

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2017-N122;
FXES11130800000-178-FF08EVEN00]

**Receipt of Application for Incidental
Take Permit; Draft Low-Effect Habitat
Conservation Plan for the California
Tiger Salamander and the California
Red-Legged Frog; Curletti Farming
Project, Santa Barbara County,
California**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request
for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service (Service), have received
an application from Betteravia Ranches,
LLC for an incidental take permit under
the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as
amended. The permit would authorize
take of the federally endangered
California tiger salamander (Santa
Barbara distinct population segment)
and the federally threatened California
red-legged frog, incidental to otherwise
lawful activities associated with the
Curletti Farming Project draft low-effect
habitat conservation plan. We invite
public comment.

DATES: Written comments should be
received on or before November 13,
2017.

ADDRESSES:

To obtain documents: You may
download a copy of the draft habitat
conservation plan and draft low-effect
screening form and environmental
action statement at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura/>, or you may request copies of
the documents by sending U.S. mail to
our Ventura office, or by phone (see **FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

To submit written comments: Please
send us your written comments using
one of the following methods:

- *U.S. mail:* Send your comments to:
Stephen P. Henry, Field Supervisor,
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S.
Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola
Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003.

- *Facsimile:* Fax your comments to
805-644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rachel Henry, Fish and Wildlife
Biologist, 805-677-3312 (phone), or at
the Ventura address in **ADDRESSES**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We have
received an application from Betteravia
Ranches, LLC (applicant) for an
incidental take permit under the
Endangered Species Act of 1973, as
amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; ESA).
The applicant has agreed to follow all of

the conditions in the draft habitat
conservation plan for the project. The
permit would authorize take of the
Santa Barbara distinct population
segment of the federally endangered
California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma
californiense*) and the federally
threatened California red-legged frog
(*Rana draytonii*) incidental to otherwise
lawful activities associated with the
draft Curletti Farming Project Habitat
Conservation Plan (HCP). We invite
public comment on the application, the
draft HCP, draft low-effect screening
form, and environmental action
statement.

Background

The Santa Barbara distinct population
segment (DPS) of the California tiger
salamander was listed by the Service as
endangered on September 21, 2000 (65
FR 57242). The California red-legged
frog was listed by the Service as
threatened on May 23, 1996 (61 FR
25813). Section 9 of the ESA and its
implementing regulations prohibit the
“take” of fish or wildlife species listed
as endangered or threatened. “Take” is
defined under the ESA to include the
following activities: “[T]o harass, harm,
pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap,
capture, or collect, or to attempt to
engage in any such conduct” (16 U.S.C.
1532); however, under section
10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, we may issue
permits to authorize incidental take of
listed species. “Incidental take” is
defined by the ESA as take that is
incidental to, and not the purpose of,
carrying out of an otherwise lawful
activity. Regulations governing
incidental take permits for threatened
and endangered species are in the Code
of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR
17.32 and 17.22, respectively. Under the
ESA, protections for federally listed
plants differ from the protections
afforded to federally listed animals.
Issuance of an incidental take permit
also must not jeopardize the existence of
federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant
species. All species included in the
incidental take permit would receive
assurances under our “No Surprises”
regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and
17.32(b)(5)).

Applicant's Proposed Activities

The applicant has applied for a permit
for incidental take of the California tiger
salamander and California red-legged
frog. The potential take will occur in
association with activities necessary for
the implementation of the installation,
operation and maintenance of row crop
agriculture. The HCP includes
avoidance and minimization measures
for the covered species and mitigation

for unavoidable loss of occupied upland
habitat through establishment of a
conservation easement on applicant-
owned land.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary
determination that issuance of the
incidental take permit is neither a major
Federal action that will significantly
affect the quality of the human
environment within the meaning of
section 102(2)(C) of the National
Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C.
4321 *et seq.*; NEPA), nor will it
individually or cumulatively have more
than a negligible effect on the species
covered in the HCP. Therefore, the
permit qualifies for a categorical
exclusion under NEPA.

Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit
application, draft HCP, and associated
documents, you may submit comments
by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone
number, email 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 view, we
cannot guarantee that we will be able to
do so.

Authority

We provide this notice under section
10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)
and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: September 27, 2017.

Stephen P. Henry,

*Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife
Office, Ventura, California.*

[FR Doc. 2017-21915 Filed 10-10-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2017-N110;
FXES11130800000-178-FF08EVEN00]

**Receipt of Application for Incidental
Take Permit; Draft Low-Effect Habitat
Conservation Plan for the California
Tiger Salamander; Campbell Home
Ranch, Santa Barbara County,
California**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from Mr. Robert Campbell for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The permit would authorize take of the federally endangered California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara distinct population segment), incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with the Campbell Home Ranch draft low-effect habitat conservation plan. We invite public comment.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before November 13, 2017.

ADDRESSES: *To obtain documents:* You may download a copy of the draft habitat conservation plan and draft low-effect screening form and environmental action statement at <http://www.fws.gov/ventura/>, or you may request copies of the documents by sending U.S. mail to our Ventura office, or by phone (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

To submit written comments: Please send us your written comments using one of the following methods:

- *U.S. mail:* Send your comments to: Stephen P. Henry, Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003.
- *Facsimile:* Fax your comments to 805-644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Henry, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, 805-677-3312 (phone), or at the Ventura address in **ADDRESSES**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We have received an application from Mr. Robert Campbell (applicant) for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; ESA). The applicant has agreed to follow all of the conditions in the draft habitat conservation plan for the project. The permit would authorize take of the Santa Barbara distinct population segment of the federally endangered California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with the draft Campbell Home Ranch Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). We invite public comment on the application, the draft HCP, draft low-effect screening form, and environmental action statement.

Background

The Santa Barbara distinct population segment (DPS) of the California tiger

salamander was listed by the Service as endangered on September 21, 2000 (65 FR 57242). Section 9 of the ESA and its implementing regulations prohibit the “take” of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. “Take” is defined under the ESA to include the following activities: “[T]o harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct” (16 U.S.C. 1532); however, under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, we may issue permits to authorize incidental take of listed species. “Incidental take” is defined by the ESA as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively. Under the ESA, protections for federally listed plants differ from the protections afforded to federally listed animals. Issuance of an incidental take permit also must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant species. All species included in the incidental take permit would receive assurances under our “No Surprises” regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)).

Applicant's Proposed Activities

The applicant has applied for a permit for incidental take of the California tiger salamander. The potential take will occur in association with activities necessary for the installation and operation of vineyard, berries and other agricultural development activities and/or construction of a residential development including one single-family residence. The HCP includes avoidance and minimization measures for the covered species and mitigation for unavoidable loss of occupied upland habitat through establishment of a conservation easement on applicant-owned land.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that issuance of the incidental take permit is neither a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*; NEPA), nor will it individually or cumulatively have more than a negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP. Therefore, the permit qualifies for a categorical exclusion under NEPA.

Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit application, draft HCP, and associated documents, you may submit comments by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email 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 view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: September 27, 2017.

Stephen P. Henry,

Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office Ventura, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNM004000 L54200000.FR0000
LVDIG17ZGKP0 17X]

Notice of Application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest: Harris County, Texas

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received an application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest (RDI) from RKE-2 Real Estate, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, pursuant to Section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, and the implementing regulations for certain surface land located in Harris County, Texas. This Notice is intended to inform the public of the pending application, give notice of BLM's intention to grant the requested DRI, and provide a public comment period for the proposed Disclaimer of Interest.

DATES: Comments on this action should be received by January 9, 2018. Absent any valid objection, this Notice will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior and an RDI may be issued January 9, 2018.