

will undertake the following actions: (1) Implement a prescribed fire program designed to maintain and enhance pine stand characteristics suitable for the Woodpecker; (2) implement forest management actions to enhance existing pine stocking densities and reduce hardwood canopies; (3) enhance future pine stocking densities by planting; (4) enhance existing Woodpecker clusters through construction of artificial cavities; (5) create potential new cluster sites using artificial cavity inserts; and (6) translocate individual Woodpeckers within the enrolled property to enhance pair-bond formation and establish new groups.

The Applicant's property currently supports seven clusters of Woodpeckers. Conservation measures proposed by the Applicant will enhance existing habitat conditions and contribute to the continued survival of the seven Woodpecker clusters currently residing on the property. In addition, the Applicant intends to similarly manage unoccupied habitat in a similar manner that will create suitable habitat for Woodpeckers. The Applicant anticipates that the proposed conservation measures will lead to additional groups of Woodpeckers inhabiting the enrolled property. Without the proposed Agreement, it would not be possible for the Applicant to undertake the proposed conservation measures and receive regulatory assurances from the Service through the Endangered Species Act.

Consistent with the Service's Safe Harbor policy and implementing regulations, we propose to issue a permit to the Applicant authorizing the incidental take of Woodpeckers, that occur on the enrolled lands through lawful activities on the enrolled land, as long as baseline conditions are maintained and terms of the Agreement are implemented. Future activities of the Applicant could result in a return to the baseline condition, but the Applicant has indicated that a return to baseline condition is not anticipated.

This Notice also advises the public that the Service has made a preliminary determination that issuance of the enhancement of survival permit will not result in significant impacts to the human environment and is, therefore, categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4331 *et seq.*) (NEPA), pursuant to 516 Departmental Manual 2, Appendix 1 and 516 Departmental Manual 6, Appendix 1. This Notice is provided pursuant to Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act. The Service

specifically requests information, views, and opinions from the public.

We will evaluate the proposed Agreement, associated documents, and comments submitted by the public to determine whether the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act and NEPA regulations have been met. If we determine that the requirements are met, we will issue an enhancement of survival permit under Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act to the Applicant in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and specific terms and conditions of the authorizing permit. We will not make our final decision until the end of the 30-day comment period and will fully consider all comments received during the comment period.

Dated: October 18, 2006.

**Jeffrey M. Fleming,**

*Southeast Region, Acting Regional Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Meeting Announcement: Sporting Conservation Council

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Sporting Conservation Council (Council). This meeting is designed to review wildlife conservation endeavors that benefit recreational hunting and wildlife resources and that encourage partnerships among the public, the sporting conservation community, wildlife conservation groups, and State and Federal governments. This meeting is open to the public, and will include a session for the public to comment.

**DATES:** We will hold the meeting on November 28, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on November 29, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. From 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on November 29, we will host a public comment session.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Riviera Room at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel Marina, 707 North Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, Texas 78401.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Phyllis T. Seitts, 9828 North 31st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85051-2517; 602-906-5603 (phone); or

*Twinkle\_Thompson-Seitts@blm.gov* (e-mail).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secretary of the Interior established the Council in February 2006 (71 FR 11220, March 6, 2006). The Council's mission is to provide advice and guidance to the Federal Government through the Department of the Interior on how to increase public awareness of: (1) The importance of wildlife resources, (2) the social and economic benefits of recreational hunting, and (3) wildlife conservation efforts that benefit recreational hunting and wildlife resources.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture signed an amended charter for the Council in June 2006 and July 2006, respectively. The revised charter states that the Council will provide advice and guidance to the Federal Government through the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture.

The Council will hold a meeting on the dates shown in the **DATES** section at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section. The meeting will include a session for the public to comment.

Dated: November 2, 2006.

**Phyllis T. Seitts,**

*Designated Federal Officer, Sporting Conservation Council.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AK-910-1310PP-ARAC]

#### Notice of Public Meeting, Alaska Resource Advisory Council

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

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

**DATES:** The meeting will be held December 13-14, 2006, at the University of Alaska—Anchorage campus, Library Building, Third Floor, Anchorage, Alaska. The December 13 meeting starts at 1 p.m. in Room 302A. The December 14 meeting begins at 8 a.m. in Room 307 with a public comment period starting at 1 p.m.