

and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3954). This information collection covers the following types of grant programs: Sport Fish Restoration, Wildlife Restoration, Coastal Wetland Restoration, Clean Vessel, Boating Infrastructure, and Partnerships for Wildlife and Endangered Species. We collect information relevant to eligibility, substantiality, relative value, and budget information from applicants in order to make awards of grants under these programs. We also collect financial and performance information to track costs and accomplishments of these grant

programs. We need the information collected to support the grant work of our Division of Federal Assistance. In this renewal request, we plan to make minimal changes to the booklet to make it easier for the public to understand and use.

The current OMB control number for this information collection is 1018-0109, and the OMB approval for this collection expires on January 31, 2004. We are requesting a three-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

*Title:* Federal Aid Grant Application Booklet.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018-0109.

*Frequency of Collection:* Annually.

*Description of Respondents:* The 50 U.S. States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Indian Tribal Governments, and not-for-profit institutions.

*Annual Burden Estimates:*

Name	Completion time per form	Total annual number of responses	Total annual burden hours
Initial Proposal .....	80 hours	4,000	320,000
Amendment .....	2 hours	1,750	3,500
Totals .....		5,750	323,500

We invite comments on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of burden of the 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 collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: September 17, 2003.

**Anissa Craghead,**

*Service Information Collection Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-24798 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Receipt of Applications for Endangered Species Permits**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of applications for permits.

**SUMMARY:** The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. We provide this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**DATES:** We must receive written data or comments on these applications at the address given below, by October 31, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, Georgia 30345 (Attn: Victoria Davis, Permit Biologist).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Victoria Davis, telephone (404) 679-4176; facsimile (404) 679-7081.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The public is invited to comment on the following applications for permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species. If you wish to comment, you may submit comments by any one of several methods. You may mail comments to the Service's Regional Office (*see ADDRESSES* section) or via electronic mail (e-mail) to "[victoria\\_davis@fws.gov](mailto:victoria_davis@fws.gov)". Please submit electronic comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the Service that we have received your e-mail message, contact us directly at the telephone number listed above (*see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT* section). Finally, you may hand deliver

comments to the Service office listed above (*see ADDRESSES* section).

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the administrative record. We will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law. There may also be other circumstances in which we would withhold from the administrative record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

**TE077175-0**

*Applicant:* Troy L. Best, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama.

The applicant requests authorization to take (survey, capture, examine, and release) the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*) while determining the size of the population and the age and sexual composition of the colony throughout the annual activity period. The activities would take place in Blowing Spring Cave, Lauderdale County, Alabama.

**TE077258-0**

*Applicant:* University of Florida, Dr. Frank Mazzotti, Fort Lauderdale Florida

The applicant requests authorization to take (capture, radio tag, examine, tag, measure, and monitor and disturb nest) the American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*) while conducting population surveys and monitoring. The proposed activities would take place throughout the state of Florida.

**TE077267-0**

*Applicant:* State of Georgia, Georgia Department of Transportation, William Bouthillier, Atlanta, Georgia

The applicant requests authorization to take (capture, identify, and release) all federally listed freshwater fishes and mollusks, identified in 50 CFR 17.11 in the State of Georgia along with the Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*). The proposed activities would take place throughout the state of Georgia while conducting surveys for transportation projects.

**TE077277-0**

*Applicant:* Carlos E. Diez and Robert P. Van Dam, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, San Juan, Puerto Rico

The applicant requests authorization to take (capture, collect, relocate, and euthanize) Hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), for the purposes of conducting genetic studies on 200 eggs and 420 hatchlings to determine the sex ratios of the hatchlings that are being produced on Mona Island. The proposed study consists of three phases: (1) Determination of the pivotal temperature (the incubation temperature at which both sexes are produced in equal proportion); (2) a methodological validation; and (3) the estimation of the sex ratio in hatchlings incubated on Mona Island's beaches. The proposed activities will take place on Mona Island, Puerto Rico.

Dated: September 19, 2003.

**Sam D. Hamilton,**

*Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 03-24837 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Availability of the Recovery Plan for the Endangered Fat Threeridge (*Amblema neislerii*), Shinyrayed Pocketbook (*Lampsilis subangulata*), Gulf Moccasinshell (*Medionidus penicillatus*), Ochlockonee Moccasinshell (*Medionidus simpsonianus*), Oval Pigtoe (*Pleurobema pyriforme*) and the Threatened Chipola Slabshell (*Elliptio chipolaensis*), and Purple Bankclimber (*Elliptoideus sloatianus*)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the final recovery plan for seven freshwater mussels—the endangered fat threeridge (*Amblema neislerii*), shinyrayed pocketbook (*Lampsilis subangulata*), Gulf moccasinshell (*Medionidus penicillatus*), Ochlockonee moccasinshell (*Medionidus simpsonianus*), oval pigtoe (*Pleurobema pyriforme*) and the threatened Chipola slabshell (*Elliptio chipolaensis*), and purple bankclimber (*Elliptoideus sloatianus*). These species are endemic to several river basins (Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint, Ochlockonee, Suwannee, and Econfinia Creek) in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. The recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to downlist these mussels to threatened status or delist them under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of this recovery plan are available by request from Jerry Ziewitz, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Panama City Field Office, 1601 Balboa Avenue, Panama City, Florida 32405 (Telephone 850/769-0552, Ext. 223). Recovery plans approved by the Service are also available on the Internet at: <http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/Index.html#plans>, or may also be obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Reference Service, 5430 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110, Bethesda, Maryland, 20814 (Telephone (301) 492-6403 or (800) 582-3421). The fee for the plan varies depending on the number of pages in the plan.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jerry Ziewitz, at the address and telephone number given above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals or plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystem is a primary goal of our endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, we are working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing necessary recovery measures.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (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 requires us to provide a public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment during recovery plan development. We developed a technical/agency draft of this recovery plan and released it for public review on September 16, 1999 (64 FR 50301). We made substantial revisions to the 1999 draft based on comments received and recently obtained biological information. Because of this, we provided an additional opportunity for stakeholders to comment by issuing an updated draft plan. We published a notice of availability of the agency draft recovery plan for these seven mussels in the **Federal Register** on July 17, 2003 (68 FR 42419). A public comment period was opened with the notice, closing on August 18, 2003. Comments and information submitted by peer reviewers and other interested parties have been considered in preparation of the final recovery plan and, where appropriate, incorporated. We and other Federal agencies will take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

We listed these seven mussels, five as endangered and two as threatened species under the Act, on March 16, 1998 (63 FR 12664). The seven freshwater mussels are restricted to a few river basins (Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint, Ochlockonee, Suwannee, and Econfinia Creek) in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. They were once distributed across hundreds of stream miles in these basins and now survive in a few relatively small, isolated populations scattered throughout their former range.

Habitat alteration, including impoundments, channelization, gravel mining, contaminants, sedimentation,