

would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Advisory Council.

Date: January 23, 2003.

Open: 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: The meeting will be open to the public to discuss administrative details relating to Council business and special reports.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 6, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Closed: 1 p.m. to Adjournment.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 31 Center Drive, Conference Room 6, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Cheryl Kitt, PhD, Director, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, 1 Democracy Blvd., Suite 800, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2463, kittc@niams.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 9, 2002.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 02-31828 Filed 12-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Library of Medicine; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Library of Medicine Special Emphasis Panel, IAIMS Site Visit—Cincinnati, OH.

Date: January 5-7, 2003.

Time: January 5, 2003, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Marriott Kingsgate Conference Hotel, 151 Goodman Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45219.

Time: January 6, 2003, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Marriott Kingsgate Conference Hotel, 151 Goodman Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45219.

Time: January 7, 2003, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Marriott Kingsgate Conference Hotel, 151 Goodman Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45219.

Contact Person: Merlyn M. Rodrigues, MD, Ph.D., Medical Officer/SRA, National Library of Medicine, Extramural Programs, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 301, Bethesda, MD 20894.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.879, Medical Library Assistance, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 10, 2002.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 02-31821 Filed 12-17-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Center for Scientific Review Advisory Committee.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Advisory Committee, Workgroup.

Date: January 27-28, 2003.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: Discussion of activities to evaluate organization and function of the Center for Scientific Review Process.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Rockledge Center, Conference Room 6087, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Brent B. Stanfield, PhD, Deputy Director, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 3016, MSC 7776, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1114.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: www.csr.nih.gov/drgac/drgac.htm, where an

agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 9, 2002.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 02-31824 Filed 12-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Reopening of Public Comment Period for Incidental Take Permits for the Alabama Beach Mouse

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of reopening of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service previously announced a public comment period concerning a notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. 67 FR 62809 (October 8, 2002). The previous notice indicated that the comment period ended on November 22, 2002; however, the comment form distributed at the October 29, 2002, scoping meeting incorrectly indicated that the comment period ended on November 29, 2002, inadvertently extending the comment period an additional 7 days. In order to assure that all interested parties are able to comment on the preparation of an EIS, we are re-opening the comment period for 15 days.

The environmental impact statement would address the proposed Gulf Highlands Area Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and issuance of two permits for the incidental take of the Alabama beach mouse. Comments previously submitted between October 8, 2002, and November 29, 2002, need not be resubmitted as they will be incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final determination on the proposal. These permits are for the construction, occupancy, use, operation, and maintenance of two residential/recreational condominium projects—the Gulf Highlands Condominiums by Gulf Highlands LLC and Beach Club West by Fort Morgan Paradise Joint Venture on the Fort Morgan Peninsula, in Baldwin County, Alabama.

DATES: Written comments concerning our intent to prepare an EIS and

concerning the HCP should be received on or before January 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the application and HCP may obtain a copy by writing the Service's Southeast Regional Office at Regional Office, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30345 (Attn: Endangered Species Permits,) or Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1208-B Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526 (Attn: Ms. Barbara Allen). Documents will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the regional office. Written data or comments concerning the HCP and our notice of intent to prepare an EIS should be submitted to the Regional Office. Please reference permit numbers TE-007985-0 (Gulf Highlands) and TE-031307-0 (Fort Morgan Peninsula Joint Venture) in such comments, or in requests for documents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Aaron Valenta, Regional Permit Coordinator, (see **ADDRESSES** above), telephone: 404/679-4144; or Ms. Barbara Allen, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Daphne Field Office, (see **ADDRESSES** above), telephone: 334/441-5181, extension 33.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed residential/recreational condominium developments will be located on approximately 196 acres in south Baldwin County, Alabama, between State Highway 180 and the Gulf of Mexico (Section 28, Township 9 South, Range 2 East) about twelve miles west of Highway 59 in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on the Fort Morgan Peninsula.

Some of the Applicants' future activities have the potential to impact species subject to protection under the Act, including the Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*). Section 10(a)(1)(B) permits non-Federal landowners to take endangered and threatened species, provided the take is incidental to otherwise lawful activities and will not appreciably reduce the likelihood for the survival and recovery of the species in the wild, among other permit issuance criteria. An applicant for a permit under section 10 of the Act must prepare and submit to the Service for approval a plan containing, among other things, a strategy for minimizing and mitigating all take associated with the proposed activities to the maximum extent practicable. The applicant must also ensure that adequate funding for implementation of the plan will be provided.

The Applicants have initiated and continued discussions with the Service regarding the possibility of Permits and

an associated HCP for their activities on lands to be covered by the Permits. General activities proposed for permit coverage include residential, commercial and industrial development, construction, and maintenance activities.

The Service previously considered the Applicants' HCP in an Environmental Assessment and issued a finding of no significant impact. 67 FR 17089 (April 9, 2002). That environmental analysis was challenged in an action for judicial review brought by Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth. The United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama granted a preliminary injunction against any take of the Alabama beach mouse pursuant to the permits previously issued to Applicants. *Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth v. Norton*, 207 F. Supp. 2d. 1310 (S.D. Ala. 2002).

Subsequently, the Service determined to revisit the earlier NEPA analysis for this HCP and the issued permits. See Defendant's Motion for Voluntary Remand, *Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth v. Norton*, No. CV-02-0258-CB-C (S.D. Ala. Aug. 8, 2002). The Service has decided, and announces through this and the previous notice, its intent to review the proposed HCP and the environmental effects of issuing the permits through preparation of an EIS.

The environmental review will analyze the Applicants' proposed HCP as well as a full range of reasonable alternatives and the associated impacts of each. The Service is currently in the process of developing alternatives for analysis. The alternatives identified to date are as follows:

Alternative 1—No action: The service would not re-affirm the ITPs.

Alternative 2—Development according to original Gulf Highlands Subdivision plat: A portion of the Applicants' properties were originally platted and zoned for single family residential development by the Baldwin County Planning Commission. This development alternative involves development according to the original plat or by additional platting and subdivision of the lands.

Alternative 3—Development with primary features occupying full width of the escarpment: Alternative 3 consists of the residential high-rise building complexes placed atop the escarpment.

Alternative 4—Development entirely north of the escarpment: This alternative would involve development of residential condominium buildings and infrastructure approximately 300 feet north of the escarpment for both projects.

Alternative 5—Development of portions of the escarpment with a 325-ft. habitat corridor between the projects: Alternative 5 consists of the development of the same number of units, but placed on different portions of the escarpment and adjacent areas. This development configuration would result in the preservation of an undeveloped corridor of ABM habitat approximately 325 feet wide separating the individual developments and connecting the interior scrub areas with the designated critical habitat to the south of the developments.

Alternative 6—Development of onsite mitigation including a 909-foot corridor connecting adjacent primary/secondary dunes and escarpment to the interior: This alternative increases the width of the undeveloped corridor described above and repositions the corridor to the west side of the property. This alternative provides for dedication of 105.5 acres of Applicant-owned lands into conservation status via covenants, conditions and restrictions attached to the property, and conditions of any ITP that might be issued.

Persons wishing to provide relevant information and comments regarding this activity should submit these to the above address. For information, please contact the individual identified above in the section entitled **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508), and with other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, policies, and procedures of the Service for compliance with those regulations. It is estimated that the draft EIS will be available for public review in early 2003.

Dated: December 4, 2002.

Sam D. Hamilton,
Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 02-31777 Filed 12-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for The Meadows, Douglas County, CO

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.