

distribution of Newcomb's snail were contributed by Dr. Adam Asquith, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Islands Ecoregion; Mr. Michael Kido, Environmental Research Laboratory, University of Hawaii, Kaua'i; and Mr. Don Heacock, Kaua'i District Aquatic Biologist, State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Reporting and

recordkeeping requirements, and Transportation.

#### Proposed Regulation Promulgation

Accordingly, the Service hereby proposes to amend part 17, subchapter B of chapter I, title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as set forth below:

#### PART 17—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1361–1407; 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544; 16 U.S.C. 4201–4245; Pub. L. 99–625, 100 Stat. 3500, unless otherwise noted.

2. Section 17.11(h) is amended by adding the following, in alphabetical order under SNAILS, to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife to read as follows:

#### § 17.11 Endangered and threatened wildlife.

\* \* \* \* \*

(h) \* \* \*

Species		Historic range	Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Common name	Scientific name						
SNAILS:							
Snail, Newcomb's .....	<i>Erinna newcombi</i> .....	U.S.A. (HI) .....	NA	T	NA	NA	NA

Dated: June 9, 1997.

**John G. Rogers,**

Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Recovery Plan for California Freshwater Shrimp for Review and Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability and public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability for public review of a draft recovery plan for the California freshwater shrimp (*Syncaris pacifica* Holmes 1895) listed as an endangered species on October 30, 1988 (53 FR 43889). The California freshwater shrimp occurs in the Marin, Sonoma and Napa counties north of San Francisco Bay, California. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft plan.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received September 19, 1997 to receive consideration by the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the draft recovery plan may obtain a copy by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3310 Camino Avenue, Suite 130, Sacramento, California 95821–6340. Written comments and material regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Please contact Karen Miller or Matthew Vandenberg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at 916/979–2752 (see ADDRESSES).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened plant or animal to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife 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 the site specific management actions considered necessary for conservation and survival of the species, establish objectives, and measurable criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting species, and estimate time and cost for

implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) 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 the public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service, and other affected Federal agencies will take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The California freshwater shrimp is endemic to Marin, Sonoma, and Napa Counties. There are 16 coastal streams harbor extant shrimp populations. Management issues and concerns include introduced fish, deterioration or loss of habitat resulting from water diversion, impoundments, livestock and dairy activities, agricultural activities and developments, flood control activities, gravel mining, timber harvesting, migration barriers, and water pollution.

The California freshwater shrimp draft recovery plan has been reviewed by the appropriate Service staff in Region 1 and was developed with input from selected experts on the biology of the species. The plan will be finalized and approved following incorporation of comments and material received during this comment period.

**Public Comments Solicited**

The Service solicits written comments on the draft recovery plan described. All biological comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to the approval of the plan.

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

Dated: June 25, 1997.

**Thomas J. Dwyer,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region I, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 97-19059 Filed 7-18-97; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service****50 CFR Parts 25 and 32**

RIN 1018-AE18

**1997-98 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Fishing Regulations**

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposes to add additional national wildlife refuges (refuges) to the list of areas open for hunting and/or sport fishing, along with pertinent refuge-specific regulations for such activities; and amend certain regulations on other refuges that pertain to migratory game bird hunting, upland game hunting, big game hunting and sport fishing for the 1997-98 seasons. Refuge hunting and fishing programs are reviewed annually to determine whether additional refuges should be added or whether individual refuge regulations governing existing programs should be modified, deleted or have additions made to them. Changing environmental conditions, State and Federal regulations, and other factors affecting wildlife populations and habitat may warrant modifications ensuring continued compatibility of hunting and fishing with the purposes for which individual refuges, and the Refuge System were established.

The Service has determined uses in this proposed rule are compatible with the purposes for which these refuges were established. The Service further determined that this proposed action is in accordance with the provisions of all applicable laws, is consistent with principles of sound fish and wildlife management, helps implement Executive Orders 12996 (Management and Public Use of the National Wildlife

Refuge System) and 12962 (Recreational Fisheries) and is otherwise in the public interest by providing additional recreational opportunities at national wildlife refuges. Sufficient funds will be available within the refuge budgets to operate the hunting and sport fishing programs as proposed.

**DATES:** Comments may be submitted on or before August 20, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Assistant Director—Refuges and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C Street, NW, MS 670 ARLSQ, Washington, DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen R. Vehrs, at the above address; Telephone (703) 358-2397; Fax (703) 358-1826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** National wildlife refuges generally are closed to hunting and sport fishing until opened by rulemaking. The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) may open refuge areas to hunting and/or fishing upon a determination that such uses are compatible with the purpose(s) for which the refuge was established. The action also must be in accordance with provisions of all laws applicable to the areas, must be consistent with the principles of sound fish and wildlife management, and otherwise must be in the public interest.

50 CFR parts 25 and 32 contain administrative provisions and other provisions governing hunting and fishing on national wildlife refuges. Hunting and fishing are regulated on refuges to:

1. Ensure compatibility with refuge and Refuge System purposes;
2. Properly manage the fish and wildlife resource;
3. Protect other refuge values; and
4. Ensure refuge user safety.

On many refuges, the Service policy of adopting State hunting and fishing regulations is adequate in meeting these objectives. On other refuges, it is necessary to supplement State regulations with more restrictive Federal regulations to ensure that the Service meets its management responsibilities, as outlined under the section entitled "Statutory Authority." Refuge-specific hunting and fishing regulations are issued when a wildlife refuge is opened to either migratory game bird hunting, upland game hunting, big game hunting or sport fishing. These regulations list the wildlife species that may be hunted or are subject to sport fishing, seasons, bag limits, methods of hunting or fishing, descriptions of open areas, and other provisions as appropriate. Previously issued refuge-specific regulations for hunting and fishing are contained in 50

CFR part 32. Many of the amendments to these sections are promulgated to standardize and clarify the existing language of these regulations.

With the passage of Public Law 102-402, the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge Act of 1992 (Act), the Service will establish a refuge over what was previously a Department of Defense (Army) military installation, but only following toxic substances cleanup.

Public Law 102-402 specifies that the Service shall manage the area as if it were a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System during cleanup activities on the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (Arsenal). The Service proposes this amendment to the regulations to establish regulatory authority for these lands, prior to establishment as a refuge and inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System, in accordance with Public Law 102-402. These regulations will provide appropriate authority and jurisdiction to conduct necessary management actions, including law enforcement, at the Arsenal.

**Request for Comments**

Department of the Interior policy is, whenever practicable, to afford the public a meaningful opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process. A 30-day comment period is specified in order to facilitate public input. Consideration was given to providing a 60-day comment period, however, the Service determined that an additional 30-day delay in processing these refuge-specific hunting and fishing regulations would hinder the effective planning and administration of hunting and fishing programs. Specifically, a delay of an additional 30 days would jeopardize holding the hunting or fishing programs this year, or shorten their duration and thereby lessen the management effectiveness of this regulation. Many of these rules also relieve restrictions and allow the public to participate in recreational activities on a number of refuges. In addition, good cause exists in that, in order to continue to provide for previously authorized hunting opportunities while at the same time provide for adequate resource protection, the Service must be timely in providing modifications to certain hunting programs on some refuges. Accordingly, good cause exists to limit the comment period to 30 days (5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3)).

Interested persons may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule to the person listed above under the heading **ADDRESSES**. All substantive comments will be reviewed and considered.