

telephone at (573) 876-1911, ext. 107. TTY users may contact Dr. McKenzie through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem 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 federally listed threatened and endangered species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for reclassification and delisting, and provide estimates of the time and costs for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The 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 opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a 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 consideration in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The Tumbling Creek cavesnail was listed as endangered on August 14, 2002. The number of cavesnails has significantly decreased over the past few decades, to the point where only one individual was found within survey areas between January 11, 2001, and April 22, 2003. A small population containing approximately 40 individuals exists in a small area upstream of the area that is regularly surveyed. Tumbling Creek cavesnail lives on the underside of rocks in areas of Tumbling Creek that have little or no silt. Little is known about the species and its life history, but it is believed to feed on microscopic animals in the stream. Although the exact reason for this species' precipitous decline is unknown, it is believed to be linked to habitat degradation through diminished water quality from upstream locations within the cave's delineated recharge zone.

We propose that the Tumbling Creek cavesnail be considered for reclassification from endangered to threatened when the following criteria

have been met: (1) The population is stable or increasing for 10 consecutive years with at least 1,500 individuals; the population shall be considered stable when a linear regression analysis of population numbers estimated within an established survey area reveals no significant decline in numbers; (2) a minimum of 80% of the surface habitat within the recharge area of Tumbling Creek Cave, including a minimum of 75% of all riparian corridors, sinkholes, and losing streams, is properly managed, restored, rehabilitated, or stabilized through long-term voluntary land owner agreements, such as stewardship plans, easements, or memorandums of agreements that promote best management practices; and (3) water quality monitoring including, but not limited to, Tumbling Creek, fails to detect any contaminant or water quality parameter likely to be detrimental to the species for five consecutive years following established water quality criteria set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and criteria for sediment and suspended organic matter deposition established by EPA are not exceeded for five consecutive years.

We propose that the Tumbling Creek cavesnail be considered for delisting when the downlisting criteria have been met and the following additional criteria have been achieved: (1) The population is stable or increasing for an additional 10 consecutive years with at least 5,000 individuals; the population shall be considered stable when a linear regression analysis of population numbers estimated within an established survey area reveals no significant decline in numbers; (2) a minimum of 90% of the surface habitat within the recharge area of Tumbling Creek Cave, including a minimum of 85% of all riparian corridors, sinkholes, and losing streams, is properly managed, restored, rehabilitated, or stabilized through long-term voluntary land owner agreements, such as stewardship plans, easements, or memorandums of agreements that promote best management practices; and (3) water quality monitoring including, but not limited to, Tumbling Creek, fails to detect any contaminant or water quality parameter likely to be detrimental to the species for an additional five consecutive years following established water quality criteria set by EPA, and criteria for sediment and suspended organic matter deposition established by EPA are not exceeded for an additional five consecutive years.

Because an estimated 75% of the 9.02 square-mile delineated recharge area of

Tumbling Creek Cave is under private ownership, many of recovery actions proposed in the draft recovery plan focus on working cooperatively with private land owners to help facilitate recovery of the Tumbling Creek cavesnail. Such cooperation can be achieved by: (1) Encouraging the voluntary enrollment of private land owners into landowner incentive programs that promote good land use while providing financial and technical assistance to participating enrollees, or (2) through voluntary land management agreements that promote beneficial land management practices. Approximately 25% of the recharge area for Tumbling Creek Cave is managed by multiple Federal agencies that have jurisdictional responsibilities under the Act. Such agencies will be encouraged to develop management plans that will contribute to their responsibilities under sections 2(c)(1) and 7(a)(1) of the Act to carry out programs that will assist in the recovery of the Tumbling Creek cavesnail.

##### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the proposed draft recovery plan. All comments received by the date specified will be considered prior to approval of the plan. Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be sent to the Field Supervisor, Ecological Services Field Office, and comments received will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours (*see ADDRESSES* section.)

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

Dated: June 18, 2003.

**Charles M. Wooley,**

*Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 3.*

[FR Doc. 03-17565 Filed 7-10-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Issuance of Permit for Incidental Take of Threatened Species for the Mayhoffer/Singletree Trail, Boulder County, CO

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of Permit for Incidental Take of Endangered Species.

