

affected areas; the Governors of Florida and New Jersey; other appropriate Federal, State, and local officials; and nongovernmental organizations.

Interested parties may submit written comments and accompanying data through <http://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the **ADDRESSES** section. The Service will also accept digital Geographic Information System (GIS) data files that are accompanied by written comments. Comments regarding specific CBRS unit(s) should reference the appropriate unit number(s) and unit name(s). We must receive comments on or before the date listed in the **DATES** section.

Following the close of the comment period, we will review all comments received on the draft maps and we will make adjustments to the draft maps, as appropriate, based on information received through public comments, updated aerial imagery, CBRA criteria, and objective mapping protocols. We will then prepare final recommended maps to be submitted to Congress. The final recommended maps will become effective only if they are adopted by Congress through legislation.

#### Availability of Draft Maps and Related Information

The draft maps, unit summaries (containing historical changes and more detailed information regarding proposed changes to the units), and digital boundary data can be accessed and downloaded from the Service's Web site at: <http://www.fws.gov/ecological-services/habitat-conservation/coastal.html>, or via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), where public comments should be submitted. The digital boundary data are available for reference purposes only. The digital boundaries are best viewed using the base imagery to which the boundaries were drawn; this information is printed in the title block of the draft maps. The Service is not responsible for any misuse or misinterpretation of the digital boundary data.

Interested parties may also contact the Service individual identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to make arrangements to view the draft maps at the Service's Headquarters office. Interested parties who are unable to access the draft maps via the Service's Web site or Headquarters office may contact the individual identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, and

reasonable accommodations will be made.

**Gary Frazer,**

*Assistant Director for Ecological Services.*

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**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R4-ES-2015-N115;**

**FXES1113040000EA-123-FF04EF1000]**

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Availability of Proposed Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plans, Lake, County, FL

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comment/information.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received five applications for incidental take permits (ITPs) and one renewal of an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) in Lake County, Florida. We request public comment on the permit applications and accompanying proposed habitat conservation plans (HCPs), as well as on our preliminary determination that the plans qualify as low-effect under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To make this determination, we used our environmental action statements and low-effect screening forms, which are also available for review.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by August 8, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** If you wish to review the applications and HCPs, you may request documents by email, U.S. mail, or phone (see below). These documents are also available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the office below. Send your comments or requests by any one of the following methods.

*Email:* [northflorida@fws.gov](mailto:northflorida@fws.gov). Use "Attn: Permit number TE96908B-0" as your message subject line for Walton Acquisitions FL, LLC; "Attn: Permit number TE96852B-0" for EPC Holdings 808 LLC and Parkview Oaks, LLC; "Attn: Permit number TE96862B-0" for Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Ladd Property); "Attn: Permit number TE96859B-0" for Mattamy Orlando, LLC (NOLA Property); "Attn: Permit number TE96904B-0" for Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Clermont Self Storage Property); and "Attn: Permit number TE105732-2" for Richard Bosserman.

*Fax:* Field Supervisor, (904) 731-3191, Attn: Permit number [Insert permit number].

*U.S. mail:* Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Ecological Services Field Office, Attn: Permit number [Insert permit number], U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

*In-person drop-off:* You may drop off information during regular business hours at the above office address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin M. Gawera, telephone: (904) 731-3121; email: [erin\\_gawera@fws.gov](mailto:erin_gawera@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received five applications for incidental take permits (ITPs) and one renewal of an ITP under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). Walton Acquisitions FL, LLC requests a 20-year ITP; EPC Holdings 808 LLC and Parkview Oaks, LLC request a 25-year ITP; Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Ladd Property) requests a 5-year ITP; Mattamy Orlando, LLC (NOLA Property) requests a 5-year ITP; Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Clermont Self Storage Property) requests a 5-year ITP; and Richard Bosserman requests a 10-year renewal of ITP permit #TE105732-1. We request public comment on the permit applications and accompanying proposed habitat conservation plans (HCPs), as well as on our preliminary determination that the plans qualify as low-effect under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To make this determination, we used our environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, which are also available for review.

#### Background

Section 9 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and our implementing Federal regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17 prohibit the "take" of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened. Take of listed fish or wildlife is defined under the Act as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct" (16 U.S.C. 1532). However, under limited circumstances, we issue permits to authorize incidental take—*i.e.*, take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity.

Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively. The Act's take prohibitions do not apply to federally listed plants on private lands unless such take would

violate State law. In addition to meeting other criteria, an incidental take permit's proposed actions must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plants.

