

on the number of birds taken during control efforts, the methods by which they were taken, and the date on which they were taken. We use this information to administer the conservation order and, particularly, to monitor the effectiveness of control strategies and to protect migratory birds. Each participating State/tribe must submit an annual report summarizing the activities it conducted.

*Comments:* On April 25, 2008, we published in the Federal Register (73 FR 22429) a notice of our intent to request that OMB renew authority for this information collection. In that notice, we solicited public comments for 60 days, ending on June 24, 2008. We received one comment during this period. The commenter objected to the killing of geese and did not address the information collection requirements. We did not make any changes to our information collection as a result of this comment.

We again invite comments concerning this information collection on:

- (1) whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- (2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information;
- (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

**Hope Grey,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer,  
Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2008-N0154; 80221-1113-0000-F5]

**Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** We invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before July 28, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Program Manager, Region 8, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone: 916-414-6464; fax: 916-414-6486).

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:** Daniel Marquez, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, see **ADDRESSES**, (telephone: 760-431-9440; fax: 760-431-9624).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("we") solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Permit No. TE-097845**

*Applicant:* Mantech SRS Technologies, Lompoc, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (capture, collect, and kill) the

Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California; and take (survey by pursuit) the El Segundo Blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*) in conjunction with surveys in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, California for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

**Permit No. TE-069171**

*Applicant:* National Park Service, Thousand Oaks, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to remove/reduce to possession the *Astragalus brauntonii* (Braunton's milkvetch) from federal lands in conjunction genetic research and taxonomic status studies throughout the range of the species in California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

**Permit No. TE-147533**

*Applicant:* Jeffery J. Mitchell, San Francisco, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (survey, capture, collect biological samples, and release) the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with biological research throughout the range of the species in California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

**Permit No. TE-185595**

*Applicant:* Kelly E. Buja, Sacramento, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, collect, and kill) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

We solicit public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications. Comments and materials we receive will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Dated: June 23, 2008.

**Michael Fris,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 8,  
Sacramento, California.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-100-08-1310-DB]

#### **Notice of Availability of a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project, Sublette County, WY**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) that analyzes additional oil and gas development in the Pinedale Anticline Project Area (PAPA).

**DATES:** The FSEIS will be available for review for 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes their Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. A Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared following the 30-day review period.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Caleb Hiner, BLM Project Manager, 768 West Pine Street, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, Wyoming 82941. Electronic mail may be sent to: [Caleb\\_Hiner@blm.gov](mailto:Caleb_Hiner@blm.gov) with "PAPA FSEIS Information Request" in the subject line. The FSEIS will be posted at <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/pfodocs/anticline/seis.html> when available.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM conducted NEPA analysis and issued a ROD for the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project in July 2000. The BLM conducted this analysis in response to increasing numbers of operators requesting approval to explore for and develop natural gas on the Pinedale Anticline. The 2000 PAPA ROD established protection of big game crucial winter ranges from oil and gas developments (well drilling and completion) during the winter months, and therefore did not include analysis of the potential impacts of oil and gas development activities (specifically

drilling and completions) to big game on crucial winter ranges during the period of November 15 through April 30. The PAPA ROD provided that the BLM could grant limited exceptions to this winter closure period based on current conditions such as presence of wintering animals or depth of snow cover. Finally, the analysis in the PAPA EIS considered a total of 900 wells drilled with 700 producing well pads. The PAPA ROD stated that if the level of proposed development exceeds that analyzed in the EIS, BLM would conduct additional environmental analysis. There are currently approximately 460 producing wells in the PAPA.

Starting in winter 2002-2003, the BLM authorized Questar Exploration and Development Company to continue winter gas development operations at one well pad within big game crucial winter range with the requirement that they work closely with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in its study of impacts to the Sublette Mule Deer. Since then, other operators within the PAPA have expressed interest in conducting gas development activities including year-round drilling within big game crucial winter range. In summer 2005, Anschutz, Shell, and Ultra submitted a proposal to the BLM for year-round drilling demonstration project on three well pads within their leaseholds for one year. In September 2005, the BLM issued a Decision Record to allow them to proceed (ASU Year-Round Drilling Demonstration Project, September 2005).

In 2005, BLM received a proposal for continued and expanded long-term development of natural gas resources in the PAPA from Questar Exploration and Production, Shell Exploration and Production Company, and Ultra Resources Inc. ("The Operators"). The Operators proposed to conduct year-round drilling and completions in concentrated development areas within a core development area coinciding with the Anticline Crest in the PAPA. The Operators proposed an additional 4,399 wells on approximately 10-acre bottom hole spacing from an additional 250 well pads. The proposed development included construction of new well pads and substantial expansion of existing well pads to allow for multiple wells to be drilled from a pad. In addition, the BLM has determined that there is a need for new pipeline corridors between the PAPA and gas processing plants in southwestern Wyoming. Therefore, the FSEIS also includes analysis of potential new corridors.

The PAPA encompasses approximately 198,034 acres of primarily Federal lands (nearly 80 percent), and State and private land. Approximately 83 percent of the mineral estate underlying the PAPA is federally-owned. The BLM has identified the following resources that may be adversely impacted by the proposal: surface and ground water resources; air quality; wildlife and their habitats; reclamation; visual resources; transportation; noxious weed control; grazing, cultural and paleontological resources; wetland and riparian resources; threatened and endangered animal and plant species; and socioeconomic resources.

The BLM's Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a SEIS was printed in the **Federal Register** on October 21, 2005. A Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft SEIS was published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2006. The public comment period on the Draft SEIS closed in April 2006. Based upon public comment, the BLM determined two additional alternatives needed to be analyzed and made available for public review. A NOA for Revised Draft SEIS was published in the **Federal Register** on December 28, 2007. The comment period on the Revised Draft SEIS closed on February 11, 2008.

The FSEIS describes and analyzes five alternatives, including the No Action Alternative and The Operators proposed action. A summary of the alternatives follows:

(A) The No Action Alternative would continue development on the Pinedale Anticline under the conditions imposed by the 2000 PAPA ROD. The Operator's proposal for year-round access would be denied. This alternative does not provide for full resource recovery.

(B) Alternative 2, The Operators proposed action, includes year-round development of up to 4,399 additional wells. Development would occur in three areas of concentrated development within a core area. Tier 2 equivalent emission controls would be installed on drilling rig engines in 29 of 48 drilling rigs in 2009. The Operators have also committed to 3:1 offsite mitigation for wildlife, if necessary.

(C) Alternative 3 considers the same project components as Alternative 2; however implementation would be phased spatially. It analyzes a smaller core area, with five areas of development; year-round access would be limited by area. The goal of Alternative 3 is to minimize surface disturbance in some areas while maximizing development in other areas. Air quality mitigation to reduce impacts