

**Public Comment**

We are furnishing this notice in accordance with section 1501.7 of the NEPA implementing regulations to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS/EIR. We invite written comments from interested parties to ensure identification of the full range of issues.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

**Public Scoping Meeting**

In addition to providing written comments, the public is encouraged to attend a public scoping meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2016, to provide us with suggestions and information on the scope of issues and alternatives to consider when drafting the EIS/EIR. The location of the public scoping meeting is provided in **DATES**.

Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in the public meeting should contact us at the address in **ADDRESSES** no later than 1 week before the public meeting. Information regarding the proposed restoration is available in alternative formats upon request. We will accept written comments at the scoping meeting or afterwards.

**Alexandra Pitts,**

*Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region.*

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**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2016-N097;  
FXES1113080000-167-FF08E00000]

**Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with

endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (Act) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing recovery permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before July 20, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Written data or comments should be submitted to the Endangered Species Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 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.

**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 under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We seek review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit requests.

**Applicants**

*Permit No. TE-080779*

Applicant: Melissa Busby, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect vouchers, analyze soil samples, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit No. TE-85448A*

Applicant: East Bay Zoological Society, Oakland, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (receive, handle, and administer veterinary treatment and care) the California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) in conjunction with

general husbandry activities at the Oakland Zoo in Oakland, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit No. TE-170381*

Applicant: Bill Stagnaro, San Francisco, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Francisco garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*); and take (harass by survey using taped vocalization callback) the California Ridgway's rail (California clapper r.) (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*) (*R. longirostris o.*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit No. TE-94719B*

Applicant: Richard Lis, Redding, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit No. TE-94702B*

Applicant: Kristin Hubbard, Redding, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, release, collect vouchers, and collect branchiopod cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit No. TE-94998A*

Applicant: Leonard Liu, Oakland, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey using taped vocalization callback) the California Ridgway's rail (California

clapper r.) (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*) (*R. longirostris o.*) in conjunction with survey activities in Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-174305

Applicant: Vandenberg Air Force Base, Vandenberg AFB, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, and locate and monitor nests) the California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. browni*); take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Santa Barbara County, California; and remove/reduce to possession *Nasturtium gambelii* (*Rorippa g.*) (Gambel's watercress), *Deinandra increscens* subsp. *villosa* (Gaviota tarplant), *Layia carnosa* (beach layia), *Eriodictyon capitatum* (Lompoc yerba santa), *Cirsium loncholepis* (La Graciosa thistle), and *Diplacus vanderbergensis* (Vandenberg monkeyflower) from Federal lands in Santa Barbara County, California, in conjunction with survey and research activity for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-789255

Applicant: Robert Patton, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, handle/mark eggs, capture, band, and release) the California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. browni*) in conjunction with survey and population monitoring activities in San Diego County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-118356

Applicant: Olfson Environmental, Inc., Oakland, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey using taped vocalization callback) the California Ridgway's rail (California clapper r.) (*Rallus obsoletus obsoletus*) (*R. longirostris o.*) in conjunction with survey activities in Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-036550

Applicant: Nina Jimerson-Kidd, Murrieta, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-157199

Applicant: Julie Stout, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, and locate and monitor nests) the California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. browni*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

#### Public Comments

We invite 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.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

Angela Picco,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2016-N091;  
FXES1120808BYD-167-FF08FBDTOO]

#### Proposed Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle and Giant Garter Snake; South River Pump Station, Yolo County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; receipt of permit application; proposed low-effect habitat conservation plan; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (applicant) for a 5-year incidental take permit under the endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The application addresses the potential for "take" of two listed animals, the valley elderberry longhorn beetle and giant garter snake, likely to result from the construction of a new flood protection levee and raised all-weather access road around the existing South River Pump Station. The applicant would implement a conservation program to minimize and mitigate the project activities, as described in the applicant's low-effect habitat conservation plan (HCP). We request comments on the application package, which includes the HCP and our preliminary determination that the HCP qualifies as a "low-effect" HCP, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA). We discuss our basis for this determination in our environmental action statement (EAS), also available for public review.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by July 20, 2016.

#### ADDRESSES:

*Submitting Comments:* Please address written comments to Lori Rinek, Section 10 Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-300, Sacramento, CA 95814. Alternatively, you may send comments by facsimile to (916) 930-5654.

*Reviewing Documents:* You may obtain copies of the HCP and EAS from the individuals in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, or from the Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta>. Copies of these documents are also available for public inspection, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lori Rinek, at the address shown above or at (916) 930-5603.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Introduction

We have received an application from the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (applicant) for a 5-year incidental take permit under the