

mortgages including any HUD or Secretary-held subordinate debt encumbering or otherwise related to a project; and to issue restructuring commitments and closing documents relating to such debt.

(4) To issue HUD forms 92264 and 92264A upon approval of a restructuring plan.

(5) In connection with a restructuring transaction, to approve transfers of physical assets.

(6) In connection with a restructuring transaction, to approve environmental assessment and compliance findings for related laws report, HUD form 4128.1.

(7) To issue a commitment to insure and endorse for insurance a mortgage note given to refinance a HUD-insured or HUD-held mortgage, pursuant to section 223(a)(7) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715n).

(8) For qualified nonprofits acquiring projects that are the subject of a restructuring transaction, to modify, assign or forgive debt created in the restructuring.

D. The Assistant Secretary for Housing redelegates to the Rehabilitation Escrow Administration Manager, the following authority:

(1) To modify and sign any documents necessary to perform enumerated functions related to the rehabilitation needs of a project that was the subject of a restructuring transaction, and to waive any directive issued by OAHF that is not mandated by a statute or regulation.

(2) To administer escrow accounts and modify the agreement established under the restructuring transaction, for the purpose of addressing immediate and near term rehabilitation needs of a project.

E. The Assistant Secretary for Housing redelegates to the Bonds and Appeals Manager, the following authority:

(1) To modify and sign any documents necessary to perform enumerated functions related to appeals under MAHRA and/or the regulations promulgated under MAHRA.

(2) To reject or hear and decide any appeal under MAHRA and/or the regulations promulgated under MAHRA except for 24 CFR 401.645

## II. Authority Excepted

The authority redelegated herein does not include the authority to issue or to waive HUD regulations. The authority redelegated herein also does not include the authority to sue or be sued.

## III. Further Redelegation

The authority redelegated herein may not be further redelegated.

**Authority:** Section 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

Dated: October 7, 2004.

**John C. Weicher,**

*Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of a Permit Application (Family Crisis Center) for Incidental Take of the Houston Toad

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Family Crisis Center (Applicant) has applied for an incidental take permit (TE-094076-0) pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act (Act). The requested permit would authorize incidental take of the endangered Houston toad. The proposed take would occur as a result of the construction and operation of a retail thrift store on a 1.38-acre property located on State Highway 71 in the Tahitian Village Subdivision, Bastrop County, Texas.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before December 21, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Persons wishing to review the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) may obtain a copy by contacting Clayton Napier, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758 (512/490-0057). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Austin, Texas. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas, at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-094076-0 when submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Clayton Napier at U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. However, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

The Service has prepared the EA/HCP for the incidental take application. A determination of jeopardy or non-jeopardy to the species and a decision pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will not be made until at least 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

**Applicant:** The Family Crisis Center plans to construct a retail thrift store within 5 years, on a 1.38-acre property located on State Highway 71 in the Tahitian Village Subdivision, Bastrop County, Texas. This action will eliminate 1.38-acres or less of Houston toad habitat and result in indirect impacts within the lot. The Applicant proposes to compensate for this incidental take of the Houston toad by providing \$2,760.00 to the Houston Toad Conservation Fund at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the specific purpose of land acquisition and management within Houston toad habitat.

Pursuant to the June 10, 2004, order in *Spirit of the Sage Council v. Norton*, Civil Action No. 98-1873 (D. D.C.), the Service is enjoined from approving new section 10(a)(1)(B) permits or related documents containing "No Surprises" assurances until such time as the Service adopts new permit revocation rules specifically applicable to section 10(a)(1)(B) permits in compliance with public notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act. This notice concerns a step in the review and processing of a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit and any subsequent permit issuance will be in accordance with the Court's order. Until such time as the Service's authority to issue permits with "No Surprises" assurances has been reinstated, the Service will not approve any incidental take permits or related documents containing "No Surprises" assurances.

**Bryan Arroyo,**

*Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region.*

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