### Applicants' Proposals

#### *Walton Acquisitions FL, LLC*

Walton Acquisitions FL, LLC is requesting take of approximately 6.03 acres (ac) of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat incidental to construction of a residential project, and they seek a 20-year permit. The 505.99-ac project is located on parcel number 21-20-24-000100000900 within Sections 21, 22, 27, and 28, Township 22 South, and Range 26 East, Lake County, Florida. The project includes construction of a residential development and the associated infrastructure, and landscaping. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the sand skink by the purchase of 12.06 mitigation credits within the Collany Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink bank.

#### *EPC Holdings 808 LLC and Parkview Oaks, LLC*

EPC Holdings 808 LLC and Parkview Oaks, LLC request take of approximately 1.58 ac of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat incidental to construction of a residential project, and they seek a 25-year permit. The 1433-ac project is located on parcels identified with by the Lake County Property Appraiser with the Alternate Key IDs of 1037051, 2804271, 1031028, 1065062, 3029038, 3029020, 3029011, 3859093, 1017301, 2868180, 3854637, 3884096, 1590361, 3860074, 1070015, 3860073, 1070015, and 3859995, 1590817, 3019890, 1027764, 2934590, 2934581, 2934603, and 1065101, within Sections 16, 17, 20, 21, 28, and 29, Township 21 South, and Range 26 East, Lake County, Florida. The project includes construction of a residential development and the associated infrastructure, and landscaping. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the sand skink by the purchase of 3.16 mitigation credits within the Collany Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink bank.

#### *Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Ladd Property)*

Mattamy Orlando, LLC is requesting take of approximately 10.65 ac of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat incidental to construction of a residential project, and they seek a 5-year permit. The 17.75-ac project is located on parcel numbers 342226000200000200,

342226130000C00001, and 342226000200000600 within Section 34, Township 22 South, and Range 26 East, Lake County, Florida. The project includes construction of a residential development and the associated infrastructure, and landscaping. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the sand skink by the purchase of 21.3 mitigation credits within the Hatchineha Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink bank.

#### *Mattamy Orlando, LLC (NOLA Property)*

Mattamy Orlando, LLC is requesting take of approximately 9.67 ac of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat incidental to construction of a residential project, and they seek a 5-year permit. The 541-ac project is located on parcel numbers 27-22-26-00-030-0000-500, 34-22-26-00-010-0000-100, and 35-22-26-00-010-0000-600 within Sections 27, 34, 35 and 36, Township 22 South, and Range 26 East, Lake County, Florida. The project includes construction of a residential development and the associated infrastructure, and landscaping. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the sand skink by the purchase of 19.34 mitigation credits within the Hatchineha Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink bank.

#### *Mattamy Orlando, LLC (Self Storage Property)*

Mattamy Orlando, LLC is requesting take of approximately 9.1 ac of occupied sand skink foraging and sheltering habitat incidental to construction of a mixed commercial and residential project, and they seek a 5-year permit. The 16.25-ac project is located on parcel numbers 342226130000A00000, 34226130000000100, 342226130000C00000, and 342226000200000200 within Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 26 East, Lake County, Florida. The project includes construction of a mixed commercial and residential development and the associated infrastructure, and landscaping. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the take of the sand skink by the purchase of 18.2 mitigation credits within the Hatchineha Conservation Bank or another Service-approved sand skink bank.

#### *Richard Bosserman*

Richard Bosserman has been approved for take of approximately 1.9 ac of sand skink-occupied habitat incidental to construction of a commercial facility, and seeks a 10-year

extension on an existing permit. The 29.6-ac project is located within Section 27, Township 22 South, and Range 26 East, Clermont, Lake County, Florida. The applicant's HCP describes the mitigation and minimization measures the applicant completed to address the effects of the project to the sand skink.

### Our Preliminary Determination

We have determined that the applicants' proposals, including the proposed mitigation and minimization measures, would have minor or negligible effects on the species covered in their HCPs. Therefore, we determined that the ITPs for each of the applicants are "low-effect" projects and qualify for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 2 Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6 Appendix 1). A low-effect HCP is one involving (1) Minor or negligible effects on federally listed or candidate species and their habitats, and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources.

### Next Steps

We will evaluate the HCPs and comments we receive to determine whether the ITP applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). If we determine that the applications meet these requirements, we will issue ITP numbers TE96908B-0, TE96852B-0, TE96862B-0, TE96859B-0, TE96904B, and TE105732-2. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITPs complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. We will use the results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, in our final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITPs. If the requirements are met, we will issue the permits to the applicants.

### Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit applications, HCPs, and associated documents, you may submit comments by any one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

### Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying

information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under Section 10 of the Act and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: June 29, 2016.

Jay B. Herrington,

Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Field Office,  
Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 2016-16079 Filed 7-6-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R6-R-2016-N045;

FXRS1261060000-167-FF06R00000]

#### Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; Record of Decision

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the Western Area Power Administration (Western), as joint lead agencies, issued the Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Final PEIS) on May 1, 2015. The Service has decided to implement Alternative 1, as described in the Final PEIS and summarized in the Record of Decision (ROD). Alternative 1 was identified as both the agency-preferred alternative and the environmentally preferred alternative.

**ADDRESSES:** You may request copies of the Final PEIS and ROD, or more information, by one of the following methods.

*Web site:* <http://plainswindeis.anl.gov/>.

*U.S. Mail:* Kelly Hogan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, CO 80225-0486.

To view comments on the final PEIS from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or for information on EPA's role in the EIS process, see EPA's Role in the EIS Process under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelly Hogan, 303-236-4355 (phone) or [Kelly\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Kelly_Hogan@fws.gov) (email).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The Record of Decision (ROD) we announce today documents the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service)

decision to implement the Programmatic Regional Wind Energy Development Evaluation Process (Alternative 1) of the Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Final PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0408), published in the **Federal Register** on May 1, 2015 (80 FR 24914).

In response to an increase in wind energy development in the Upper Great Plains Region (UGP Region), which encompasses all or parts of the States of Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota, the Service (Service) and the Western Area Power Administration (Western) have prepared the Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Final PEIS to streamline their procedures for conducting environmental reviews of wind energy applications by implementing standardized evaluation procedures and identifying measures to address potential environmental impacts associated with wind energy projects in the UGP Region.

The Service and Western cooperatively prepared the PEIS to (1) assess the potential environmental impacts associated with wind energy projects within the UGP Region that may propose placement of project elements on grassland or wetland easements managed by the Service, or that may interconnect to Western's transmission system, and (2) evaluate how environmental impacts would differ under alternative sets of environmental evaluation procedures, best management practices, avoidance strategies, and mitigation measures that the agencies would request project developers to implement, as appropriate, for specific wind energy projects. Four alternatives, including the No Action alternative, were analyzed in the PEIS.

The PEIS analyzes, to the extent practicable, the impacts resulting from development of wind energy projects and the effectiveness of best management practices (BMPs), avoidance of sensitive areas, and mitigation measures in reducing potential impacts. Impacts and mitigation have been analyzed for each environmental resource, and all components of wind energy projects have been addressed, including turbines, transformers, collector lines, overhead lines, access roads, substation installations, and operational and maintenance activities. Many of the impacts resulting from constructing and operating these types of wind energy infrastructure are well known from existing wind energy projects.

In addition to the PEIS, the Service and Western engaged in informal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA in support of the PEIS process. A programmatic biological assessment (Programmatic BA) has been prepared for listed and candidate species occurring in the UGP Region. Development of the Programmatic BA was closely coordinated with the Service's North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office. That office issued a letter of concurrence with the Programmatic BA on July 7, 2015, as a result of this consultation.

The agencies also investigated a programmatic approach to section 106 consultations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*). Since section 106 consultations are highly site-specific, it was determined that effective consultation could be accomplished only once an individual project location was defined. However, general avoidance and protection measures for cultural resources and historic properties that would be implemented were identified and included in the analysis.

#### EPA's Role in the EIS Process

The EPA is charged under section 309 of the Clean Air Act to review all Federal agencies' environmental impact statements (EISs) and to comment on the adequacy and the acceptability of the environmental impacts of proposed actions in the EISs.

EPA also serves as the repository (EIS database) for EISs prepared by Federal agencies and provides notice of their availability in the **Federal Register**. The EIS Database provides information about EISs prepared by Federal agencies, as well as EPA's comments concerning the EISs. All EISs are filed with EPA, which publishes a notice of availability each Friday in the **Federal Register**. For more information, see <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>. You may search for EPA comments on EISs, along with EISs themselves, at <https://cdxnodengn.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-public/action/eis/search>.

#### Purpose and Need

The Service's purpose and need for Federal action, as presented in the Draft and Final PEIS, is to streamline the environmental review process for wind energy projects that would unavoidably impact grassland or wetland easements administered by the Service and would therefore require an easement exchange to accommodate wind energy development.