insect infestations), and further research into the biology of the species and the threats facing it.

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 this plan.

Authority

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

Don Weathers,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Incidental Take Permit for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in Association With Timber Management Activities on Two Properties in Alachua and Citrus Counties, Florida; Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of a Joint Application

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Holnam, Inc., Crystal River Limestone Mine and Carl L. Johnson, Trustee, Eric Parker Realtor Kallman

tract (Applicants) have jointly applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit (ITP) pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended. The proposed permit would authorize the incidental take of a federally endangered species, the red-cockaded woodpecker, *Picoides borealis* (RCW), known to occur on the two tracts of lands owned by the Applicants. The Holnam, Inc., Crystal River Limestone Mine ownership (HCR Tract) is located in Citrus County, Florida. The Eric Parker Realtor Kallman ownership (Kallman Tract) is located in Alachua County, Florida. The Applicants are requesting an ITP in order to harvest the timber on their respective properties for economic reasons. The proposed ITP would authorize incidental take of a single RCW on the Kallman Tract and up to two groups of RCWs on the HCR Tract, in exchange for mitigation elsewhere as described further in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

The Service also announces the availability of an environmental assessment (EA) and habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the incidental take application. Copies of the EA and/or HCP may be obtained by making a request to the Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES**). Requests must be in writing to be processed. This notice also advises the public that the Service has made a preliminary determination that issuing the ITP is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended. The Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on information contained in the EA and HCP. The final determination will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10 of the Act and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The Service specifically requests comment on the appropriateness of the "No Surprises" assurances should the Service determine that an ITP will be granted and based upon the submitted HCP. Although not explicitly stated in the HCP, the Service has, since August 1994, announced its intention to honor a "No Surprises" Policy for applicants seeking ITPs. Copies of the Service's "No Surprises" Policy may be obtained by making a written request to the Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES**). The Service is soliciting public comments and review the applicability of the "No

Surprises" Policy to this application and HCP.

DATES: Written comments on the permit application, EA, and HCP should be sent to the Service's Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES**) and should be received on or before July 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the application, HCP, and EA may obtain a copy by writing the Service's Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia. Documents will also be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the Regional Office, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, Georgia 30345 (Attn: Endangered Species Permits), or Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6620 Southpoint Drive, South, Suite 310, Jacksonville, Florida 32216-0912. Written data or comments concerning the application, EA, or HCP should be submitted to the Regional Office. Requests for the documentation must be in writing to be processed. Comments must be submitted in writing to be processed. Please reference permit number PRT-829937 in such comments, or in requests of the documents discussed herein.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rick G. Gooch, Regional Permit Coordinator, (see **ADDRESSES** above), telephone: 404/679-7110; or Ms. Dawn Zattau, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Jacksonville Field Office, (see **ADDRESSES** above), telephone: 904/232-2580, extension 120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RCW is a territorial, non-migratory cooperative breeding bird species. RCWs live in social units called groups which generally consist of a breeding pair, the current year's offspring, and one or more helpers (normally adult male offspring of the breeding pair from previous years). Groups maintain year-round territories near their roost and nest trees. The RCW is unique among the North American woodpeckers in that it is the only woodpecker that excavates its roost and nest cavities in living pine trees. Each group member has its own cavity, although there may be multiple cavities in a single pine tree. The aggregate of cavity trees is called a cluster. RCWs forage almost exclusively on pine trees and they generally prefer pines greater than 10 inches diameter at breast height. Foraging habitat is contiguous with the cluster. The number of acres required to supply adequate foraging habitat depends on the quantity and quality of the pine stems available.

The RCW is endemic to the pine forests of the Southeastern United States

and was once widely distributed across 16 States. The species evolved in a mature fire-maintained ecosystem. The RCW has declined primarily due to the conversion of mature pine forests to young pine plantations, agricultural fields, and residential and commercial developments, and to hardwood encroachment in existing pine forests due to fire suppression. The species is still widely distributed (presently occurs in 13 Southeastern States), but remaining populations are highly fragmented and isolated. Presently, the largest known populations occur on federally owned lands such as military installations and national forests.

The most recent estimate of the status of the State of Florida's RCW population is 1995. Data indicates that 1,285 active RCW clusters occur, of which 1,063 (82.7 percent) exist on Federal lands, 128 (10 percent) exist on State-owned lands, and 94 (7.3 percent) exist on private lands.

Both the RCWs on both the Kallman and HCR Tracts exist in a highly fragmented landscape. As indicated in the accompanying HCP, data suggests that the RCW population on both tracts are experiencing a long-term decline that will result in local extirpation at some point in the near future. The nearest known RCWs to the Kallman property occur at Camp Blanding (15 miles away) and some isolated scattered groups in western Putnam County (15 miles away). Few suitable RCW habitats and groups located in region of the HCR Tract are scattered among predominately agricultural lands. Thirty RCW groups occur within 13 miles of the HCR Tract at the Goethe State Forest and vicinity, 1 group on private lands 10 miles to the southeast, and 58 groups approximately 17 miles away at Withlacoochee State Forest.

One family of the threatened Florida scrub jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) occur on the HCR Tract but will not be affected by the proposed timber harvesting activities and are not subject to the ITP request from the Applicants.

