

planning process will consider many elements including wildlife and habitat management, public recreational activities, and cultural resource protection. Public input into the planning process is essential.

St. Catherine Creek National Wildlife Refuge was established in January 1990, to preserve, improve, and create habitat for waterfowl. The refuge encompasses 24,125 acres and is located in the western section of Adams County in southwest Mississippi, 7 miles south of Natchez, Mississippi. The western boundary of the refuge is the Mississippi River with the eastern boundary following the bluffs and the southern boundary, the Homochitto River.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-57.

Dated: May 3, 2003.

**J. Mitch King,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of the Final Comprehensive Conservation Plans for the Five Refuges in the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that final comprehensive conservation plans (CCP) are available for each of the five refuges in the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex: Trustum Pond NWR, Block Island NWR, Sachuest Point NWR, Ninigret NWR, and John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove. These CCPs, prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 6688dd *et seq.*), and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, describe how the Service intends to manage these refuges over the next 15 years.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the CCPs are available on compact diskette or hard copy, and can be obtained by writing: Rhode Island NWR Complex, 3769D Old Post Road, Charlestown, Rhode Island, 02813, 401-364-9124. Copies of the

CCPs can also be accessed and downloaded at the following Web site address: <http://northeast.fws.gov/planning>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charlie Vandemoer, Refuge Manager, at the address above, or Nancy McGarigal, Planning Team Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Northeast Regional Office, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, Massachusetts, 01035, (413) 253-8562.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A CCP is required by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 6688dd *et seq.*). The purpose in developing CCPs is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife science, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, the CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation. These CCPs will be reviewed and updated at least every 15 years in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 6688dd *et seq.*), and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Dated: September 9, 2002.

**Dr. Mamie A. Parker,**

*Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

**Note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on May 15, 2003.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AK-962-1410-HY-P; AA-6649-C, ALA-2]

#### 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 lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Atxam Corporation for lands in T. 52 S., R. 73 W., and T. 53 S., R. 79 W., Seward Meridian, Alaska, located in the vicinity of Atka, Alaska, aggregating approximately 42 acres. Notice of this 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 June 19, 2003 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 99513-7599.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Waldal, by phone at (907) 271-5669, or by e-mail at [barbara\\_waldal@ak.blm.gov](mailto:barbara_waldal@ak.blm.gov).

**Barbara Opp Waldal,**

*Land Law Examiner, Branch of ANCSA Adjudication.*

[FR Doc. 03-12511 Filed 5-19-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-650-01-1220-JG-O64B]

#### Closure Order for Motorized Vehicle Use, Furnace Creek Canyon Road, Mono County, California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, United States Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of vehicle closure in Furnace Creek Canyon, White Mountains, Mono County, California.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the route through Furnace Creek Canyon is closed to motorized vehicle use.

**Order:** The public lands, located to the southwest from a point near the mouth of Furnace Creek canyon approximately 1.25 miles below the U.S. Forest Service boundary and 2.5 miles from HWY 264, are closed to the use of