APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2003 FUNDING AWARDS FOR RURAL HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—Continued

Applicant	City	State	Award dollars
Community Unified Today, Inc.	Geneva	NY	150,000
Adams Brown County Economic Opportunities	Georgetown	OH	140,572
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla	Pendleton	OR	150,000
Confederated Tribes of Coos	Coos Bay	OR	150,000
Options for Southern Oregon, Inc.	Grants Pass	OR	108,625
Community Action Southwest	North Apollo	PA	148,988
Lakota Fund	Kyle	SD	150,000
Four Bands Community Fund, Inc.	Eagle Butte	SD	100,000
West Tennessee Legal Services	Jackson	TN	150,000
Amigos Del Valle, Inc.	Mission	TX	150,000
Texas Rural Legal Aid	Austin	TX	150,000
Rural Housing Development Corporation	Provo	UT	150,000
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	Carnation	WA	140,000
Makah Housing Authority	Neah Bay	WA	150,000
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	Keshena	WI	150,000
Ho-Chunk Nation	Black River Falls	WI	126,626
Preservation Alliance of West Virginia	Charleston	WV	150,000
Total			24,590,272

[FR Doc. 04–1098 Filed 1–16–04; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4210–29–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Draft Recovery Plan for Behren's Silverspot Butterfly (*Speyeria zerene behrensii*)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability for review and comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (''we'') announces the availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for Behren's Silverspot Butterfly (*Speyeria zerene behrensii*). This draft recovery plan includes specific criteria and measures to be taken in order to effectively recover the species to the point where delisting is warranted. We solicit review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on this draft recovery plan.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before March 22, 2004 to receive our consideration.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the recovery plan are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the following location: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, California 95521. Requests for copies of the draft recovery plan and written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Electronic comments on the draft recovery plan can be sent via e-mail to: *fw1_behrenssilverspot@fws.gov.* An electronic copy of the draft recovery plan is also available at *http://www.pacific.fws.gov/ecoservices/endangered/recovery/default.htm.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Watkins, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Arcata address (telephone: 707–822–7201).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Recovery of endangered or threatened animals and plants is a primary goal of our endangered species program and the Endangered Species Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Recovery means improvement of the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer appropriate under the criteria set out in section 4(a)(1) of the Act. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

The Act requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. We will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. Substantive technical comments may result in changes to the plan. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plan, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individual responses to comments will not be provided.

The Behren's silverspot butterfly occupies early successional coastal terrace prairie habitat that contains *Viola adunca* (early blue violet), the larval host plant, adult nectar sources, and adult courtship areas. Several populations have apparently been extirpated, and the species likely remains at a single location near Point Arena, Mendocino County, California. It was federally listed as an endangered species on December 5, 1997 (62 FR 64306). Threats include invasion by exotic species, natural succession, fire suppression, residential development, and collection.

This draft recovery plan includes conservation measures designed to ensure that a self-sustaining population of Behren's silverspot butterfly will continue to exist, distributed throughout its extant and historic range. Specific recovery actions focus on protection and management of suitable habitat with larval food plants. The draft recovery plan also addresses the need to re-establish multiple populations of Behren's silverspot butterfly within its historic range. The ultimate objective of this recovery plan is to delist Behren's silverspot butterfly through implementation of a variety of recovery

actions including: (1) Protecting existing habitat; (2) locating or establishing new metapopulations; (3) developing and implementing management plans; (4) monitoring metapopulations and habitat; and (5) reducing take and sources of mortality.

Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the draft recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered in developing a final recovery plan.

Authority

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

Dated: November 5, 2003.

