

the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*) on the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range in Yuma, Maricopa, and Pima Counties, Arizona.

**Permit No. PRT-819538**

*Applicant:* Paul Sawyer, Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization to conduct presence/absence surveys for cactus ferruginous pygmy-owls (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*) in Arizona.

**Permit No. PRT-802956**

*Applicant:* John O. Mills, Walcoff & Associates, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

Applicant requests authorization to conduct presence/absence surveys for the following endangered/threatened species:

Mexican gray wolves (*Canis lupus*)  
whooping cranes (*Grus americana*)  
Arctic peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*)  
bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)  
black-footed ferrets (*Mustela nigripes*)  
peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)  
interior least terns (*Sterna antillarum*)  
aplomado falcons (*Falco femoralis*)  
southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)  
Mexican spotted owls (*Strix occidentalis lucida*)  
piping plovers (*Charadrius melodus*)  
Kuenzler hedgehog (*Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri*)  
Sneed pincushion cactus (*Coryphantha sneedii* var. *sneedii*)  
Todsens' pennyroyal (*Hedeoma todsenii*)  
Sacramento Mountains thistle (*Cirsium vinaceum*)

**Permit No. PRT-837577**

*Applicant:* Laura R. Duncan, SEC, Sedona, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization to conduct presence/absence surveys for southwestern willow flycatchers (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) and peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in Arizona and New Mexico.

**Permit No. PRT-689914**

*Applicant:* Donna J. Shaver, Padre Island National Seashore, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Applicant requests authorization to take necessary measures to protect naturally occurring sea turtle nests on all Texas beaches, not limited to but including the following species for scientific research and recovery purposes:

Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*)  
hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*)  
loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*)  
green (*Chelonia mydas*)

**Permit No. PRT-835115**

*Applicant:* Loretta A. Pressly, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Applicant requests authorization to conduct activities for scientific research and recovery purposes for the slender rush-pea (*Hoffmannseggia tenella*) in Corpus Christi, Texas.

**Permit No. PRT-799099**

*Applicant:* Dale W. Stahlecker, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Applicant request authorization to conduct presence/absence surveys for, measure, weigh and band for bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in New Mexico.

**DATES:** Written comments on these permit applications must be received on or before February 4, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the Legal Instruments Examiner, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103.

Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents. 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, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice, to the address above.

**Renee Lohoefer,**

*Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 98-77 Filed 1-2-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-55-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Availability of an Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of Application for Incidental Take Permit for Ranching and Related Activities on El Coronado Ranch (1,920 Acres) and Associated Grazing Allotments (13,284 Acres)(PRT-837858), on West Turkey Creek, Cochise County, Arizona**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The El Coronado Ranch (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act (Act). The Applicant has also requested unlisted-species provisions in an Implementing Agreement (Agreement) to cover species of concern found in the planning area. The Applicant has been assigned permit number PRT-837858. The requested permit, which is for a period of 25 years, would authorize incidental take of the endangered Yaqui chub (*Gila purpurea*) and the threatened Yaqui catfish (*Ictalurus pricei*). The unlisted species provision provides for the issuance of further permits for the incidental take of species not presently listed under the Act, but which might become listed during the term of the proposed permit. The unlisted species covered by the Habitat Conservation Plan is the Yaqui form of longfin dace (*Agosia chrysogaster*). The proposed take is on the 1,920 acres of private land and would occur from ranching and related activities on the El Coronado Ranch, Cochise County, Arizona. The Service has prepared the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) for the incidental take application.

A determination of jeopardy to the species or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will not be made before 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

**DATES:** Written comments on the application should be received on or before February 4, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by contacting Doug Duncan, Tucson Suboffice, Arizona

Ecological Services Field Office, 300 West Congress, Room 4D, Tucson, Arizona 85701 (520-670-4860), or Angie Brooks, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona 85021, (602-640-2720; Fax 602-640-2730). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (7:30 to 4:30), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucson or Phoenix, Arizona. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Field Supervisor, Ecological Services Field Office, Phoenix, Arizona (see address above). Please refer to permit number PRT-837858 when submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Duncan at the above Tucson Suboffice.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of threatened and endangered species such as the Yaqui catfish and Yaqui chub. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened or endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

The EA considers the environmental consequences of two alternatives, including the proposed action. Three other alternatives were explored, but were rejected as unworkable. The proposed action alternative is issuance of the incidental take permit and implementation of the HCP as submitted by the Applicant. The HCP provides for a strategy to conserve the listed and unlisted Plan Species and to restore watershed health in the West Turkey Creek drainage. The HCP is designed to provide a net benefit to the Plan Species. The HCP has stipulations for monitoring of species populations and habitats and functioning of the HCP. The HCP also provides for funding the mitigation measures and monitoring. The Service specifically requests comment on the appropriateness of the "No Surprises" assurances contained in this application.

**Applicant:** El Coronado Ranch plans to pursue ranching and related activities on 1,920 acres of private land and 13,284 acres of leased grazing allotments. The anticipated incidental take will occur on ponds, ditches, and associated structures on private land. El Coronado Ranch is located in the West Turkey Creek watershed of the

Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise County, Arizona.

**Renne Lohofener,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 98-078 Filed 1-2-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### **Request for Public Comments on Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act**

A request revising the collection of information listed below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 30 days directly to the Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington DC 20503 and 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 regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, 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 utility, quality, 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:** Industrial Minerals Surveys.

**Current OMB approval number:** 1032-0038.

**Abstract:** Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with domestic production and consumption data on nonfuel mineral commodities. This information is published as Annual Reports, Mineral Industry Surveys, and

in Mineral Commodity Summaries for use by Government agencies, industry, and the general public.

**Bureau form numbers:** Pending OMB information collection approval. (37 forms)

**Frequency:** Monthly, Quarterly, Semiannual, and Annual.

**Description of respondents:** Producers and consumers of Industrial Minerals.

**Annual Responses:** 15,162.

**Annual burden hours:** 10,203.

**Bureau clearance officer:** John E. Cordyack, Jr., 703-648-7313.

**K.W. Mlynarski,**

*Acting Chief Scientist, Minerals Information Team.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### **Request for Public Comments on Information Collection to be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act**

A request extending the collection of information listed below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 30 days directly to the Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 and 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 regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, 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 utility, quality, 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