

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$0.

Dated: October 13, 2015.

**Laura Dawkins,**

*Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-ES-2015-N172; FXHC1122 XPSAGEG-156-FF06E13000]

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Enhancement of Survival Permit Applications; Greater Sage-Grouse Umbrella Candidate Conservation Agreement With Assurances for Wyoming Ranch Management

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received applications for enhancement of survival permits (EOS permits) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), pursuant to the Greater Sage-grouse Umbrella Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances for Wyoming Ranch Management (Umbrella CCAA). The permit applications, if approved, would authorize incidental take associated with implementation of specified individual Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (individual CCAAs) developed in accordance with the Umbrella CCAA. We invite the public to comment on the EOS permit applications described below. The Act requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by November 18, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** *Submitting Comments:* Send written comments by one of the following methods. Please specify the permit(s) you are commenting on by relevant number(s) (e.g., Permit No. TE-XXXXXX).

• *U.S. mail:* Tyler Abbott, Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office (ESFO), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5353

Yellowstone Road, Suite 308A, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

• *Email:* [tyler\\_abbott@fws.gov](mailto:tyler_abbott@fws.gov).

• *Fax:* Tyler Abbott, (307) 772-2358.

*Reviewing Documents:* You may review copies of the enhancement of survival permit applications during regular business hours at the Wyoming ESFO (see address above). You may also request hard copies by telephone at (307) 772-2374, ext. 231, or by letter to the Wyoming ESFO. Please specify the permit(s) you are interested in by relevant number(s) (e.g., Permit No. TE-XXXXXX).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tyler Abbott, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, (307) 772-2374, ext. 231 (phone); [tyler\\_abbott@fws.gov](mailto:tyler_abbott@fws.gov) (email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

A Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances is an agreement with the Service in which private and other non-Federal landowners voluntarily agree to undertake management activities and conservation efforts on their properties to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat to benefit species that are proposed for listing under the Act, that are candidates for listing, or that may become candidates. The Service and several State, Federal, and local partners developed the Umbrella CCAA (available at <http://www.fws.gov/wyominges>) to provide Wyoming ranchers with the opportunity to voluntarily conserve greater sage-grouse and its habitat while carrying out their ranching activities. The Umbrella CCAA was made available for public review and comment on February 7, 2013 (see 78 FR 9066), and was executed by the Service on November 8, 2013.

Pursuant to the Umbrella CCAA, ranchers in Wyoming may apply for an EOS permit under the Act by agreeing to implement certain conservation measures for the greater sage-grouse on their properties. These conservation measures are specified in individual CCAAs for their properties, which are developed in accordance with the Umbrella CCAA and are subject to the terms and conditions stated in that agreement. Landowners consult with the Service and other participating agencies to develop an individual CCAA for their property, and submit it to the Service for approval with their EOS permit application. If we approve the individual CCAA and EOS permit application, we will issue an EOS permit, under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), that authorizes incidental take of greater sage-grouse that results from activities

covered by the individual CCAA, should the species become listed. Through the Umbrella CCAA and the individual CCAA and EOS permit, we also provide assurances to participating landowners that, if the greater sage-grouse is listed, and so long as they are properly implementing their individual CCAA, we will not require any conservation measures with respect to greater sage-grouse in addition to those provided in the individual CCAA or impose additional land, water, or financial commitments or restrictions on land, water, or resource use in connection with the species. The EOS permit would become effective on the effective date of listing of the greater sage-grouse as endangered or threatened, and would continue through the end of the individual CCAA's 20-year term. Regulatory requirements and issuance criteria for EOS permits through a CCAA are found in 50 CFR 17.22(d) and 17.32(d), as well as 50 CFR part 13.

#### Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies and the public to comment on the following EOS permit applications. The Umbrella CCAA, as well as the individual CCAAs submitted with the permit applications, are also available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). The following applicants request approval of EOS permits for the greater sage-grouse, pursuant to the Umbrella CCAA, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

*Permit Application Number*  
TE73336B-0

*Applicant:* Heward's 7E Ranch LLC, Carbon and Albany Counties, Wyoming.

*Permit Application Number*  
TE73339B-0

*Applicant:* Spring Gulch Cattle Co., Hot Springs County, Wyoming.

