

statutorily reauthorized several times since then. However, the Board's statutory authorization expired January 1, 2009. The advice and recommendations provided by the Board and its subcommittees fulfill an important need within the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service, and it therefore is necessary to administratively reestablish the Board to ensure that its work is not disrupted. The Board's 12 members will be balanced to represent a cross-section of disciplines and expertise relevant to the National Park Service mission. The administrative reestablishment of the Board comports with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C., Appendix), and follows consultation with the General Services Administration. The reestablishment will be effective on the date the charter is filed pursuant to section 9(c) of the Act and 41 CFR 102-3.70.

**Certification:** I hereby certify that the administrative reestablishment of the National Park System Advisory Board is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior by the Act of August 25, 1916, 16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, and other statutes relating to the administration of the National Park System.

Dated: January 12, 2009.

**Dirk Kempthorne,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. E9-1091 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-70-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park System Concessions Management Advisory Board Reestablishment

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Reestablishment of the National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior intends to administratively reestablish the National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board. This action is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of statutory duties imposed upon the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jo Pendry, Chief, Commercial Services Program on 202-513-7156.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board was

established by Title IV, Section 409 of Public Law 105-391, the National Park Omnibus Management Act of 1998, November 13, 1998, with a termination date of December 31, 2008. Extension legislation was introduced in September 2008 that would have extended the Board for one year. We anticipate action on this issue during the 111th Congress, but cannot predict if or when that will occur.

The advice and recommendations provided by the Board and its subcommittees fulfill an important need within the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service, and it therefore is necessary to administratively reestablish the Board to ensure that its work is not disrupted. The Board's six members will be balanced to represent a cross-section of disciplines and expertise relevant to the National Park Service mission. The administrative reestablishment of the Board comports with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C., Appendix), and follows consultation with the General Services Administration. The reestablishment will be effective on the date the charter is filed pursuant to section 9(c) of the Act and 41 CFR 102-3.70.

**Certification:** I hereby certify that the administrative reestablishment of the National Park Service Concessions Management Advisory Board is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior by the Act of August 25, 1916, 16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, and other statutes relating to the administration of the National Park System.

Dated: January 12, 2009.

**Dirk Kempthorne,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. E9-1082 Filed 1-16-09; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R4-R-2008-N0315; 40136-1265-0000-S3]**

### White River National Wildlife Refuge, Desha, Monroe, Arkansas, and Phillips Counties, AR

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and associated National Environmental Policy Act documents for White River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). We provide this notice in compliance with our CCP policy to advise other agencies, tribes, and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the planning process.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by March 9, 2009. An open house meeting will be held during the scoping phase of the CCP development process. The date, time, and place for the meeting will be announced in the local media.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, questions, and requests for information should be sent to: Mike Dawson, Refuge Planner, Fish and Wildlife Service, 6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite B, Jackson, MS 39213.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Dawson; *Telephone:* 601/965-4903, ext. 20; *Fax:* 601/965-4010; *e-mail:* [mike\\_dawson@fws.gov](mailto:mike_dawson@fws.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Introduction

With this notice, we initiate our process for developing a CCP for White River NWR in Desha, Monroe, Arkansas, and Phillips Counties, Arkansas.

This notice complies with our CCP policy to (1) advise other federal and state agencies, tribes, and the public of our intention to conduct detailed planning on this refuge; and (2) obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the environmental document and during development of the CCP.

#### Background

##### *The CCP Process*

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Improvement Act), which amended the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities