

review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Personal Financial and Credit Statement.

*OMB Control Number, if applicable:* 2502-0001.

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:* Form HUD-92417, Personal Financial and Credit Statement, is used by HUD personnel and FHA approved lenders to determine if the sponsor, mortgagor, or the principals of the mortgagor have the financial capability to develop, build, and complete a multifamily project. Form HUD-92417 is a part of the credit investigation during the Site Appraisal and Marketing Analysis (SAMA)/feasibility and commitment stages of the mortgage insurance application. The financial capability, reputation, experience, and the ability of the project sponsor is analyzed to determine whether the sponsor will be able to develop a successful project and have the financial resources to complete and maintain the project.

*Agency form numbers, if applicable:* HUD-92417.

*Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response:* The estimated total annual hours required to prepare the information collection is 16,000; the number of respondents is 2,000 generating 2,000 annual responses; the frequency of response is on occasion; and the estimated time needed to prepare the response is 8 hours. This form is submitted during the SAMA/feasibility or commitment stages of the mortgage insurance application.

*Status of the proposed information collection:* This is an extension of a currently approved collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: January 26, 2006.

**Frank L. Davis,**

*General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing-Deputy Federal Housing Commissioner.*

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**BILLING CODE 4210-27-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability Technical/Agency Draft of the Third Revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan for Review and Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability and public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service announces the availability of the Technical/Agency Draft of the Third Revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan. The Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*) has disappeared from more than 95 percent of its historic range as a result of human persecution and habitat loss. This draft of the recovery plan includes specific recovery objectives and criteria to be met in order to reclassify (downlist) and eventually delist the Florida panther under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service solicits review and comment on this draft recovery plan.

**DATES:** In order to be considered, we must receive comments on the draft recovery plan on or before April 3, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Technical/Agency Draft of the Third Revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan can be obtained by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, South Florida Ecological Services Office, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960 (772-562-3909) or by visiting our Web sites at <http://endangered.fws.gov> or <http://verobeach.fws.gov>. If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by either of two methods:

1. You may submit written comments and materials to the Field Supervisor, at the above address.
2. You may hand-deliver written comments to our South Florida Ecological Services Office, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960, or fax your comments to (772) 562-4288.

Comments and materials received are available for public inspection on request, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chris Belden at the South Florida Ecological Services Office, (772) 562-3909, ext. 237.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Restoring listed animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining components of their ecosystems is a primary goal of our threatened and endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, we prepare recovery plans for listed species native to the United States, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Act, unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Recovery plans describe actions that may be necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for reclassification from endangered to threatened status or removal from the list of threatened and endangered species, and estimate the time and cost for implementing the needed recovery measures.

The Florida panther is the last subspecies of *Puma* still surviving in the eastern United States. Historically occurring throughout the southeastern United States, today the panther is restricted to less than 5 percent of its historic range in one breeding population of fewer than 100 animals, located in south Florida.

The panther is threatened with extinction, and human development in panther habitat negatively impacts recovery. Panthers are wide ranging, secretive, and occur at low densities. They require large contiguous areas to meet their social, reproductive, and energetic needs. Panther habitat selection is related to prey availability (*i.e.*, habitats that make prey vulnerable to stalking and capturing are selected). Limiting factors for the panther are habitat availability, prey availability, and lack of human tolerance.

Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation are among the greatest threats to panther survival, while human intolerance of panthers is one of the greatest threats to their recovery. Vehicle strikes and problems associated with being a single, small, isolated population have continued to keep the panther population at its current low numbers. Potential panther habitat throughout the Southeast continues to be affected by urbanization, residential development, conversion to agriculture and silviculture, mining and mineral

exploration, and lack of land use planning that recognizes panther needs. Public opinion is critical to attainment of recovery goals and reintroduction efforts. Addressing social opposition to panthers will be the most difficult aspect of panther recovery and must be resolved before reintroduction efforts are initiated.

