

circumstances, issue permits to authorize take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are found in 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22.

Although not required by law or regulation, it is Service policy to notify the public of its permit application decisions. Between November 23, 2002,

and July 17, 2003, we issued the following permits within the Pacific Region of the Service for incidental take of threatened and endangered species subject to certain conditions set forth therein, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) and section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act. We issued each permit after determining that: (1) The permit application was submitted in good faith; (2) all permit issuance criteria were met, including

the requirement that granting the permit will not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species; and (3) the permit was consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in the Act and applicable regulations, including a thorough review of the environmental effects of the action and alternatives pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

| Approved plan or agreement | Permit No. | Issuance date |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Habitat Conservation Plans: | | |
| Gosnell Residential | TE063835-0 | 12/23/02 |
| Antelope Road | TE066470-0 | 12/31/02 |
| Folsom Professional Centre | TE072797-0 | 06/25/03 |
| Natomas Basin (3 permits) | TE073663-0 | 06/27/03 |
| | TE073665-0 | |
| | TE073667-0 | |
| Safe Harbor Agreements: | | |
| The Island of Molokai | TE062124-0 | 04/07/03 |
| Paramount Farms | TE048469-0 | 04/24/03 |
| Robert Mondavi Winery | TE056595-0 | 07/17/03 |

Copies of these permits, the accompanying Habitat Conservation Plan or Safe Harbor Agreement, and associated documents are available upon request. Decision documents for each permit include a Findings and Recommendation; a Biological Opinion; and either a Record of Decision, Finding of No Significant Impact, or an Environmental Action Statement. Associated documents may also include an Implementing Agreement, Environmental Impact Statement, or Environmental Assessment, as applicable.

Dated: September 8, 2003.

D. Kenneth McDermond,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of the Holston River/Saltville National Priority List Site Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan Which Encompasses Smyth and Washington Counties, Virginia, and Hawkins and Sullivan Counties, TN

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), on behalf of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of

Tennessee, and the Tennessee Valley Authority, jointly referred to as the Saltville National Priority List (NPL) Site Trustee Council, announces the release for public review of the Holston River/Saltville NPL Site Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Plan (Plan) which encompasses Smyth and Washington Counties, Virginia, and Hawkins and Sullivan Counties, Tennessee. The Plan describes the Trustee's proposal to assess potential injury to natural resources as a result of a release of hazardous substances.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted within 30 days of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the Plan may be made to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Virginia Field Office, 6669 Short Lane, Gloucester, Virginia 23061. Written comments regarding the Plan should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Schmerfeld, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6669 Short Lane, Gloucester, Virginia 23061. Interested parties may also call 804-693-6694, extension 107, for further information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Saltville NPL Site (Site) is located along the North Fork Holston River (NFHR) which flows through Smyth and Washington Counties, Virginia. The NFHR joins the South Fork Holston River to form the main stem Holston River (MHR) near Virginia's southern border with Tennessee. The NFHR and MHR (hereafter jointly referred to, with associated floodplains, as the "River") flow through Sullivan and Hawkins Counties, Tennessee, before entering the John Sevier Detention Reservoir and the

Cherokee Dam. These contiguous areas and bodies of water comprise the geographical focus of this assessment. Due to hazardous substances released from industrial activities, the Site was included on the NPL in 1983 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Several operable units associated with the Site have been identified for remedial activities. Operable Unit 4 includes the Former Chlorine Plant site and the River and is the focus of this NRDA. Remedial activities for Operable Unit 4 are ongoing. The EPA is acting as the lead response agency overseeing remedial activities at the Site and Operable Unit 4.

Under subpart G of the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan, 40 CFR 300.600-.610 and Executive Order 12580, the Federal government, States, and Indian tribes are authorized as natural resource trustees to recover damages from responsible parties for injuries to natural resources caused by the release of hazardous substances. This process is intended to compensate the public for lost natural resources and to restore services provided by those resources. The natural resource trustees for this matter include:

- The U.S. Department of the Interior
- The Commonwealth of Virginia
- The State of Tennessee
- The Tennessee Valley Authority

The Trustees have developed a Memorandum of Agreement that provides a framework for continued cooperation and coordination. The Trustees have determined through a Preassessment Screen that further investigation and assessment is