

**Actions Common to All Alternatives**

All three alternatives share the following concepts and techniques for achieving the goals of the refuge:

- Cooperating with State and Federal agencies, non-government organizations, and Dominion Power Company to evaluate the effects of managed flows on the Roanoke River floodplain on the refuge's natural resources;
- Cooperating with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to administer a hunting program on the refuge;
- Cooperating with the Partnership for the Sounds and Roanoke River Partners to promote nature-based tourism;
- Monitoring populations of neotropical songbirds and the health of bottomland hardwood forest stands; and
- Encouraging scientific research on the refuge.

Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge, in northeastern North Carolina, consists of 20,978 acres, of which 13,824 acres are baldcypress-water tupelo swamp and 7,154 acres are bottomland hardwood forests. These forests support a variety of wildlife species, including neotropical migratory songbirds, waterfowl, colonial nesting birds, deer, turkey, and squirrels.

The refuge hosts 20,000 visitors annually who participate in hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: January 19, 2005.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 05-6255 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-M**

**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.

**SUMMARY:** The following applicants have applied for a scientific research permit 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 the public, and from local, State and Federal agencies on the following permit requests.

**DATES:** Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before April 29, 2005.

**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 (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:** 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 within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above (telephone: 503-231-2063). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Permit No. TE-101141**

*Applicant:* Washington State University, Vancouver, Washington.

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey by pursuit, mark, and release) the Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*) in conjunction with research in Polk and Lane Counties, Oregon, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

**Permit No. TE-101373**

*Applicant:* Jeanie Taylor, Seattle, Washington.

The applicant requests a permit to reduce/remove to possession (collect seeds) *Hackelia venusta* (showy stickseed) in conjunction with research in Chelan County, Washington, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

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

Dated: March 11, 2005.

**Don Weathers,**

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

[FR Doc. 05-6246 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service****Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of Applications for Incidental Take Permits for the Arnaudo Brothers, Wathen-Castanos, and River East Holding Sites in Merced County, CA**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; reopening of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is reopening the public comment period on the Draft Arnaudo Brothers, Wathen-Castanos and River East Holding Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for an incidental take permit for the endangered San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*, "kit fox") in Merced County, California.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration of comments, they must be received on or before April 29, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Please address written comments to Ms. Lori Rinek, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605, Sacramento, California 95825. You also may send comments by facsimile to (916) 414-6713.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Lori Rinek, Chief, Conservation Planning and Recovery Division, at (916) 414-6600.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Availability of Documents**

You may obtain copies of these documents for review by contacting the above office [see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**]. Documents also will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address [see **ADDRESSES**] and at the following website: <http://www.harveyecology.com/>.

**Background**

The Arnaudo Brothers, Wathen-Castanos, and River East Holding Sites (Applicants) have applied to the Service for incidental take permits pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended. The Service is considering issuing 10-year permits to the Applicants that would authorize take of the endangered kit fox incidental to otherwise lawful activities associated with the residential and commercial development of four sites in Merced County, California. The projects would result in the incidental take of kit fox on the project sites