

the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways we could enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or conduct, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number. Approval for this collection expires March 31, 2012.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section during the hours of 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday except for legal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personally identifiable information, be advised that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be made public at any time. While you may request that we withhold your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 1076–0017.

Title: Financial Assistance and Social Services, 25 CFR Part 20.

Brief Description of Collection: Submission of this information is required of Indian applicants of BIA financial assistance and social services. BIA uses the information to determine if an individual is eligible for services and, where appropriate, to conduct an employability assessment and jointly develop with the individual an Individual Self-Sufficiency Plan outlining how the individual can attain self-sufficiency. Response is required to obtain a benefit.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Individual Indians seeking financial assistance or social services from BIA.

Number of Respondents: 240,000 provide information on the application, and of those, 95,000 contribute information to an employability assessment and ISP.

Total Number of Responses: Once, on occasion.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.5 (0.5 hours for the application + 1 hour for the employability assessment and ISP).

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 215,000 hours ((240,000 × 0.5 hours for applications) + (95,000 × 1 hour for employability assessment and ISP)).

Dated: April 6, 2010.

Alvin Foster,

Acting Chief Information Officer—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2010–8799 Filed 4–15–10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R2–ES–2010–N066; 20124–1113–0000–F5]

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Act requires that we invite public comment on these permit applications.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before May 17, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87103. 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. Documents will be available for public inspection, by appointment only, during normal business hours at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 500 Gold Ave. SW., Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Jacobsen, Chief, Endangered Species Division, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103; (505) 248–6920.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying

information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Permit TE–02368A

Applicant: Martin Schlaefer, Syracuse, New York.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for Sonoran tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi*) within Arizona.

Permit TE–07059A

Applicant: Paul Marsh, Chandler, Arizona.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the following species: Humpback chub (*Gila cypha*), bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*), Virgin River chub (*Gila robusta seminuda*), woundfin (*Plagopterus argentissimus*), Colorado pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucius*), razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*), desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*), Yaqui topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis sonorensis*), Quitobaquito desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius eremus*), Gila topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis*), and Gila chub (*Gila intermedia*) within Arizona, Nevada, and California.

Permit TE–07308A

Applicant: Debbie Buecher, Tucson, Arizona.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris yerbabuenae*) within Arizona.

Permit TE–178778

Applicant: Marks Lab of Aquatic Ecology, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*) within Texas.

Permit TE–07360A

Applicant: Nancy Nicolai, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax taillii extimus*) within New Mexico.

Permit TE–819473

Applicant: National Park Service—Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, Arizona.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and

recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for humpback chub (*Gila cypha*) and razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) within Arizona.

Permit TE-160521

Applicant: Tetra Tech, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax taillii extimus*) within Arizona, Colorado, and Utah.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: April 8, 2010.

Thomas L. Bauer,

Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-8719 Filed 4-15-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2010-N022; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, AL

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability: draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of a draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment (Draft CCP/EA) for Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) for public review and comment. In this Draft CCP/EA, we describe the alternative we propose to use to manage this refuge for the 15 years following approval of the final CCP.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by May 17, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the Draft CCP/EA by writing to: Mr. Stephen A. Miller, Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 5087, Anniston, AL 36205; telephone: 256/848-6833. The Draft CCP/EA is available on compact disk or in hard copy. You may also access and download the document from the Service's Internet Web site: <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/under> "Draft Documents." Comments on the Draft CCP/EA may be submitted to the above

address or via electronic mail to: stephen_a_miller@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mike Dawson, Refuge Planner, Jackson, MS; 601/965-4903, extension 20.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we continue the CCP process for Watercress Darter NWR. We started the process through a notice in the **Federal Register** on March 12, 2007 (72 FR 11048).

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Administration Act.

CCP Alternatives, Including Our Proposed Alternative

We developed three alternatives for managing the refuge and chose "Alternative C" as the proposed alternative. A full description of each alternative is in the Draft CCP/EA. We summarize each alternative below.

Alternative A—Current Management (No Action)

The current management of Watercress Darter NWR recognizes the importance of looking beyond the refuge boundary. We continue to seek partnerships with adjacent landowners to protect and enhance the habitat for the endangered watercress darter. Upland management emphasizes the maintenance and restoration of native vegetative communities. Environmental parameters are monitored, adding additional parameters as issues arise. We currently monitor long-term trends

for exotic invasive species. Other institutions are sought to investigate topics in detail. Wildlife observation is incorporated in the current public use program. Some outreach avenues have been established at both the State and local level. Watercress Darter NWR is currently managed by the staff of the Mountain Longleaf NWR, which is located 90 miles to the north.

Alternative B—Refuge Focused Management

Under this alternative, we would focus on activities within the jurisdictional boundaries of Watercress Darter NWR. We would rely on interest groups to collect information on outside threats. We would emphasize protection of the endangered watercress darter, restoration of native communities, and the health of resident wildlife species. Environmental monitoring would demonstrate long-term trends, environmental changes, or the results of management practices on refuge lands. Research, management, protection, education, and public use would be conducted to maximize benefits to Watercress Darter NWR. Land acquisition would be emphasized on high-priority areas within the approved acquisition boundary. The staff needed to fully implement this alternative would include four positions to be shared with Cahaba River NWR.

Alternative C—Integrated Landscape Management (Proposed Alternative)

Threats to the refuge are becoming more prominent as development activities occur in the city of Bessemer, Alabama. Watercress Darter NWR is a small system that can be greatly compromised by activities a distance away from its boundary. Under Alternative C, we fully recognize the impact these activities may have on the integrity of the refuge. We would continue the activities as stated under Alternative A and extend beyond the immediate neighbors to address issues associated with the aquifer and spring recharge area, watershed, and biota exchange pathways. Extensive resource sharing and networking with other protected areas, State and local government agencies, non-governmental organizations, specialists, researchers, and private citizens would expand the knowledge base and develop cooperation among interest groups. Restoration of natural systems, native communities, and healthy environments would be emphasized, thus promoting regionally a high quality of life. Monitoring environmental parameters and flora and fauna would be incorporated into an integrated study to