

Under Alternative D (the preferred alternative), the habitat potential within the salt ponds would be maximized. Approximately 600 acres of salt ponds would be restored to tidal influence to support intertidal mudflat and coastal salt marsh habitats. Additionally, some 30 acres of new nesting habitat would be created, 230 acres of pond area would be managed to benefit waterfowl and shorebird foraging and nesting, and 44 acres of salt ponds and associated levees would be managed to sustain a viable population of brine invertebrates to support the foraging needs of specific species of migratory birds. The Otay River floodplain would be restored as described in Alternative C and the nesting enhancements described under Alternative B would be implemented. Opportunities for wildlife observation, photography, and environmental interpretation would be expanded, the regional trail and boardwalk described in Alternative C would be provided, and the other public uses that are currently provided, including fishing, environmental education, and boating, would be maintained. Restoration under this alternative would be phased and would ultimately result in the closure of the existing commercial solar salt operation.

Predator Management Plan

A draft predator management plan has also been prepared to accompany the CCP. Implementation of this plan is proposed pursuant to the Service's endangered species management responsibilities and would occur on the Refuge in conjunction with other wildlife and habitat management activities. Species to benefit from the implementation of predator management include the federally listed endangered California least tern and light-footed clapper rail and the threatened western snowy plover. The predator management plan has been developed as a comprehensive wildlife damage control program that addresses a range of management actions from vegetation control and nesting habitat enhancement to non-lethal and lethal control of both mammalian and avian predators. Under this plan, the most effective, selective, and humane techniques available to deter or remove individual predators or species that threaten nesting, breeding, or foraging California least terns, western snowy plovers, or light-footed clapper rails would be implemented.

Public Comments

After the review and comment period ends for this Draft CCP/EIS, comments will be analyzed by the Service and

addressed in the Final CCP/EIS. All comments received from individuals, including names and addresses, become part of the official public record and may be released. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations, and Service and Departmental policies and procedures.

Dated: July 14, 2005.

Ken McDermond,

*Manager, California/Nevada Operations,
Sacramento, California.*

[FR Doc. 05-14217 Filed 7-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Incidental Take of Threatened Species for the Monument Creek Interceptor Tie-In Project Along Jackson Creek, El Paso County, CO

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permit for incidental take of endangered species.

SUMMARY: On February 15, 2005, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 70, No. 30, FR 7754), that an application had been filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) by the Triview Metropolitan District and Forest Lakes Metropolitan District for a permit to incidentally take, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1539) as amended, Preble's meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*), pursuant to the terms of the "Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Issuance of an Endangered Species Act Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permit for the Incidental Take of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) for the Monument Creek Interceptor Tie-In Along Jackson Creek, El Paso County, Colorado."

Notice is hereby given that on June 30, 2005, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act, the Service issued a permit (TE-097228-0) to the above named party subject to certain conditions set forth therein. The permit was granted only after the Service determined that it was applied for in good faith, that granting the permit will not be to the disadvantage of the threatened species, and that it will be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in the Endangered Species Act, as amended.

Additional information on this permit action may be requested by contacting the Colorado Field Office, 755 Parfet Street, Suite 361, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, telephone (303) 275-2370, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Dated: July 8, 2005.

Mike Stempel,

Acting Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 05-14503 Filed 7-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-931-6320 HAG5-0121]

Notice of Availability of a Final Integrated Pest Management Program Environmental Impact Statement for the Horning Seed Orchard; Clackamas County, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluates, analyzes, and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of a proposed integrated pest management program at the Horning Seed Orchard in Clackamas County, Oregon, in BLM's Salem District. The integrated pest management program is proposed to control the insect, weed, animal, and disease problems at the orchard, and to maintain healthy, vigorous crop trees for the production of seed and other vegetative materials used for reforestation and a variety of land management actions.

DATES: Written comments on the Final EIS will be accepted for 30 days following the date that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. BLM asks that those submitting comments on the Final EIS make them as specific as possible with reference to page numbers and chapters of the document. Comments will not receive a formal response; however, they will be considered and included as part of the BLM decision-making process.

