

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****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 December 17, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Endangered Species, Ecological Services, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181 (telephone: 503-231-2063; fax: 503-231-6243). 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: Linda Belluomini, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Portland address (telephone: 503-231-2063; fax: 503-231-6243).

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.

Permit No. TE-043638

Applicant: Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (capture and release, band, collect biological samples, and conduct nest searches) the Oahu elepaio (*Chasiempis sandwichensis ibidis*) in conjunction with genetic and disease research, and life history studies, on the Island of Oahu in the State of Hawaii, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-146768

Applicant: Arleone Dibben-Young, Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (collect biological samples) the

Hawaiian coot (*Fulica americana alai*) in conjunction with avian influenza research on the Island of Molokai in the State of Hawaii for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Public Review of Comments

We solicit public review and comment on these recovery permit applications. 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.

Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Dated: September 24, 2007.

Renne R. Lohofener,

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

[FR Doc. E7-22414 Filed 11-15-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[AZ-330-08-1232-EA, AZ-SRP-330-07-01 and AZ-SRP-330-07-02]

Temporary Closure of Selected Public Lands in La Paz County, AZ

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Temporary Closure of Selected Public Lands in La Paz County, Arizona, during the operation of the 2008 Parker 250 and Parker 425 Desert Races.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lake Havasu Field Office announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under its administration in La Paz County, Arizona. This action is being taken to help ensure public safety and prevent unnecessary environmental degradation during the permitted running of the Best in the Desert 2008 Parker 250, and 2008 Blue Water Resort and Casino Parker 425 Desert Races. Areas subject to this closure include all public land; including county maintained roads and highways located on public lands that are located within two miles of the designated course. The race course and closure areas are described in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of

this notice and maps of the designated race course are maintained in the Bureau of Land Management Lake Havasu Field Office, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406.

EVENT DATES: The Parker 250 on January 5, 2008, and the Parker 425 on February 2, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Dodson, Field Staff Ranger, BLM Lake Havasu Field Office, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86406, (928) 505-1200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description of Race Course Closed Area: Beginning at the eastern boundary of the Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT) Reservation, the race course closed area runs east along Shea Road, then east into Osborne Wash on to the Parker-Swansea Road to the Central Arizona Project Canal (CAP), then north on the west side of the CAP Canal, crossing the canal on the county-maintained road, running northeast into Mineral Wash Canyon, then southeast on the county-maintained road, through the four-corners intersection to the Midway (Pit) intersection, then east on Transmission Pass Road, through State Trust Land located in Butler Valley, turning north into Cunningham Wash to North Tank; continuing back south to Transmission Pass Road and east (reentering public land) within two miles of Alamo Dam Road. The course turns south and west onto the wooden power line road, onto the State Trust Land in Butler Valley, turning southwest into Cunningham Wash to the Graham Well, intersecting Butler Valley Road, then north and west on the county-maintained road to the "Bouse Y" intersection, two miles north of Bouse, Arizona. The course proceeds north, paralleling the Bouse-Swansea Road to the Midway (Pit) intersection, then west along the north boundary (powerline) road of the East Cactus Plain Wilderness Area to Parker-Swansea Road. The course turns west into Osborne Wash crossing the CAP Canal, along the north boundary of the Cactus Plain Wilderness Study Area; it continues west staying in Osborne Wash and crossing Shea Road along the southern boundary of Gibraltar Wilderness, rejoining Osborne Wash to the CRIT Reservation boundary.

Times of the Temporary Land Closure: The Parker 250 Desert Race closure is in effect from 2 p.m. (MST) on Friday, January 4, 2008, through 6 p.m. (MST) on Saturday, January 5, 2008. The Blue Water Resort and Casino Parker 425 Desert Race closure is in effect from 2 p.m. (MST) on Friday,

February 1, 2008, through 11:59 p.m. (MST) on Saturday, February 2, 2008.

Prohibited Acts: The following acts are prohibited during the temporary land closure:

1. Being present on, or driving on, the designated race course. Spectators may not be within 200 feet of the designated race course. This does not apply to race participants, race officials nor emergency vehicles authorized by or operated by local, State or Federal Government agencies. Emergency medical response shall only be conducted by personnel and vehicles operating under the guidance of La Paz County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire, or the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

2. Vehicle parking or stopping in areas affected by the closure, except where such is specifically allowed (designated spectator areas).

