

and not the purpose of otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered and threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32.

Under the proposed action, the Service would issue an incidental take permit for up to 85 species as described in the La Mesa Subarea Plan.

Approximately 122 of the 179 acres of undeveloped land within La Mesa would be developed, primarily within the proposed Eastridge subdivision. Project-level biological surveys would be required for all future development proposals that would result in loss of native habitats due to grading and development. The direct impacts to coastal sage scrub habitat and other sensitive vegetation communities and associated species would be mitigated through the acquisition of off-site, in-kind habitat at a 1:1 ratio for all upland habitats (except southern maritime chaparral, native grassland, and oak woodlands, which have not been identified within the City but would require in-kind mitigation at a 2:1 ratio if identified within an area to be impacted). Offsite habitat would be acquired within an identified preserve area, either in the City of Poway, California, consistent with the approved Poway Subarea Habitat Conservation Plan, or in another location as approved by the Service and California Department of Fish and Game. The La Mesa Subarea Plan is intended to be consistent with, and to complement, the Poway Subarea Plan and the regional Multiple Species Conservation Program plan (Regional Plan).

In July 1997, the Service approved the Regional Plan. This long-term plan was prepared by the City of San Diego and 11 other participating jurisdictions, including La Mesa. The Regional Plan covers an approximately 900-square-mile area (580,000 acres) of rapid growth within the highly urbanized setting of southwestern San Diego County. The Regional Plan establishes a mechanism for creation of an approximate 172,000-acre preserve system that would conserve numerous sensitive plant and animal species and their habitats.

The existing 179 acres of coastal sage scrub in La Mesa comprises 0.2 percent of the total coastal sage scrub mapped in the regional planning area. The habitat in La Mesa is not included in the planning area of the regional preserve system due to its size and isolated location. In this regional context, the habitat in La Mesa is not considered a core biological resource area or linkage.

The Environmental Assessment for the La Mesa permit application considers the effects to the human

environment of the proposed action and three alternatives. These alternatives include scenarios of no action, full development, and preservation of all undeveloped habitat within La Mesa.

Under the no action alternative, the Service would not issue an incidental take permit to the City of La Mesa for its Subarea Plan. Property owners in La Mesa would need to submit individual permit applications to the Service if proposed developments would result in take of endangered or threatened species. Potentially, all 179 acres of remaining habitat within the City could be developed over time. The result would be an uncoordinated and non-comprehensive approach to evaluating the resources within La Mesa.

Another alternative is issuing a permit to the City of La Mesa for incidental take associated with full rather than partial development of the Eastridge property. Loss of the remaining 179 acres of habitat within La Mesa would be mitigated offsite at a 1:1 ratio.

Under another alternative, all of the undeveloped habitat (179 acres) within the City of La Mesa would be preserved. No take of listed species would occur and no take authorizations would be issued.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered species Act of 1973, as amended, and Service regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1506.6). All comments received will become part of the public record and may be released.

The Service will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. A final decision on permit issuance will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: October 24, 1997.

**Thomas J. Dwyer,**

*Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 97-28871 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting and Field Trip

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting and Chesapeake Bay field trip.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the Fall 1997 Meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and a field trip related to nonindigenous species issues in the Chesapeake Bay. A number of topics will be addressed during the Task Force meeting, including: Administration Initiative on Non-Native Invasive Species; a meeting of Task Force principals and proposal on staffing and funding; Task Force policies regarding regional panels, membership, and committee establishment and membership; Task Force web site proposal and plans; proposal for two-tier ANS designation/control program; and a green crab control program proposal. In addition, updates will be provided on other nonindigenous species issues and activities, including those of the Task Force's Great Lakes on ANS and Western Regional Panel. The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements at the meetings or submit written statements for consideration. The public is welcome to participate in the Chesapeake Bay field trip.

**DATES:** The ANS Task Force will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 13, 1997. The Chesapeake Bay field trip will begin at the Conference Center, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, Maryland, at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, November 14, 1997, and conclude at the Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland, by early afternoon.

