

SYSTEMS EXEMPTED FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACT:

None.

[FR Doc. 03-22750 Filed 9-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**Office of the Assistant Secretary—
Policy, Management and Budget;
Intent To Reestablish the Joint Fire
Science Program Stakeholder
Advisory Group Charter and Call for
Non-Federal Nominations**

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Interior.

ACTION: Second call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture intend to reestablish the Charter for the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group. This is the second notice soliciting nominations for new members for the Group. Individuals nominated under the previous **Federal Register** published July 16, 2003 (Vol. 68, No. 136) should not resubmit materials. The Group advises the Secretaries through the Governing Board of the Joint Fire Science Program concerning research priorities on wildland fuels issues, post-fire emergency stabilization and rehabilitation practices, restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems, and fire management procedures on lands administered by Interior and Agriculture. The Joint Fire Science Program provides scientific information and tools to support the wildland fire management program.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below September 29, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit all nominations to Dr. Bob Clark, Joint Fire Science Program Manager, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Bob Clark, Joint Fire Science Program Manager, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705, (208) 387-5349. Internet: Bob_Clark@nifc.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Joint Fire Science Program was established in 1998 to provide scientific information and tools in support of the wildland fire management program. Since its inauguration the Program has funded 220 research projects. The results of completed projects are made available to field offices to provide guidance for

wildland fire management, and fuels treatment and rehabilitation project planning. All program projects require scientist-manager partnerships along with a strong emphasis on technology transfer.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will consist of not more than 15 members, 5 Federal and 10 nonfederal. This call for nominations will establish the nonfederal membership on the Group. Group membership will be balanced in terms of categories of interest and geographic regions represented. Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group. Individuals may also nominate themselves for Group membership.

All nomination letters should include the name, address, profession, relevant biographic data, and reference sources for each nominee, and should be sent to the address in the **ADDRESSES** section. Letters of support should be from interests or groups that nominees claim to represent. This material will be used to evaluate nominees' expertise and qualifications for advising the Secretaries on matters pertaining to research into wildland fuels problems, implementation of strategies and solutions for managing increasing fuel loadings, and post fire rehabilitation on federally administered wildlands. Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:

- Wildland fire suppression and operations
- Prescribed fire management
- Air quality and smoke management
- Burned area emergency stabilization and rehabilitation
- Fire ecology and ecosystem restoration
- Forest and woodland management
- Rangeland management
- Wildlife Management
- Soil and water management
- Conservation
- Social science and economics
- Modeling and remote sensing
- Tribal government
- State or local agencies
- Public at large

Each Stakeholder Advisory Group Member will be appointed to serve a 2-year term. Terms will be staggered to maintain continuity on the Group. Initially, appointment terms for half of the non-federal members will be for three years. At the end of the member's term, the member may continue to serve at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture for an interim period, which will not exceed 120 days, in order to ensure continuity on the Stakeholder Advisory Group.

Members will serve without salary, but non-federal members will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees. The Group will meet at least twice annually. Additional meetings may be called in connection with special needs for advice. The Department of the Interior's Director, Office of Wildland Fire Coordination will be the Designated Federal Officer who will call meetings of the Group. This notice is published in accordance with section 9 (a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C. App.).

Dated: August 28, 2003.

P. Lynn Scarlett,

Assistant Secretary—Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 03-22780 Filed 9-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-J4-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Illinois River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (NWFR), Havana, IL

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that the draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for Illinois River NWFR, Havana, Illinois. The CCP was prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and using the preferred alternative, goals and objectives, we describe how the Service intends to manage these refuges over the next 15 years.

DATES: Comments must be received by close of business Monday, October 20, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft CCP and EA are available on compact diskette or hard copy, you may obtain a copy by writing to: Illinois River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Complex, 19031 East County Road 2105 North, Havana, Illinois 62644. Comments can be addressed to the same address. The draft CCP and EA is also available online at <http://midwest.fws.gov/planning/Ilrivtop.htm> and comments can be submitted through the Web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Adams, Refuge Manager, Illinois River NWFR at 309/535-2290.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comprehensive conservation plans guide management decisions over the course of 15 years.

The Illinois River NWFR Complex includes three national wildlife refuges: Chautauqua NWR in Mason County; Meredosia NWR in Cass and Morgan Counties; and Emiquon NWR in Fulton County. The planning process began in 1998.

Three management alternatives were considered. Alternative 3, Refuge Resource Area Focus, is the preferred alternative. This alternative would increase conservation efforts in the Illinois River Focus Areas and enhance, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat within the boundaries of the Illinois River Refuges. There will be no expansion of existing authorized boundaries.

The CCP will identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

Dated: July 30, 2003.

Marvin Moriarity,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 03-22712 Filed 9-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Deemed Approved Technical Amendment between the State of Wisconsin and the Forest County Potawatomi Community.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Pub. L. 100-497, 25 U.S.C 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of approved Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through her delegated authority, is publishing notice that the Technical Amendment to the Class III gaming compact between the State of Wisconsin and the Forest County Potawatomi Community is considered approved. By the terms of IGRA, the Technical Amendment is considered approved, but only to the

extent the compact is consistent with the provisions of IGRA. The Technical Amendment provides the following: application of the arbitration section to the payment section of the Compact; deletion of payment to the University of Wisconsin; provision that state law will apply for any reimbursement payments to the tribe; and waiver of all sovereign immunity with respect to the enforcement of any provision of this Compact.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 8, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

Dated: August 26, 2003.

Aurene M. Martin,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 03-22788 Filed 9-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-4N-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan and Cachuma Project Biological Opinion, for Southern Steelhead Trout, Santa Barbara County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice to correct the date of availability of the draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR).

SUMMARY: This notice corrects the date of availability of the Draft EIS/EIR for the Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan and Cachuma Project Biological Opinion, for Southern Steelhead Trout, Santa Barbara County, California. An incorrect date, April 2003, was erroneously reported in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 43748, July 24, 2003). The correct, actual date for the availability of the Draft EIS/EIR is July 24, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Young, Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721, 559-487-5127.

Dated: September 2, 2003.

Frank Michny,

Regional Environmental Officer, Mid-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 03-22714 Filed 9-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Southern Delivery System Project, Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Regional Water Infrastructure Authority (RWIA) is proposing to construct a pipeline and related facilities known as the Southern Delivery System (SDS) that will deliver Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (Fry-Ark) water and non-Fry-Ark water from the Arkansas River near the City of Pueblo to an area east of Colorado Springs. On February 19, 2003, RWIA and its individual participants, the cities of Colorado Springs and Fountain, along with the Security Water District, requested a long-term water conveyance contract from the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). On July 14, 2003, Colorado Springs Utilities (Springs Utilities) made a request for a long-term storage contract for Pueblo Reservoir in association with this project. Because the RWIA proposal involves long-term storage and conveyance contracts from Reclamation, it has been determined that Reclamation should be the lead Federal agency for compliance with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for the dates and times of the scoping meetings.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for the locations of the scoping meetings.

Please send comments on potentially significant issues or the proposed alternatives to the attention of Pat Mangan, Southern Delivery System EIS, Bureau of Reclamation, Eastern Colorado Area Office, 11056 W. County Road 18E, Loveland, CO 80537; or FAX to (303) 445-6328 or (303) 445-2236; or e-mail to pmangan@do.usbr.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anyone interested in more information about the EIS or the project may contact Pat Mangan by telephone at (303) 445-2236 or by e-mail at pmangan@do.usbr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of NEPA, Reclamation will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to identify and disclose the environmental effects of the proposed project. Cooperating agencies may be identified at a later date.