The Service issued the first Florida Panther Recovery Plan in 1981. The plan was revised in 1987 and 1995. In 2001, the Service initiated the current process to revise the plan a third time. Section 4(f) of the Act requires that a public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. Accordingly, the Technical/Agency Draft of the Third Revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan is being made available for public review and comment before a decision is made on its approval.

The strategy for Florida panther recovery sets an intermediate goal of downlisting from endangered to threatened with the ultimate goal of delisting. To achieve both the intermediate and ultimate goals, the recovery plan identifies three objectives which, collectively, describe the conditions necessary to achieve recovery. These objectives are:

1. Maintain, restore, and expand the Florida panther population and its habitat in south Florida and, if feasible, expand the known occurrence of Florida panthers north of the Caloosahatchee River to maximize the probability of the long-term persistence of this metapopulation.
2. Identify, secure, maintain, and restore habitat in potential reintroduction areas within the panther's historic range, and establish viable populations of the panther outside south and south-central Florida.
3. Facilitate panther conservation and recovery through public awareness and education.

To realize these objectives for downlisting and delisting, this plan presents objective, measurable criteria that when met would result in a determination that delisting is warranted. These criteria are based on the number of individuals and number of populations that provide for demographically and genetically viable populations as determined by several population viability analyses to ensure resilience to catastrophic events. The threats to the Florida panther will need to be addressed to attain these criteria.

Downlisting of the Florida panther should be considered when:

1. Two viable populations of at least 240 individuals (adults and subadults)

each have been established and subsequently maintained for a minimum of 14 years (or two generations).

2. Sufficient habitat quality, quantity, and spatial configuration to support these populations is retained/protected or secured in the long term.

Delisting of the Florida panther should be considered when:

1. Three viable, self-sustaining populations of at least 240 individuals (adults and subadults) each have been established and subsequently maintained for a minimum of fourteen years.

2. Sufficient habitat quality, quantity, and spatial configuration to support these populations is retained/protected or secured in the long-term.

A viable population, for purposes of Florida panther recovery, has been defined as one in which there is a 95 percent probability of persistence for 100 years. This population may be distributed in a metapopulation structure composed of subpopulations that total the appropriate number of individuals. There must be exchange of individuals and gene flow among subpopulations. For downlisting, exchange of individuals and gene flow can be either natural or through management. If managed, a commitment to such management must be formally documented and funded. For delisting, exchange of individuals and gene flow among subpopulations must be natural (*i.e.*, not manipulated or managed). Habitat should be in relatively unfragmented blocks that provide for food, shelter, and characteristic movements (*e.g.*, hunting, breeding, dispersal, and territorial behavior) and support each metapopulation at a density of 2 to 3 animals per 100 square miles (259 square kilometers), resulting in a minimum of 8,000 to 12,000 square miles (20,720 to 31,080 square kilometers) per metapopulation of 240 panthers.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the recovery plan described. We will consider all comments received by the date specified above prior to a decision on final approval of the revised recovery plan.

Our practice is to make all comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. In some circumstances, we would withhold also from the record a respondent's identity,

as allowable by law. If you wish for us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

#### Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: January 11, 2006.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Land Acquisitions; Snoqualmie Tribe of Washington

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of final agency determination to take land into trust under 25 CFR Part 151.

**SUMMARY:** The Associate Deputy Secretary made a final agency determination to acquire approximately 55.84 acres of land into trust for the Snoqualmie Tribe of Washington on January 13, 2006. This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Associate Deputy Secretary.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Skibine, Office of Indian Gaming Management, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, MS-4600 MIB, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240; Telephone (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published to comply with the requirement of 25 CFR Part 151.12(b) that notice be given to the public of the Secretary's decision to acquire land in trust at least 30 days prior to signatory acceptance of the land into trust. The purpose of the 30-day waiting period in 25 CFR Part 151.12(b) is to afford interested parties the opportunity to seek judicial review of final administrative decisions to take land in trust for Indian tribes and individual Indians before transfer of title to the property occurs. On January 13, 2006, the Associate Deputy Secretary decided