**ADDRESSES:** The Task Force meeting will be held in the Conference Center of the USDA Center at Riverside, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, Maryland. The Chesapeake Bay field trip will leave from the Conference Center, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, 647 Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater, Maryland, and conclude at the Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Robert A. Peoples, Executive Secretary, ANS Task Force, by telephone at 703-358-2025 or E-Mail at robert\_peoples@fws.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces the Fall 1997 meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, as established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701-4741). It also announces a Chesapeake Bay field trip to view nonindigenous species and their impacts and visit, subject to availability, a vessel in Baltimore Harbor to view ballast water management facilities.

Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary, ANS Task Force, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 840, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622 and will be available for inspection during regular business hours within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: October 28, 1997.

**Gary Edwards,**

*Assistant Director—Fisheries, Co-Chair,  
Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.*

[FR Doc. 97-28886 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### **Request for Public Comments on Extension of Existing Information Collection To Be Submitted to OMB for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act**

A request extending the information collection described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)). Copies of the proposed collection may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Public comments on the proposal should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, Reston, VA 20192.

As required by OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

*Title:* North American Reporting Center for Amphibian Malformations.  
*OMB Approval No:* 1028-0056.

*Summary:* The collection of information referred herein applies to a World-Wide Web site that permits individuals who observed malformed amphibians or who inspect substantial

numbers of normal or malformed amphibians to report those observations and related information. The Web site is termed the North American Reporting Center for Amphibian Malformations. Information will be used by scientists and federal, state and local agencies to identify areas where malformed amphibians occur and the rates of occurrence.

*Estimated Completion Times:* 20 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Number Of Respondents:* 900.

*Frequency:* Once.

*300 hours:* 300 hours.

*Affected Public:* Primarily U.S. and Canadian residents.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

To obtain copies of the survey, contact the Bureau clearance office, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192, telephone (703) 648-7313, or go to the Web Site (<http://www.npsc.nbs.gov./narcam>).

Dated: October 20, 1997.

**Susan Haseltine,**

*Deputy Chief Biologist for Science.*

[FR Doc. 97-28858 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[ID-933-1430-01; IDI-13232, IDI 015026C]

#### **Termination of Recreation and Public Purpose Act Classification and Desert Land Entry Classification and Opening Order; Idaho**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice terminates a Recreation and Public Purpose Act Classification on 639.84 acres and a Desert Land Classification on 16.26 acres, as these classifications are no longer needed. A portion of the lands affected by these classifications will be exchanged to the State of Idaho pursuant to section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 31, 1997.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Catherine D. Foster, BLM Idaho State Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709, 208-373-3863.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 31, 1964, the following lands were classified as unsuitable for entry under the Desert Land Act of March 3, 1877 as amended and supplemented (43 U.S.C.

321, *et. seq.*): lot 7 of section 24, T. 6 N., R. 35 E., Boise Meridian. On December 29, 1980, the following described lands were classified as unsuitable for entry under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869-869-4): lot 17, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 22, and N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$  of section 27, T. 6 N., R. 36 E., Boise Meridian. Both the classification and segregation on the above described lands are hereby terminated. The area described above aggregates 656.1 acres in Jefferson County.

At 9 a.m. on October 31, 1997 both classifications will be terminated. A portion of these lands will remain closed to location and entry under the public land laws and the mining laws, as they are currently segregated for exchange. The only lands which will be opened to location and entry are described as follows:

T. 6 N., R. 36 E., B.M., section 27: N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ .

At 9 a.m. on October 31, 1997 these lands will be opened to operation of the public land laws generally, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, and the requirements of applicable law. All valid applications received at or prior to 9 a.m. on October 31, 1997 be considered simultaneously filed at that time. Those received thereafter will be considered in the order of filing.

At 9 a.m. on October 31, 1997 these lands will be opened to location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record and the requirements of applicable law. Appropriation of any of the lands described above under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38, shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

Dated: October 22, 1997.

**Jimmie Buxton,**

*Branch Chief, Lands and Minerals.*

[FR Doc. 97-28866 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

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