

off-site mitigation bank in the Riverside County area. Both conservation banks possess a management endowment to ensure their permanent management for sensitive species and habitats, including the California gnatcatcher.

The Environmental Assessment considers the environmental consequences of four alternatives, including the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action consists of the issuance of two incidental take permits and implementation of the HCP and its Implementing Agreement, which includes measures to minimize and mitigate impacts of the two projects on the coastal California gnatcatcher. Under the "No Action" alternative, the Service would not issue a permit to either Applicant. Under this alternative, the proposed residential developments would not be constructed at this time. Both pairs of gnatcatchers may still be lost over time because the small isolated project site is not well-suited to the long term preservation of gnatcatcher pairs. Contributions to more permanent gnatcatcher preservation efforts in the region (through participation in regional conservation mitigation banks) would not occur.

Under the "Reduced Project" alternative, one of the two multi-family residential projects would not receive an incidental take permit. One of the applicants would not develop their property at this time. The other project would receive a permit. It is likely that both gnatcatcher pairs would ultimately be lost from the 44 acre combined site since development of either project alone would likely eliminate so much habitat as to render the remaining isolated habitat incapable of supporting any gnatcatcher pairs in the long term. This alternative would provide only half of the conservation benefits of the Proposed Action while ultimately resulting in the same level of incidental take as the Proposed Action.

Under the "Different Location" alternative, the two adjoining projects would be relocated to another area in the City of Temecula. The opportunities for needed multi-family housing in the City of Temecula are severely limited, and the identification and acquisition of an alternative site in the City cannot be assured. Under this alternative, both pairs of gnatcatchers may still be lost because the small isolated project site is not well-suited to the long term preservation of gnatcatcher pairs. No conservation contributions to regional gnatcatcher preservation would be made.

The alternatives to the Proposed Action would result in less habitat conservation value for the coastal

California gnatcatcher in the Riverside County region and contribute less to its long-term survival in the wild than the off-site conservation bank habitat preservation/management mitigation measures under the Proposed Action.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act and the regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (40 CFR 1506.6). All comments that we receive, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public. We will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act regulations and section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act. If we determine that those requirements are met, we will issue a permit to each Applicant for the incidental take of the coastal California gnatcatcher. We will make our final permit decision no sooner than 60 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: November 26, 2001.

John Engring,

Acting Deputy Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On August 29, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 45689), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Andy Krook for a permit (PRT-046899) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) taken from the Southern Beaufort Sea population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on October 29, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On September 6, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 46650), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Gerald Moschgat for a permit (PRT-047378) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) taken from the Northern Beaufort Sea population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on October 29, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On September 25, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 49035), that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Douglas E. Snell for a permit (PRT-047054) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) taken from the Northern Beaufort Sea population, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on November 9, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone (703) 358-2104 or fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: November 19, 2001.

Monica Farris,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-740 (Review)]

Sodium Azide From Japan

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of a five-year review concerning the suspended investigation on sodium azide from Japan.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted a review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)) (the Act) to determine whether termination of the suspended investigation on sodium azide from Japan would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to section 751(c)(2) of the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the