

recovery actions are successful, identify and secure additional suitable arroyo toad habitat and populations, conduct research to determine the population dynamics and ecology of the species to guide management efforts and determine the best methods for reducing threats, and develop and implement an outreach program.

#### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

#### Authority

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

#### Michael J. Spear,

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

[FR Doc. 98-11972 Filed 5-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Recovery Plan for the Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) for Review and Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability for public review of a draft recovery plan for the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). The breeding distribution of the least Bell's vireo is limited to eight counties in southern California and portions of northern Baja California, Mexico. Historically, this species was widespread throughout riparian woodlands in the Central Valley and low elevation riverine valleys of California and northern Baja California. Least Bell's vireos winter in southern Baja California, Mexico. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft plan.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before July 6, 1998, to be considered by the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the draft recovery plan may receive a copy by contacting the Carlsbad Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2730 Loker Avenue West, Carlsbad, California 92008. Written comments and material regarding the plan should also be addressed to the same address above.

Comments and material received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jon Avery, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see **ADDRESSES**) at 760/431-9440).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery Plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for reclassifying them from endangered to threatened or removing them from the list, and estimate the time and cost for implementing the needed recovery measures.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) 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, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised Recovery Plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The least Bell's vireo was listed as endangered on May 2, 1986. Critical habitat for the species was designated on February 2, 1994. The least Bell's vireo is an obligate riparian species during the breeding season, preferring early successional habitat. This species typically inhabits structurally diverse woodlands along watercourses. Extensive breeding habitat loss and degradation and brood parasitism by the brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) have resulted in a rangewide decline of the least Bell's vireo. The objective of this plan is the reclassification of the least Bell's vireo to threatened and ultimately, delisting through recovery.

#### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All

comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the plan.

#### Authority

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

Dated: March 30, 1998.

#### Michael J. Spear,

*Regional Director, Region 1.*

[FR Doc. 98-11973 Filed 5-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Bay-Delta Advisory Council's Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Bay-Delta Advisory Council's (BDAC) Ecosystem Roundtable will meet to discuss several issues including: status of the May 1998 Proposal Solicitation Package, the development of the other programs for FY 98 funding, revised planning process, funding coordination, CVPIA FY 98 budget and other issues. This meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements to the Ecosystem Roundtable or may file written statements for consideration.

**DATES:** The BDAC Ecosystem Roundtable meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet at the Resources Building, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1131, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cindy Darling, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, at (916) 657-2666. If reasonable accommodation is needed due to a disability, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Office at (916) 653-6952 or TDD (916) 653-6934 at least one week prior to the meeting.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta system) is a critically important part of California's natural environment and economy. In recognition of the serious problems facing the region and the complex resource management decisions that must be made, the state of California and the Federal government are working together to stabilize, protect, restore, and enhance the Bay-Delta system. The