Steve Thompson,

Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Region 1, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 04–1121 Filed 1–16–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Proposed Safe Harbor Agreement for Fender's Blue Butterfly and Kincaid's Lupine in the Dallas Oak Savanna, Polk County, OR

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (we, the Service) has received an application from Clem and Barbara Starck (Applicants) for an enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA). The permit application includes a proposed Safe Harbor Agreement (Agreement) between the Applicants and the Service that allows for management and conservation of the endangered Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*) and the threatened Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus kincaidii*) on approximately 20 acres (ac) of land owned and managed by the Applicants. The Agreement is intended to facilitate the implementation of conservation measures for the species and to support on-going efforts to reintroduce Kincaid's lupine into areas where it historically occurred and where Fender's blue butterfly will be encouraged to colonize. The Applicants propose to introduce Kincaid's lupine onto their lands and conduct related monitoring activities with the assistance of the Institute for Applied Ecology. Although the Fender's blue butterfly does not currently occur on the property, restoration of its native habitat might encourage colonization over time. If natural colonization appears to be unlikely, introduction of the butterfly to the restored habitat would be considered.

The proposed Agreement and ESA survival enhancement permit may be eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This is evaluated in an Environmental Action Statement, which is also available for public review.

DATES: Written comments must be received by close of business on February 19, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Kemper McMaster, State Supervisor, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office, 2600 SE 98th Avenue, Suite 100, Portland, Oregon 97266, facsimile number (503) 231–6195 (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION,** Public Review and Comment).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Szlemp, Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist, at the above address or by calling (503) 231–6179.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Review and Comment

Individuals wishing copies of the permit application, the Environmental Action Statement, or copies of the full text of the proposed Agreement should contact the office and personnel listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above. Documents also will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at this office (see **ADDRESSES**).

The Service provides this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA and pursuant to implementing regulations for NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6). All comments received on the permit application and proposed Agreement, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and may be released to the public. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. All submissions from organizations or companies, or from individuals representing organizations or companies, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

Background

Fender's blue butterfly is one of about a dozen subspecies of Boisduval's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides*). Boisduval's blue butterfly is found in western North America; the subspecies, *fenderi,* is restricted to the Willamette Valley, Oregon. This subspecies was thought to be extinct until its rediscovery in Benton County in 1989. Kincaid's lupine is a subspecies of the sulfur lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus*), which occurs on upland prairie habitats in western North America from British Columbia to California. Kincaid's lupine is the primary larval food plant for Fender's blue butterfly.

Past conversion of land to agriculture, urban development, fire suppression, and other factors have reduced upland prairie to approximately 988 ac, which is approximately 0.01 percent of its former range. Of this remaining prairie habitat, Fender's blue butterfly occupies approximately 408 ac and Kincaid's lupine occupies about 370 ac. The threat of habitat loss in remnant prairies continues through habitat destruction or degradation due to agriculture, urban development, forestry, grazing, roadside maintenance, and commercial Christmas tree farming. Sites not threatened by habitat destruction are threatened by herbivory, competition by nonnative species, and plant succession. Over half of the sites occupied by Fender's blue butterfly and Kincaid's lupine are privately owned, necessitating conservation actions on non-Federal lands to recover the species.

The Applicants, in partnership with the Service through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, propose to enter into an agreement to restore approximately 20 ac of upland prairie oak savanna habitat (Agreement #13420–1–J134). The project area had been a hay field and horse pasture and was covered with a variety of hay grasses and weeds, including Himalayan blackberry and Queen Anne's lace. The project site consists of two fields, both of which have large Oregon white oaks growing along the edges. The site was determined to be suitable for introduction of Kincaid's lupine and may eventually support Fender's blue butterfly.

As described in the proposed Agreement, the Applicants and the Service would agree to carry out management activities that would restore 20 ac of oak savanna habitat for Kincaid's lupine and Fender's blue butterfly. The Applicants will maintain the habitat for a period of 15 years by controlling invasive plant species via bi-annual perimeter mowing, burning, or other means. In return for these voluntary conservation commitments, an ESA 10(a)(1)(A) permit, if approved, would extend assurances to the Applicants, including authorization to return the property to its original baseline condition at the end of the 15-year term of the Agreement.