Freedom of Information Act Considerations: Public comments submitted for this planning action, including names and street addresses of

respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Road, SE., Salem, Oregon, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays or at the Horning Seed Orchard, 27004 S. Sheckly Road, Colton, Oregon, by appointment (503-630-8406). Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDRESSES: Please address questions, comments, or requests for copies of the Final EIS to Mr. Jeffrey Gordon, Supervisor or Mr. Terry Garren, Horticulturist, Horning Seed Orchard at 27004 S. Sheckly Road, Colton, OR 97017, or by fax at 503-630-6888, or by e-mail to orhsoipmeis@or.blm.gov. A copy of the Final EIS has been sent to those persons who responded to BLM indicating that they wished to receive a copy of the Final EIS. Copies of the Final EIS will be available at all 13 city and county public libraries located in Clackamas County, Oregon, and on the BLM Salem District Web site at http://www.or.blm.gov/salem/html/planning/horning_ipm.htm. Public reading copies will also be available for review at the following locations:

Horning Seed Orchard, 27004 S. Sheckly Road, Colton, OR 97017, 503-630-8406.

BLM Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Road, SE., Salem, OR 97306, 503-375-5646.

USDI Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office (OR931), 333 SW. First Avenue, Portland, OR 97204, 503-808-6001.

Bureau of Land Management Office of Public Affairs, Main Interior Building, Room 3321, 1849 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20240, 202-452-5140.

Background information and maps used in developing the Final EIS are available at the Salem District Office and the Oregon State Office in Portland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Greg Tyler, Manager, Horning Seed Orchard at 27004 S. Sheckly Road, Colton, OR 97017, 503-630-8406, orhsoipmeis@or.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final EIS analyzes four action alternatives and the no action alternative to manage pests at Horning. The alternatives can be summarized as follows:

Alternative A—Maximum Production Integrated Pest Management. Pests would be managed using all identified biological, chemical, prescribed fire, cultural, and other pest control methods, including aerial application by helicopter.

Alternative B—Integrated Pest Management with Environmental Protection Emphasis. Pests would be managed using all of the methods in Alternative A, with special exceptions designed to further protect workers' health and safety and the environment. The limitations were based on results of the human health and ecological risk assessment, scoping comments, and consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries office under the Endangered Species Act.

Alternative C—Ground-Based Integrated Pest Management. This alternative is identical to Alternative B except for the exclusion of helicopter application.

Alternative D—Pest Management with No Pesticides. Pests would be managed using only the non-pesticide biological, prescribed fire, cultural, and other methods listed under Alternative A.

Alternative E—No Action: Continuation of Current Management Approach. The current management system allows for use of all non-pesticide pest control practices at the seed orchard, as well as the use of pesticides on a specific case-by-case basis. All non-pesticide biological, prescribed fire, cultural, and other methods would be used in accordance with current procedures. When a specific need is identified for a biological or chemical pesticide, the action would be reviewed to determine whether it is encompassed by an existing environmental assessment (EA) or EIS.

Agency Preferred Alternative: BLM's preferred alternative is Alternative B. Public participation has occurred throughout the NEPA process. Two Notices of Intent were filed in the **Federal Register** (FR) on March 26, 1999 (64 FR 14747) and March 29, 2001 (66 FR 17192). BLM held an open house, conducted direct mailings and a site visit during scoping to solicit comments and ideas. BLM provided a 60-day written comment period for review of the Draft EIS, during which two public meetings were conducted at the Horning Seed Orchard on July 17, 2003 from 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. A new

appendix in the Final EIS provides a complete set of public comments received on the Draft EIS, with BLM's response to each comment.

Following the 30-day availability period that begins with publication of EPA's **Federal Register** Notice of Availability, BLM will issue a Record of Decision announcing selection of the alternative to be implemented. This forest management decision may be protested under 43 CFR 5003—Administrative Remedies. In accordance with 43 CFR 5003.2, the decision for this project will not be subject to protest until the publication of a notice of decision in a newspaper of general circulation, a minimum of 30 days after the Notice of Availability of this Final EIS. Protests of the decision must be filed with this office within 15 days of the publication of a notice of decision in the newspaper. If no protest is received by the close of business (4 p.m. Pacific standard time) on the 15th day, the decision will become final. If a timely protest is received, the decision will be reconsidered in light of the protest and other pertinent information available in accordance with 43 CFR 5003.3.

Dennis Williamson,

District Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-931-6320 HAG5-0122]

Notice of Availability of a Final Integrated Pest Management Program Environmental Impact Statement for the Provolt and Sprague Seed Orchards; Jackson and Josephine Counties, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of a Final EIS that evaluates, analyzes, and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of a proposed integrated pest management program at the Provolt and Sprague Seed Orchards in Jackson and Josephine Counties, Oregon, in BLM's Medford District. The integrated pest management program is proposed to control the insect, weed, animal, and disease problems at the