

seven populations of Shasta crayfish ranging in size from approximately fewer than 50 to 5,000.

Shasta crayfish primarily live in cool, clear, spring-fed headwaters that are characterized by clean volcanic cobbles and boulders on top of sand or gravel. The volcanic cobble and boulders are essential habitat components because they provide protective cover for the crayfish. The main threats to Shasta crayfish include: major land reclamation, water diversion projects, and the introduction of nonnative species of crayfish and fishes.

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the 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 actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels needed to downlist or delist them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the necessary recovery measures.

The Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), 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 that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

This plan provides for the recovery of the Shasta crayfish (*Pacifastacus fortis*) so that protection by the Act is no longer necessary. Protection and management of the species' habitat are the primary goals of the recovery effort.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to revision and approval of this plan.

Authority

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

Dated: September 24, 1997.

Michael J. Spear,

Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of a Draft Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, CA, for Review and Comment

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability for public review of the Draft Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California. This recovery plan includes 34 species, of which 11 species are federally listed as endangered or threatened. The draft plan includes recovery criteria and measures for the plants—California jewelflower (*Caulanthus californicus*), palmate-bracted bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus palmatus*), Kern mallow (*Eremalche kernensis*), Hoover's woolly-star (*Eriastrum hooveri*), San Joaquin woolly-threads (*Lembertia congdonii*), Bakersfield cactus (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *treleasei*); and the animals—giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*), Fresno kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratoideus exilis*), Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratoideus nitratoideus*), blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia sila*), and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*). Long-term conservation of three candidate species, the Buena Vista Lake shrew (*Sorex ornatus relictus*), the riparian brush rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmani riparius*), and riparian woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes riparia*); and an additional 20 species of plants and animals of concern to the Service are addressed in the draft recovery plan.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan received by January 28, 1998 will be considered by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the draft recovery plan may obtain copies by contacting: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130, Sacramento, California (telephone 916-979-2725).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Miller, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Sacramento address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the 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 actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), 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 that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. Appropriate Federal or other entities will take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

The 34 species of plants and animals covered in the draft recovery plan are restricted primarily to the San Joaquin Valley of California. The majority of the species occur in arid grasslands and scrublands of the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills and valleys. The riparian woodrat and riparian brush rabbit inhabit forested river corridors of the eastern San Joaquin Valley. Conversion of habitat to agricultural, industrial, and urban uses has eliminated the listed, candidate, and species of concern from the majority of their historic ranges. The remaining natural communities are highly fragmented, and many are marginal habitats in which these species may not persist during catastrophic events, such as fire or drought.

The objectives of this recovery plan are two-fold: (1) to delist the plants—California jewelflower, palmate-bracted bird's-beak, Kern mallow, Hoover's woolly-star, San Joaquin woolly-threads, Bakersfield cactus; and the animals—giant kangaroo rat, Fresno kangaroo rat, Tipton kangaroo rat, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, and San Joaquin kit fox by protecting, enhancing, restoring, and

appropriately managing their habitat; and (2) to ensure the long-term conservation of the three candidates and additional 20 species of concern by protecting, enhancing, restoring, and appropriately managing their habitat.

Public Comments Solicited

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

Authority

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

Dated: September 24, 1997.

Michael J. Spear,

Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of a Draft Big Island II: Addendum to the Recovery Plan for the Big Island Plant Cluster (USFWS 1996)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability for public review of a draft Big Island II: Addendum to the Recovery Plan for the Big Island Plant Cluster (USFWS 1996). There are 13 taxa of plants included in this plan, all are listed as endangered. All 13 are known only from the island of Hawaii (Big Island).

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan received by December 29, 1997 will be considered by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following locations: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Islands Office, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, room 3108, P.O. Box 50088, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 (phone 808/541-3441); Kailua-Kona Public Library 75-138 Hualalai Rd., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740; Hilo Public Library, 300 Waiānue Ave., Hilo, HI 96720. Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding this plan should be addressed to, Field Supervisor, Ecological Services, at the above Honolulu address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen "Kitti" Jensen, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Honolulu address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the 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 actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), 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 that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. Substantive technical comments will result in changes to the plans. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plans, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

This addendum to the Recovery Plan for the Big Island Plant Cluster covers 13 plant taxa, all are listed as endangered. All of these taxa are endemic to the island of Hawaii (Big Island), Hawaiian Islands. The plants included in the plan are: *Clermontia drepanomorpha* (oha wai), *Cyanea platyphylla* (haha), *Hibiscadelphus giffardianus* (hau kuahiwi), *Hibiscadelphus hualalaiensis* (hau kuahiwi), *Melicope zahlbruckneri* (alani), *Neraudia ovata* (no common name (NCN)), *Phyllostegia racemosa* (kiponapona), *Phyllostegia velutina* (NCN), *Phyllostegia warshaueri* (NCN), *Pleomele hawaiiensis* (hala pepe), *Pritchardia schattaueri* (loulou), *Sicyos*

alba (anunu), and *Zanthoxylum dipetalum* var. *tomentosum* (ae).

The 13 taxa included in this addendum grow in a variety of vegetation communities (shrublands, forests, and mixed communities), elevational zones (lowland to montane), and moisture regimes (dry to wet). These taxa and their habitats have been variously affected or are currently threatened by one or more of the following: competition for space, light, water, and nutrients by introduced vegetation; habitat degradation by feral or domestic animals (goats, pigs, sheep and cattle); agricultural and recreational activities; habitat loss and damage to plants from fires; predation by rats and insects; and natural disasters such as volcanic activity. In addition, due to the small number of existing individuals and their very narrow distributions, these taxa are subject to an increased likelihood of extinction and/or reduced reproductive vigor from stochastic events.

The objective of the Addendum to the Recovery Plan for the Big Island Plant Cluster (USFWS 1996) is to provide a framework for the recovery of these 13 taxa so that their protection by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is no longer necessary. The interim objective is to stabilize all existing populations of the Big Island II taxa. To be considered stable, each taxon must be managed to control threats (e.g., fenced) and be represented in an *ex situ* (such as a nursery or arboretum) collection. In addition, a minimum total of three populations of each taxon should be documented on the Big Island, where they now occur or occurred historically. Each of these populations must be naturally reproducing and increasing in number, with a minimum of 25 mature individuals per population for long-lived perennials (*Hibiscadelphus giffardianus*, *Hibiscadelphus hualalaiensis*, *Melicope zahlbruckneri*, *Pritchardia schattaueri*, and *Zanthoxylum tomentosum* var. *dipetalum* and a minimum of 50 mature individuals per population for short-lived perennials (*Clermontia drepanomorpha*, *Cyanea platyphylla*, *Neraudia ovata*, *Pleomele hawaiiensis*, *Phyllostegia racemosa*, *Phyllostegia velutina*, and *Phyllostegia warshaueri*) and a minimum of 100 mature individuals per population for the annual taxon *Sicyos alba*. For downlisting, a total of five to seven populations of each taxon should be documented on the Big Island where they now occur or occurred historically. Each of these populations must be naturally reproducing, stable or increasing in number, and secure from