

to sedimentation (excess sediments suspended or deposited in a stream), nutrification (excessive nutrients present, such as nitrogen and phosphorus), and barriers or restrictions to stream flow.

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Act and of our endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, we prepare recovery plans for most listed species. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing recovery measures.

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 us to provide public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment during recovery plan development. A notice of availability of the technical agency draft for the vermilion darter was published in the **Federal Register** on July 21, 2005 (70 FR 42087). A 60-day comment period was opened with the notice, closing on September 19, 2005. We received comments from four parties, including comments from one peer reviewer of the recovery plan. Comments and information submitted were considered in the preparation of this final plan and, where appropriate, incorporated.

The objective of this recovery plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of the vermilion darter until that protection under the Act is no longer necessary. As recovery criteria are met, the status of the species will be reviewed, and it will be considered for removal from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants (50 CFR part 17). Actions needed to recover the vermilion darter include: (1) Protect vermilion darter populations and habitat; (2) ensure and support implementation of effective protective actions; (3) determine habitat requirements and population information of the vermilion darter; (4) determine the necessary husbandry techniques of the species, to produce them in captivity and establish an additional population in the known range; (5) identify, acquire, and restore properties in the Turkey Creek watershed; and (6) promote partnerships and voluntary stewardship within the watershed.

Authority

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

Dated: June 19, 2007.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. E7-15024 Filed 8-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[F-19155-3; AK-964-1410-KC-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving the surface and subsurface estates in certain lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Doyon, Limited. The lands are in the vicinity of Stevens Village, Alaska, and are located in:

Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska

T. 15 N., R. 5 W.,
Secs. 5 to 8, inclusive.

Containing 2,486.40 acres.

T. 15 N., R. 7 W.,
Secs. 13 to 36, inclusive.

Containing 13,748.13 acres.

Aggregating 16,234.53 acres.

Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Anchorage Daily News.

DATES: The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until September 4, 2007 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: The Bureau of Land Management by phone at 907-271-5960, or by e-mail at ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov. Persons

who use a telecommunication device (TTD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact the Bureau of Land Management.

Michael Bilancione,

Land Law Examiner, Branch of Adjudication II.

[FR Doc. E7-15019 Filed 8-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-310-0777-XG]

Notice of Public Meeting: Northwest California Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Northwest California Resource Advisory Council will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held Thursday and Friday, Sept. 20-21, 2007, in Redding, California. On Sept. 20, the council members convene at 10 a.m. at the BLM Redding Field Office, 355 Hemsted Dr., and depart immediately for a field tour of BLM-managed public lands near Redding. Members of the public are welcome on the tour, but they must provide their own transportation and lunch. On Sept. 21, the council convenes at 8 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Redding Field Office. Time for public comment has been set aside for 11 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rich Burns, BLM Ukiah Field Office manager, (707) 468-4000; or BLM Public Affairs Officer Joseph J. Fontana, (530) 252-5332.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 12-member council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Northwest California. At this meeting, agenda topics include an update on management proposals for the Sacramento River Bend, field office reports on minerals management, a report on the BLM Managing for Excellence initiative, and status reports on management plan development for Cow Mountain and Lacks Creek.

Members will also hear status reports on activities in the Arcata, Redding and Ukiah field offices and the California Coastal National Monument. All meetings are open to the public. Members of the public may present written comments to the council. Each formal council meeting will have time allocated for public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to speak, and the time available, the time for individual comments may be limited. Members of the public are welcome on field tours, but they must provide their own transportation and lunch. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation and other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided above.

Dated: July 26, 2007.

Joseph J. Fontana,
Public Affairs Officer.

[FR Doc. 07-3766 Filed 8-1-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

San Joaquin River Restoration Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a Program Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (PEIS/EIR) and Notice of Scoping Meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) propose to prepare a PEIS/EIR for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (Program). The proposed Program is expected to be implemented by Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), and the DWR.

DATES: Four scoping meetings will be held to solicit public input on alternatives, concerns, and issues to be addressed in the PEIS/EIR. The meeting dates are:

- Tuesday, August 28, 2007, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tulare, CA
- Wednesday, August 29, 2007, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Fresno, CA
- Thursday, August 30, 2007, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Los Banos, CA

- Monday, September 10, 2007, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sacramento, CA

Written comments on the scope of the PEIS/EIR should be sent by September 21, 2007 to Ms. Margaret Gidding, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way MP-140, Sacramento, CA 95825 or via e-mail at mgidding@mp.usbr.gov.

ADDRESSES: The scoping meeting locations are:

- International Agri-Center, Banquet Hall, 4450 S. Laspinas St., Tulare, CA 93274
- Piccadilly Inn, University, Ballroom, 4961 North Cedar Ave., Fresno, CA 93726
- Merced County Fairgrounds, Germino Room, 403 F St., Los Banos, CA 93635
- Library Galleria, 828 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Margaret Gidding at the above address, by telephone at 916-978-5104, TDD 916-978-5608 or via fax at 916-978-5114. Additional information is available online at <http://www.restoresjr.com>. If special assistance is required at one of the scoping meetings, please contact Ms. Margaret Gidding via the phone number or e-mail listed above no less than five working days prior to the meetings.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Development of the PEIS/EIR for the Program is being carried out under Congressional authorization granted to the Secretary of the Interior under section 3406(c)(1) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) and will serve as the initial planning and environmental review activities necessary to implement the Settlement described below.

In 1992, Congress passed the CVPIA (Pub. L. 102-575, Title XXXIV) in order to protect, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and associated habitats in California's Central Valley. Specifically, CVPIA Section 3406(c)(1) requires the Secretary of the Interior to "[d]evelop a comprehensive plan, which is reasonable, prudent, and feasible, to address fish, wildlife, and habitat concerns on the San Joaquin River, including but not limited to the streamflow, channel, riparian habitat, and water quality improvements that would be needed to reestablish where necessary and to sustain naturally reproducing anadromous fisheries from Friant Dam to its confluence with the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary."

In 1988, a coalition of environmental groups, led by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), filed a lawsuit challenging the renewal of the long-term water service contracts between the

United States and the Central Valley Project, Friant Division contractors. After more than 18 years of litigation of this lawsuit, known as the *Natural Resources Defense Council et al., v. Rodgers, et al.*, a Settlement was reached. On September 13, 2006, the Settling Parties reached agreement on the terms and conditions of the Settlement which was subsequently approved by the Court on October 23, 2006. The "Settling Parties" include the NRDC, Friant Water Users Authority, and the Departments of the Interior and Commerce.

The Settlement is based on two parallel goals:

- To restore and maintain fish populations in "good condition" in the main stem of the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River, including naturally reproducing and self-sustaining populations of salmon and other fish (Restoration Goal); and

- To reduce or avoid adverse water supply impacts to all of the Friant Division long-term contractors that may result from the Interim Flows and Restoration Flows provided for in the Settlement (Water Management Goal).

The Settlement states that the Secretary of the Interior will implement the terms and conditions of the Settlement. Additionally, the Settling Parties agreed that implementation of the Settlement will also require participation of the State of California (State). Therefore, concurrent with the execution of the Settlement, the Settling Parties entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State (by and through the California Resources Agency, DWR, DFG, and the California Environmental Protection Agency) regarding the State's role in the implementation of the Settlement. The "implementing agencies", which include Reclamation, USFWS, NMFS, DWR, and DFG, are responsible for the management of the Program to implement the Settlement.

Public Disclosure

Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail 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 review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.