

effects of the action in addition to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future effects.

Therefore, we have preliminarily determined that the proposed ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit would be a low-effect ITP that may qualify for application of a categorical exclusion (516 DM 8.5(C)(2)), pursuant to NEPA, the DOI's NEPA regulations, and the DOI DM. A low-effect ITP is one that would result in (1) negligible or minor individual or cumulative effects on species covered in the HCP; (2) no significant effect on the human environment; and (3) reasonably foreseeable effects that would not result in significant effects to the human environment.

Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and the comments to determine whether to issue the requested ITP. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue ITP number PER25914032 to Lake County Development Partners, LLC (Casa del Rosa).

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made available to the public. If you submit a comment at <https://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, such as your address, phone number, or email address, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered

Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.32), National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), as amended, and the and the Department of Interior's implementing regulations (43 CFR part 46).

Jose Rivera,

Manager, Division of Environmental Review, Florida Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R8-ES-2026-2410; FXES11140800000-267-FF08EVEN00]

Receipt of Incidental Take Permit Application and Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Ventura County, CA; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from Moorpark 67, LLC (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally listed coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*) incidental to residential development in the City of Moorpark, Ventura County, California. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's proposed habitat conservation plan, and on the Service's preliminary determination that the proposed permitting action may be eligible for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. To make this preliminary determination, we prepared a low-effect screening form, which is also available for public review. We invite comment from the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on or before July 13, 2026.

To ensure your comment is received and considered, you must submit it using one of the methods identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document. Comments submitted through any method not authorized in this

document, or sent to an address not listed here, will not be considered.

ADDRESSES:

Obtaining Documents: The documents this notice announces, as well as any comments and other materials that we receive, will be available for public inspection online in Docket No. FWS-R8-ES-2026-2410 at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Submitting Comments: All submissions must include the docket number [FWS-R8-ES-2026-2410] for this document. You must submit comments using one of the following methods:

- **Electronic submission:** Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <https://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-R8-ES-2026-2410, which is the docket number for this action. Then click the Search button. On the resulting page, you may submit a comment by clicking on "Comment." Please ensure that you have found the correct document before submitting your comments.

- **U.S. mail:** Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-R8-ES-2026-2410, Policy and Regulations Branch, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

Comments submitted through any method not authorized in this document, or sent to an address not listed here, will not be considered. We will not accept comments via email, fax, or hand delivery. We are not required to consider comments that are submitted after the comment period ends or that are submitted via a method outside of these instructions. Comments containing profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate content will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chris Dellith, Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist, by email at chris_dellith@fws.gov, via phone at 805-644-1766, or by U.S. mail at 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from the applicant for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA;

16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) incidental to the development of a mixed-density residential community (project) in the City of Moorpark, Ventura County, California. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's habitat conservation plan (HCP), and on the Service's preliminary determination that this proposed ITP qualifies as low effect, and may qualify for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations (43 CFR part 46), and the DOI's Departmental Manual (516 DM 1, Appendix 2 Section 8.5C(2)). To make this preliminary determination, we prepared a low-effect screening form, which is available for public review.

Background

On March 30, 1993 (58 FR 16742), the Service listed the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) as threatened. Section 9 of the ESA prohibits "take" of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered (16 U.S.C. 1538), where take is defined to include the following activities: "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). The take prohibitions of section 9 are extended to species listed as threatened at the discretion of the DOI Secretary of and were extended to coastal California gnatcatcher, with exceptions. On December 20, 1993, the Service published a 4(d) rule, which includes exceptions to incidental take associated land-use activities addressed in an approved Natural Community Conservation Planning Act program undertaken by the State of California and local governments (58 FR 65088).

Under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(1)(B)), we may issue permits to authorize take of listed fish and wildlife species that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for endangered and threatened species are in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32, respectively. Issuance of an ITP also must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant species. The permittee would receive assurances under our "No Surprises" regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)).

Applicant's Proposed Activities

The applicant has applied for a permit for incidental take of the coastal California gnatcatcher. The take would occur in association with activities necessary for the development of a largely vacant 68-acre (ac) site by constructing residences, associated infrastructure, flood-control facilities, a new road providing access to the site, as well as enhancement and permanent protection of disturbed coastal sage scrub vegetation on 28.76 ac of conserved land for the coastal California gnatcatcher.

The HCP includes avoidance and minimization measures for the coastal California gnatcatcher, and mitigation for unavoidable loss of occupied habitat. The applicant will commensurately offset impacts by placing conservation easements over approximately 13.22 ac of the project site, which will be restored and/or enhanced, and 15.54 ac on adjacent conserved open space areas owned by the City of Moorpark, which will be enhanced.

Public Availability of Comments

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, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the applicant's proposed project would individually and cumulatively have a minor effect on the coastal California gnatcatcher and the human environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily determined that the proposed ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit would be a "low-effect" ITP that individually or cumulatively would have a minor effect on the species and may qualify for application of a categorical exclusion pursuant to NEPA, DOI's NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. A "low-effect" ITP is one that would result in (1) minor or nonsignificant effects on species covered in the HCP; (2) nonsignificant effects on the human environment; and (3) impacts that, when added together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable actions, would not result in significant cumulative effects to the human environment.

Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and the comments received to determine whether to issue the requested ITP. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue an ITP to the applicant.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32) and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the Department's NEPA implementing regulations (43 CFR part 46).

Catherine Darst,

Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R8-ES-2025-1035; FXES11140800000-267-FF08EVEN00]

Receipt of Incidental Take Permit Application and Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for Brand Partnerships, 3615 Foothill Road (APN 005-280-041), Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, CA; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from Johnny Brand, landowner, Brand Partnerships (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally listed California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) and southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*), a species proposed for listing, incidental to agricultural activities in the City of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, California. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's proposed habitat conservation plan (HCP), and on the