3. Camping in any area, except in the designated spectator areas.

4. Discharge of firearms.

5. Possession or use of any fireworks.

6. Cutting or collecting firewood of any kind, including dead and down wood or other vegetative material.

7. Operating any vehicle (except registered race vehicles), including off-highway vehicles, not registered and equipped for street and highway operation.

8. Operating any vehicle in the area of the closure at a speed of more than 35 mph. This does not apply to registered race vehicles during the race, while on the designated race course.

9. Failure to obey any official sign posted by the Bureau of Land Management, La Paz County, or the race promoter.

10. Parking any vehicle in a manner that obstructs or impedes normal traffic movement.

11. Failure to obey any person authorized to direct traffic, including law enforcement officers, BLM officials and designated race officials.

12. Failure to observe Spectator Area quiet hours of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

13. Failure to keep campsite or race viewing site free of trash and litter.

14. Allowing any pet or other animal to be unrestrained by a leash of not more than 6 feet in length.

The above restrictions do not apply to emergency vehicles owned by the United States, the State of Arizona, or La Paz County. Authority for closure of public lands is found in 43 CFR 8340, Subpart 8341; 43 CFR 8360, Subpart 8364.1; and 43 CFR 2930. Persons who violate this closure order are subject to arrest, and upon conviction may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or

imprisoned for not more than 12 months.

Steven Politsch,

Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Bald Mountain Ski Resort Master Development Plan EIS

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et. seq.*, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et. seq.*, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Shoshone Field Office, announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Bald Mountain Ski Resort Master Development Plan EIS. The FEIS analyzes and discloses the effects of the updated Bald Mountain Ski Area Master Development Plan and 40-year term ski permit application for the Bald Mountain Ski Area near Ketchum, Idaho.

DATES: The FEIS will be available for public review for 30 calendar days from the date of this publication, which coincides with the NOA published in the **Federal Register** by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Following this 30 day period, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service will each issue a separate Record of Decision, which will identify the Responsible Officials' Selected Alternative and discuss the rationale for their decisions.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the FEIS was sent to affected Federal, State, and local government agencies and interested parties. The document is also available electronically on the following Web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/projects>. Copies of the Final EIS will be available for public inspection at the following locations: Ketchum Ranger District, 206 Sun Valley Road, Ketchum, ID. 83340, Business Hours 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Miczulski, Winter Sports Manager at the Ketchum Ranger District; P.O. Box 2356,

Ketchum, ID. 83340; or phone at (208)-622-5371.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Sun Valley Company (SVC) has requested a new 40-year term ski area permit for the Bald Mountain Ski Resort. The existing ski area permit, which was issued in December 1977, expires December 2007. To be valid, a ski area permit must have an approved Master Development Plan (MDP), which is prepared by the permit holder and encompasses the entire winter sports resort envisioned for development and authorization by the permit. Upon acceptance by the Authorized Officers, the MDP becomes part of the ski area permit. The EIS analyzes the effects of the proposed action and alternatives. The agencies give notice of the NEPA analysis and decision making process on the proposal so interested and affected members of the public may participate in and contribute to the final decision.

A 1989 MDP currently guides the Forest Service and BLM in their administration of the Special Use Permit (SUP) for the ski area. A majority of the actions described in the 1989 MDP have been implemented. Given the age and status of the 1989 MDP, the Forest Service, BLM and SVC determined that an updated plan would be appropriate at this time.

In August 2005, the Sun Valley Master Plan (2005 Master Plan) was produced and submitted to the Forest Service and BLM. The 2005 Master Plan was accepted at that time, and the Phase 1 projects on public lands were advanced for site-specific review and analysis under requirements of NEPA.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Phase 1 projects of the 2005 Master Plan was released for public comment in February 2007. The comment period on the DEIS extended through April 9, 2007, eliciting ninety-three comment letters from individuals, organizations, and public agencies. Major themes of the letters included comments relating to the proposal to construct a trail on Guyer Ridge (and associated impacts on the visual environment), installation of additional snowmaking infrastructure (and associated impacts on the acoustic environment), as well as effects to recreation resources associated with trail construction, installation of snowmaking machinery, and seasonal construction of a terrain park on the Warm Springs side of the ski area. The Agencies formally addressed comments in the "Response to Comments on the DEIS" which is included with the FEIS. In addition, some comments warranted clarifications and factual changes in the