The HCP provides mitigation measures for the proposed incidental taking including habitat enhancement and translocation of the remaining RCWs during a 3-year mitigation period, or until success is achieved, whichever is shorter. The HCP provides a funding mechanism for these mitigation measures.

HCR Tract

The conservation measures proposed to offset impacts are:

- The Applicant will construct and install a minimum of four (4) completed

artificial cavity inserts within three (3) selected recruitment clusters within the Osceola National Forest (OSNF). The recruitment cluster locations will be determined in cooperation with the Applicant, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Service.

- Artificial cavity inserts will be screened for two (2) weeks and checked twice for leakage and cracks.

- Once the artificial cavities are in place, the single male RCW will be translocated to one of the newly-created recruitment sites. Work within the occupied RCW habitat onsite will be restricted until the single male RCW is translocated. Temporary foraging and roosting habitat will be provided, at a quantity consistent with Service guidelines.

- Monitoring will be conducted for three (3) years or until success is achieved, whichever is less. Success is defined as establishment of new breeding group in any of the newly-created recruitment sites. Two (2) visits to the receiving site will be made weekly for the first two (2) months following translocation of the single male RCW. Surveys of the remaining newly-created recruitment sites will take place four (4) times during the following nesting season to monitor reproductive status and success.

Kallman Tract

The conservation measures proposed to offset impacts are:

- The Applicant will construct and install a minimum of four (4) completed artificial cavity inserts within one (1) selected recruitment clusters within the OSNF. The recruitment cluster location will be determined in cooperation with the Applicant, the USFS, and the Service.

- Artificial cavity inserts will be screened for two (2) weeks and checked twice for leakage and cracks.

- Once the artificial cavities are in place, the single male RCW will be translocated to an existing cluster site at the Ocala National Forest (ONF). Work within the occupied RCW onsite will be restricted until the single male RCW is translocated. Temporary foraging and roosting habitat will be provided, at a quantity consistent with Service guidelines.

- Monitoring of the translocated male RCW will take place the morning following release. Subsequent monitoring will take place one (1) week later. Four (4) visits will be made during the following nesting season, coordinated with ONF staff. Any other monitoring data collected by ONF staff will be reported to the Applicant.

More details on the mitigation and minimization measures are outlined in the Applicants' HCP.

The EA considers the environmental consequences of two alternatives, including the proposed action. The proposed action alternative is issuance of the incidental take permit and implementation of the HCP as submitted by the Applicants.

As stated above, the Service has made a preliminary determination that the issuance of the ITP is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(C) of NEPA. This preliminary information may be revised due to public comment received in response to this notice and is based on information contained in the EA and HCP. An appropriate excerpt from the FONSI reflecting the Service's finding on the application is provided below:

Based on the analysis conducted by the Service, it has been determined that:

1. Issuance of an ITP would not have significant effects on the human environment in the project area.

2. The proposed take is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity.

3. The Applicant has ensured that adequate funding will be provided to implement the measures proposed in the submitted HCP.

4. Other than impacts to endangered and threatened species as outlined in the documentation of this decision, the indirect impacts which may result from issuance of the ITP are addressed by other regulations and statutes under the jurisdiction of other government entities. The validity of the Service's ITP is contingent upon the Applicant's compliance with the terms of the permit and all other laws and regulations under the control of State, local, and other Federal governmental entities.

The Service will also evaluate whether the issuance of a Section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with Section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service Section 7 consultation. The results of the biological opinion, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

On Thursday, January 16, 1997, the Service published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the Final Revised Procedures for implementation of NEPA (NEPA Revisions), (62 FR 2375-2382). The NEPA revisions update the Service's procedures, originally published in 1984, based on changing trends, laws, and consideration of public comments. Most importantly, the NEPA revisions reflect new initiatives

and Congressional mandates for the Service, particularly involving new authorities for land acquisition activities, expansion of grant programs and other private land activities, and increased Endangered Species Act permit and recovery activities. The revisions promote cooperating agency arrangements with other Federal agencies; early coordination techniques for streamlining the NEPA process with other Federal agencies, Tribes, the States, and the private sector; and integrating the NEPA process with other environmental laws and executive orders. Section 1.4 of the NEPA Revisions identify actions that may qualify for Categorical Exclusion. Categorical exclusions are classes of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Categorical exclusions are not the equivalent of statutory exemptions. If exceptions to categorical exclusions apply, under 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 of the Departmental Manual, the departmental categorical exclusions cannot be used. Among the types of actions available for a Categorical Exclusion is for a "low effect" HCP/incidental take permit application. A "low effect" HCP is defined as an application that, individually or cumulatively, has a minor or negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP [Section 1.4(C)(2)].

The Service may consider the Applicants' ITP request and HCP such a Categorical Exclusion. The Service is soliciting for public comments on this determination. The Service is announcing the availability of the EA since the project's environmental documents were finalized shortly after the NEPA Revisions were released. However, the Service may make a final determination that this action is categorically excluded.

Dated: May 28, 1997.

Noreen K. Clough,

Regional Director.

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BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; Tenth Regular Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.