

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,

and stream-flow depletion, is likely the principal cause of these species' decline in range and abundance. Genetic factors associated with increasingly small and isolated populations and the introduction of alien species may present additional obstacles to their recovery.

The objective of this recovery plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of these seven species so that protection under the Act is no longer necessary. As recovery criteria are met, the status of the seven species will be reviewed and they will be considered for reclassification to threatened status or for removal from the *Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants* (50 CFR part 17).

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533 (f).

Dated: September 5, 2003.

Noreen Walsh,

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

[FR Doc. 03-24838 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Concessions Contracts and Permits

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 36 CFR 51.23, public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to extend the following expiring concession contract for a period of 3 years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The listed concession authorization will expire by its terms on March 31, 2004. The National Park Service has determined that the proposed extension is necessary in order to avoid interruption of visitor services and has taken all reasonable and appropriate steps to consider alternatives to avoid such interruption. This extension will allow the National Park Service to complete and issue a prospectus leading to the competitive selection of a concessioner for a new long-term concession contract covering this operation.

Concessioner ID No.	Concessioner name	Park
STLI001-89	Circle Line-Statue of Liberty Ferry Inc.	Statue of Liberty National Monument/ Ellis Island.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cynthia Orlando, Concession Program Manager, National Park Service, Washington, DC 20240, Telephone 202/513-7156.

Dated: August 29, 2003.

Richard G. Ring,

Associate Director, Administration, Business Practices and Workforce Development.

[FR Doc. 03-24877 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-53-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Advisory Commission; Notice of Meeting

SUMMARY: Notice is given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the second meeting of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Advisory Commission will be held at the following location, dates, and times.

DATES/TIMES: Saturday, November 1, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 2, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the meeting room at Palm Canyon Resort, 221 Palm Canyon Drive Borrego Springs, CA 92004. A field trip to trail sites within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park will occur on the afternoon of November 1. The public is welcome, but transportation will only be provided to commission members.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND COPIES OF MEETING MINUTES CONTACT: Meredith Kaplan, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, 1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700, Oakland, California 94607, at 510-817-1438, or *meredith_kaplan@nps.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Commission was established in accordance with the National Trails System Act (915 U.S.C. 1241 *et seq.*), as amended by Public Law 191-365 to consult with the Secretary of Interior on planning and other matters relating to the trail.

Agenda

1. Welcome.
2. Review trail status.

3. Develop promotional package.
4. Approve Long Range Interpretive Plan and identify funding sources.
5. Review list of trail segments with list of constituencies and groups.
6. Discuss attracting and keeping volunteers.

The meeting is open to the public and opportunity will be provided for public comments at specific times during the meeting and prior to closing the meeting. The meeting will be recorded for documentation and transcribed for dissemination. Minutes of the meeting will be available to the public after approval of the full Advisory Commission.

Dated: September 2, 2003.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 03-24876 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-JA-M

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Sanction for Dissemination of "ITC Questionnaire Tip Sheet"

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Sanction for dissemination of "ITC Questionnaire Tip Sheet".

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the sanction imposed by the Commission for the dissemination of a document entitled "ITC Questionnaire Tip Sheet" by Sanford B. Ring, Esq. of the law firm of Dykema Gossett to a client and a non-client in Steel Consuming Industries: Competitive Conditions With Regard to Steel Safeguard Measures, Inv. No. 332-452. The Commission found that there was good cause to sanction Ring, pursuant to 19 CFR 201.15(a), because the tip sheet went beyond the boundaries of appropriate guidance for clients and non-clients regarding their responses to Commission questionnaires. The Commission believes it is important to maintain the integrity of its investigations and to ensure that questionnaire responses in a fact-finding Commission investigation will be accurate and not inappropriately influenced by counsel seeking to support his or her view of the facts in an investigation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol McCue Verratti, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone 202-205-3088. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the