*Permit Application Number*  
TE73341B-0

*Applicant:* Garrett Ranch Co., Natrona County, Wyoming.

*Permit Application Number*  
TE73342B-0

*Applicant:* Madeleine S. Murdock, Sublette County, Wyoming.

*Permit Application Number*  
TE73343B-0

*Applicant:* William Matthew Harber, Sublette County, Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE40463B-1

Applicant: HIP Investments LLC,  
Johnson County, Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE73344B-0

Applicant: Huish Outdoors, Sublette  
County, Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE73357B-0

Applicant: M and D Land Company,  
Natrona County, Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE73359B-0

Applicant: Merle Jay Clark, Crook  
County, Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE73361B-0

Applicant: Charles R. Firnekas, Natrona,  
Johnson, and Washakie Counties,  
Wyoming.

Permit Application Number  
TE74947B-0

Applicant: Flitner Ranch Limited  
Partnership, Big Horn County,  
Wyoming.

#### Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests will become part of the public record, and 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.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1539(c)).

Dated: September 16, 2015.

**Michael G. Thabault,**

Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie  
Region.

[FR Doc. 2015-26444 Filed 10-16-15; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### U.S. Geological Survey

[GX16EN05ESB0500]

#### Opening of Nomination Period for Members of the Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of opening of nomination period.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior is inviting nominations for membership on the Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science. This **Federal Register** Notice opens the nomination period from the date of publication until January 15, 2016

**DATES:** Written nominations must be received by January 15, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Send nominations to: Robin O'Malley, National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 516, Reston, VA 20192, [nccwsc@usgs.gov](mailto:nccwsc@usgs.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robin O'Malley, Designated Federal Officer for ACCCNRS, Policy and Partnership Coordinator, National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 516, Reston, VA 20192, [romalley@usgs.gov](mailto:romalley@usgs.gov), (703) 648-4086.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science (ACCCNRS) was chartered in 2013. Twenty-five members were appointed to the committee to provide advice on matters and actions relating to the operations of the U.S. Geological Survey National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center and the Department of the Interior (DOI) Climate Science Centers. The ACCCNRS Charter can be found at: <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/acccnrs>.

In May 2016, membership terms for several committee members will expire, creating approximately 12 membership openings. The Department of the Interior is inviting nominations for individuals to be considered for these membership openings. Only nominations in response to this notice will be considered. Existing ACCCNRS members, whose terms are expiring, must be re-nominated during this open nomination period to be considered. Self-nominations will be accepted. Nominations should include a resume

that describes the nominee's qualifications in enough detail to enable us to make an informed decision regarding meeting the membership requirements of the Committee and to contact a potential member. Additional information will be requested from those selected for final review before appointment. Members selected for appointment may identify an alternate who can participate in their stead; names of proposed alternates need not be submitted at this time.

The Department of the Interior is soliciting members for ACCCNRS to represent the following interests: (1) State and local governments, including state membership entities; (2) Nongovernmental organizations, including those whose primary mission is professional and scientific and those whose primary mission is conservation and related scientific and advocacy activities; (3) American Indian tribes and other Native American entities; (4) Academia; (5) Landowners, businesses, and organizations representing landowners or businesses.

In 2016 and later, the Committee will meet approximately 2 times annually, and at such times as designated by the DFO. The Secretary of the Interior will appoint members to the Committee. Members appointed as special Government employees are required to file on an annual basis a confidential financial disclosure report. No individual who is currently registered as a Federal lobbyist is eligible to serve as a member of the Committee.

#### Privacy Statement

This activity is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (Public Law 92-463 Sec. 1, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770.)

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 2000E-16.

**Principal Purpose:** Information is collected for the purpose of vetting nominees and evaluating qualifications for appointments to the Federal Advisory on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science (ACCCNRS.)

**Routine Use:** Personally identifiable information will be collected by secure fax, phone, or U.S. mail, will be kept in a secure location, and purged from files at the conclusion of the vetting process. Selection of committee members is made based on the FACA's requirements and the potential member's background and qualifications. Final selection is made by the president or heads of departments or agencies.

**Disclosure Is Voluntary:** If the individual does not furnish the