**SUMMARY:** On April 4, 2003, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 16543) that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service

(Service) by the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department, Colorado, for a permit to incidentally take, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1539), Preble's meadow jumping mouse, pursuant to the terms of the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan for Issuance of an Endangered Species Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permit for the Incidental Take of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) for the Mayhoffer/Singletree Trail in Boulder County, Colorado.

Notice is hereby given that on June 18, 2003, as authorized by the provisions of the Act, the Service issued a permit (TE-073325-0) to the above named party subject to certain conditions set forth therein. The permit was granted only after the Service determined that it was applied for in good faith, that granting the permit will not be to the disadvantage of the threatened species, and that it will be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in the Act.

Additional information on this permit action may be requested by contacting the Colorado Ecological Services Field Office at 755 Parfet Street, Suite 361, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, telephone (303) 275-2370, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Dated: June 25, 2003.

**John A. Blankenship,**

*Regional Director, Region 6.*

[FR Doc. 03-17577 Filed 7-10-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Tribal Consultation on Indian Education Topics

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of tribal consultation meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) will conduct consultation meetings to obtain oral and written comments concerning potential issues in Indian Education Programs. The potential issues which will be set forth in a tribal consultation booklet to be issued prior to the meetings are the Office of Facility Management and Construction's proposed revision of the Student Enrollment Projection process, the proposed revision of the Education Space Guidelines used in School Construction planning, the Office of Indian Education Programs' possible realignment of the Education Line Offices, The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), section 1121(d), School Consolidation and Closure, section 1122, National Criteria for Home Living Standards, section 1125, discussion

regarding whether to use the existing Negotiated Rulemaking Committee or establish a separate Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Facilities Construction regulations. Additionally, participants will be able to suggest other items for comment.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before September 30, 2003. The meeting dates will be August 11 through 22, 2003 for all locations listed. All meetings will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. (Local time) or until all meeting participants have an opportunity to make comments.

**ADDRESSES:** Send or hand-deliver written comments to William A. Mehojah, Jr., Director, Office of Indian Education Programs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, MS-3512-MIB, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. Submissions by facsimile should be sent to (202) 273-0030.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Kenneth Whitehorn at (202) 208-4976.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meetings are a follow-up to similar meetings conducted by the OIEP/BIA since 1990.

The purpose of the consultation, as required by 25 U.S.C. 2011(b), is to provide Indian tribes, Indian school boards, Indian organizations, parents, student organizations, school employees, Bureau employees and other interested parties with an opportunity to comment on potential issues raised during this or previous consultation meetings.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Dates	Location	Local contact	Phone number
August 12, 2003 .....	Hondah, AZ .....	Kevin Skenandore .....	(928) 338-5441
August 13, 2003 .....	Aberdeen, SD .....	Cherie Farlee .....	(605) 964-8722
August 13, 2003 .....	Gallup, NM .....	Bea Woodward .....	(505) 786-6150
August 14, 2003 .....	Albuquerque, NM .....	Benjamin Atencio .....	(505) 346-2431
August 14, 2003 .....	Nashville, TN .....	Ernest Clark .....	(615) 695-4101
August 14, 2003 .....	Tacoma, WA .....	John Reimer .....	(503) 872-2743
August 15, 2003 .....	Oklahoma City, OK .....	Joy Martin .....	(405) 605-6051
August 19, 2003 .....	Anchorage, AK .....	Benito Lopez .....	(907) 271-4120
August 19, 2003 .....	Billings, MT .....	Levon French .....	(406) 247-7953
August 19, 2003 .....	Minneapolis, MN .....	Terry Portra .....	(612) 713-4400
August 20, 2003 .....	Sacramento, CA .....	Fayette Babby .....	(916) 978-6057

A consultation booklet for the meetings is being distributed to Federally recognized Indian tribes, Bureau Regional and Agency Offices and Bureau-funded schools. The booklets will also be available from local contact persons at each meeting.

Comments, including names, street addresses, and other contact information of respondents, will be available for public review at the

address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. EDT), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish us to withhold your name, street address, and other contact information (such as fax or phone number) from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this

prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. We will make available for public inspection in their entirety all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

This notice is published in accordance with the authority delegated