California red-legged frog upland habitat. The habitat would be converted to rural residential and associated infrastructure and road access. To mitigate for these effects, the applicant proposes to purchase (a) 1.54 acres of California tiger salamander credits from a Service-approved conservation bank located in Sonoma County, and (b) 1.54 acres of California red-legged frog credits from a Service-approved conservation bank located in Alameda County.

National Environmental Policy Act

As described in our EAS, we have made the preliminary determination that approval of the proposed Plan and issuance of the permit would qualify as a categorical exclusion under NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347 et seq.), as provided by NEPA implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1500.5(k), 1507.3(b)(2), 1508.4), by Department of the Interior regulations (43 CFR 46.205, 46.210, 46.215), and by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 3 and 516 DM 8). Our EAS found that the proposed HCP qualifies as a “low-effect” HCP, as defined by our “Habitat Conservation Planning and Incidental Take Permitting Process Handbook” (November 1996).

Determination of whether a habitat conservation plan qualifies as low-effect is based on the following three criteria: (1) Implementation of the proposed HCP would result in minor or negligible effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the proposed plan would result in minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts of the HCP, considered together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects, would not result, over time, in cumulative effects to environmental values or resources that would be considered significant. Based upon the preliminary determinations in the EAS, we do not intend to prepare further NEPA documentation. We will consider public comments when making the final determination on whether to prepare an additional NEPA document on the proposed action.

Public Comments

We request data, comments, new information, or suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, Tribes, industry, or any other interested party on this notice. We particularly seek comments on the following:

(1) Biological information concerning the species;

(2) Relevant data concerning the species;

(3) Additional information concerning the range, distribution, population size, and population trends of the species;

(4) Current or planned activities in the subject area and their possible impacts on the species; and

(5) Identification of any other environmental issues that should be considered with regard to the proposed rural residential project and permit action.

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods listed above in ADDRESSES. Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we used in preparing the EAS, will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at our office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—might 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.

Next Steps

We will evaluate the permit application, including the HCP, and comments we receive to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. If the requirements are met, we will issue a permit to the applicant for the incidental take of the California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog from the implementation of the covered activities described in the low-effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog, City of Petaluma, Sonoma County, California. We will make the final permit decision no sooner than 30 days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Authority

We publish this notice under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and its implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR 1500–1508, as well as in compliance with section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).
impacts. For these reasons, the NPS determined the proposal would not constitute a major federal action requiring an EIS. The EA to consider a Special Use Permit to Dare County for Activities Related to the Protection of North Carolina Highway 12 is expected to be distributed for public comment summer 2015. The public comment period for the EA and the dates, times, and locations of public meetings will be announced through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site http://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Web site, and in local media outlets.

The responsible official is the Regional Director, NPS Southeast Region, 100 Alabama Street SW., 1924 Building. Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: June 1, 2015.

Barclay C. Trimble,
Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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BILLING CODE 4310–JD–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service
[NPS–NER–FIIS–17935; PPNEFIIS00–PMP00UP05.YP0000]

Plan of Operations To Conduct 3-Dimensional Seismic Oil and Gas Exploration Within Big Cypress National Preserve

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.


AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.


DATES: The NPS will accept comments on the Draft GMP/EIS for a period of 90 days following publication of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The National Park Service will hold public meetings during the public review period to solicit comments. Meeting dates, times and locations will be announced in local media in advance of the meeting dates.

ADDRESSES: The Draft GMP/EIS will be available for public review and comment online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/fiis, and in hardcopy at the Office of the Superintendent, Fire Island National Seashore, 120 Laurel Street, Patchogue, New York 11772, (631) 687–4750. Copies may also be viewed at area public libraries including the Woodhull School on Fire Island and at Babylon, Bayport/Blue Point, Bay Shore/ Brightwaters, Brentwood, Brookhaven, East Islip, Mastic/Moriches/Shirley, Patchogue, Sayville, South Country (Bellport), and West Islip on Long Island. Comments may be submitted electronically at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/fiis. You may also mail written comments to: Fire Island National Seashore GMP, 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109, Attn: Ellen Carlson.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—might 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.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service
[NPS–NER–FIIS–17935; PPNEFIIS00–PMP00UP05.YP0000]


AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comments on Nobles Grade 3–D Seismic Survey/Plan of Operations (Plan) to explore for oil and gas within Big Cypress National Preserve. The Plan seeks approval to conduct a seismic survey over a 110± square mile area to evaluate the subsurface geologic structure and geophysical conditions pertaining to accumulations of commercial quantities of crude oil and natural gas in the Sunniland Oil Trend. The applicant, Burnett Oil Company, Inc., proposes to conduct the seismic survey by using small, portable seismic receivers (geophones) and recording devices, which measure and record subtle vibrations in the ground. No explosives will be used to create the vibrations or seismic acoustical signals, and there will be no ground disturbances from detonations. Instead, vibrations will be created using mobile plates attached to special off-road vehicles which are placed against the ground, vibrated, and then moved on to the next location. The source and receivers would be placed in a line grid to allow the applicant to map the subsurface geology.

DATES: The comment period will be announced through local media outlets and on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bicy. The Plan will be available for public review and comment through July 17, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to provide written comments. Written comments may be sent to the Office of the Superintendent, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East Ochopee, Florida 34141 or entered in the PEPC system Web site at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bicy. Copies of the Plan are available upon request from the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for further information should be directed to the Big Cypress National Preserve PEPC system online at: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/bicy; Big Cypress National Preserve Environmental Specialist Don Hargrove by phone at 239–695–1150; via email at Don_Hargrove@nps.gov; or by mail at Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, Florida 34141.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comment, 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.

The official responsible for approving or disapproving this Plan is the Regional Director, NPS Southeast Region, 100 Alabama Street SW., 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: June 1, 2015.

Barclay C. Trimble,
Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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