

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service****Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Availability of Draft Recovery Plan for Multi-Island Plants**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of a draft Recovery Plan for Multi-Island Plants. This plan covers 26 plant taxa, 25 of which are listed as endangered and 1 as threatened. All 26 taxa are now found on one or more of the 8 main Hawaiian Islands; 2 of the taxa are also found on one or more of three Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft recovery plan received by November 30, 1998 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 3-122, Box 50088, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 (phone 808/541-3441); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, Ecological

Services, 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Eastside Federal Complex, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (phone 503/231-131); and Hawaii State Library, 478 S. King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. 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:** Christa Russell, Listing and Recovery Programs Lead, 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 draft Recovery Plan for Multi-Island Plants covers 26 plant taxa, 25 of which are listed as endangered and 1 as threatened. These 26 Hawaiian plant taxa are, or were, widely distributed across the island chain. All 26 taxa are now found on one or more of the 8 main Hawaiian Islands; 2 of the taxa are also found on one or more of three Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The species listed as threatened is *Isodendron longifolium* (aupaka). The plants listed as endangered are:

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Achyranthes mutica</i> .....	no common name (NCN)
<i>Adenophorus periens</i> .....	pendant kihi fern
<i>Bonamia menziesii</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Cenchrus agrimonioides</i> .....	kamanomano
<i>Centaurium sebaeoides</i> .....	awii
<i>Cyanea grimesiana</i> ssp. <i>grimesiana</i> .....	haha
<i>Cyperus trachysanthos</i> .....	puukaa
<i>Diellia erecta</i> .....	NCN
<i>Euphorbia haeleeeleana</i> .....	NCN
<i>Flueggea neowawraea</i> .....	mehamehame
<i>Hibiscus brackenridgei</i> .....	mao hau hele
<i>Isodendron laurifolium</i> .....	aupaka
<i>Mariscus pennatifolius</i> .....	NCN
<i>Neraudia sericea</i> .....	maaloa
<i>Panicum niihauense</i> .....	lauehu
<i>Phyllostegia parviflora</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Plantago princeps</i> .....	ale
<i>Platanthera holochila</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Sanicula purpurea</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Schiedea hookeri</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Schiedea nuttallii</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Sesbania tomentosa</i> .....	ohai
<i>Solanum incompletum</i> .....	thorny popolo
<i>Spermolepis hawaiiensis</i> .....	(NCN)
<i>Vigna o-wahuensis</i> .....	Oahu vigna

The 26 taxa included in this draft plan grow in a variety of vegetation (grasslands, shrublands, forests, and mixed communities), elevational zones

(coastal to subalpine), and moisture regimes (dry to wet). Only one species, *Solanum incompletum*, is found in subalpine forest. 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 wild, feral, or domestic animals (deer, mouflon, goats, pigs, sheep and cattle); agricultural and recreational activities; habitat loss and damage to plants from fires; predation by animals (cattle, deer, mouflon, pigs, goats, sheep, rats, slugs and snails, 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 and most of their populations are subject to an increased likelihood of extinction and/or reduced reproductive vigor from naturally occurring events such as hurricanes.

The objective of the draft recovery plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of these 26 taxa so that their protection by the Endangered Species Act is no longer necessary. The interim objective is to stabilize all existing populations of the Multi-island plants. 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 islands 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 (*Flueggea neowawraea*, *Schiedea hookeri*, and *Schiedea nuttallii*) and a minimum of 50 mature individuals per population for short-lived perennials (*Achyranthes mutica*, *Adenophorus periens*, *Bonamia menziesii*, *Cenchrus agrimonoides*, *Cyanea grimesiana* ssp. *grimesiana*, *Cyperus trachysanthos*, *Deillia erecta*, *Euphorbia haeleeleana*, *Hibiscus brackenridgei*, *Isodendron laurifolium*, *Isodendron longifolium*, *Mariscus pennatifolius*, *Neraudia seicea*, *Panicum niihauense*, *Phyllostegia parviflora*, *Plantago princeps*, *Platanthera holochila*, *Sanicula purpurea*, *Sesbania tomentosa*, *Solanum incompletum*, and *Vigna o-wahuensis*). *Centaurium sebaeoides* and *Spermolepis hawaiiensis* are annuals.

For downlisting, a total of five to seven populations of each taxon should be documented on islands where they now occur or occurred historically. In certain cases, however, a particular taxon may be eligible for downlisting even if all five to seven of the populations are on only one island, provided all of the other recovery criteria have been met and the populations in question are widely distributed and secure enough that one might reasonably conclude that the

taxon is not in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range.

Each of these populations must be naturally reproducing, stable or increasing in number, and secure from threats, with a minimum of 100 mature individuals per population for long-lived perennials, a minimum of 300 mature individuals per population for short-lived perennials and a minimum of 500 mature individuals per population for the annual taxon. Each population should persist at this level for a minimum of 5 consecutive years before downlisting is considered. A total of 8 to 10 populations of each taxon should be documented on islands where they now occur or occurred historically. As with downlisting, there may be certain cases in which a particular taxon may be eligible for delisting even if all 8 to 10 of the populations are on only one island, provided all of the other recovery criteria have been met and the populations in question are widely distributed and secure enough that one might reasonably conclude that the taxon is not in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range. Each of these populations must be naturally reproducing, stable or increasing in number, and secure from threats, with a minimum of 100 mature individuals per population for long-lived perennials, a minimum of 300 mature individuals per population for short-lived perennials and a minimum of 500 mature individuals per population for the annual taxon. Each population should persist at this level for a minimum of 5 consecutive years.

#### 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 23, 1998.

David J. Wesley,

Regional Director,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has submitted the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Annual Report information collection request for reinstatement with changes to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). On June 5, 1998 the BIA published a notice in the **Federal Register** for sixty days requesting comments on the proposed information collection. The comment period expired on August 5, 1998 during which no public comments were received. The BIA is requesting OMB approval of the collection of information on a regular basis, within 30-60 days.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the collection of information and related self-explanatory form may be obtained by contacting Larry Blair, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-4603-MIB, Washington, DC 20240. Phone (202) 208-2479.

**DATES:** OMB is required to respond to this request within 60 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, but may respond after 30 days, therefore your comments should be submitted to OMB on or before October 29, 1998 in order to assure maximum consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Your comments and suggestions on the requirements should be made directly to the attention: Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Telephone (202) 395-7340. Please provide a copy of your comments to Larry Blair, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, MS-4603-MIB, Washington, DC 20240. Telephone (202) 208-2479.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

The information collection required by the use of this form is necessary to comply with Pub. L. 95-608, "The Indian Child Welfare Act" and as codified in 25 CFR Part 23—Indian Child Welfare Act. This information is collected through the use of a consolidated caseload form by tribal