

and made available, expected to occur in late spring 2002, the public will have additional opportunities to provide comments to the Service.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

By Federal law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee). A CCP describes the desired future conditions of the refuge and provides long-range guidance and management direction to accomplish the purposes of the refuge, contribute to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and meet other relevant mandates. Additional goals of the CCP process include: (1) Conducting refuge planning in accordance with an ecosystem approach; (2) providing a forum for the public to comment on the type, extent, and compatibility of wildlife-dependent and other uses within the refuge area; (3) ensuring public involvement in refuge management decisions by providing a process for effective coordination, interaction, and cooperation with affected parties; (4) utilizing the best available science and sound professional judgement; and (5) ensuring that the six priority uses (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education, and interpretation) receive priority consideration during CCP preparation. Some of the topics to be addressed in the CCP include: wildlife and habitat management, habitat restoration, public use, and operation of a solar salt production facility.

Review of the CCP and associated EIS will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), Federal regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.

Refuge Information

The South San Diego Bay Unit of the San Diego NWR is located at the southern end of San Diego Bay in the Cities of Chula Vista, National City, San Diego, Coronado, and Imperial Beach, California. This Refuge supports a variety of habitats including open water, mudflats, coastal saltmarsh, and uplands. These habitats provide important feeding, resting, and nesting areas for thousands of migrating shorebirds, colonial nesting seabirds, wintering sea ducks, and other

migratory waterfowl. In addition, the Refuge supports three Federally endangered bird species (California Least Tern, California Brown Pelican, and Light-footed Clapper Rail), a Federally endangered plant species (salt marsh bird's beak), the Federally threatened Western Snowy Plover and Pacific Green Sea Turtle, and the Belding's Savannah Sparrow, a bird species listed as endangered by the State of California. Included within the Refuge boundary is a solar salt production operation that maintains about 1,050 acres of salt ponds. These ponds provide large amounts of food in the form of brine shrimp, brine flies, and other brine invertebrates, all of which are particularly important for shorebirds and seabirds.

The Sweetwater Marsh NWR is located in the southeast end of San Diego Bay in the Cities of Chula Vista and National City, California. This Refuge, which includes 316 acres of salt marsh and coastal uplands, provides habitat for two Federally endangered bird species (California Least Tern and Light-footed Clapper Rail), a Federally endangered plant species (salt marsh bird's beak), the Federally threatened Western Snowy Plover, and the State endangered Belding's Savannah Sparrow. Sweetwater Marsh functions as an essential link between the habitats in the region's Multiple Species Conservation Program wildlands, the South San Diego Bay Unit of the San Diego NWR, and the Tijuana Slough NWR in Imperial Beach, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Touchstone, CCP Project Planner, at (619) 691-1185.

Dated: April 12, 2002.

D. Kenneth McDermond,

Deputy Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-027-1220-PG; G2-0099]

Steens Mountain Advisory Council, Call for Nominations

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Burns District, Interior.

ACTION: Call for nominations for the Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC).

SUMMARY: BLM is publishing this notice under Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal

Advisory Committee Act. Pursuant to the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-399), BLM gives notice that the Secretary of the Interior is calling for nominations for vacating positions to the SMAC. This notice requests the public to submit nominations for membership on the SMAC.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the SMAC. Individuals may nominate themselves for SMAC membership. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Burns District Office, Bureau of Land Management (see address below). To make a nomination, submit a completed nomination form, letter of reference from the represented interest or organizations, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications, to the Burns District Office. Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:

- One person who is a grazing permittee on Federal land in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) (appointed from nominees submitted by the County Court of Harney County);
- One person who is a recognized environmental representative from the local area (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon);
- A person who participates in what is commonly called dispersed recreation, such as hiking, camping, nature viewing, nature photography, bird watching, horseback riding, or trail walking (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director of the BLM);
- A person with expertise and interest in wild horse management on Steens Mountain (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director for BLM); and
- A person who has no financial interest in the CMPA to represent Statewide interests (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon).

The specific category the nominee will represent should be identified in the letter of nomination. The Burns District will collect the nomination forms and letters of reference and distribute them to the officials responsible for submitted nominations (County Court of Harney County, the Governor of Oregon, and BLM). BLM will then forward recommended nominations to the Secretary of the Interior, who has responsibility for making the appointments.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below no

later than 30 days after publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rhonda Karges, Management Support Specialist, Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4433, or Rhonda_Karges@or.blm.gov or from the following web sites <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns> or <http://www.or.blm.gov/steens> (Public Law 106-399 in its entirety can be found on the Steens web site as previously cited.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the SMAC is to advise BLM on the management of the CMPA as described in Title 1 of Public Law 106-399. Each member will be a person who, as a result of training and experience, has knowledge or special expertise which qualifies him or her to provide advice from among the categories of interest listed above.

Members of the SMAC are appointed for terms of 3 years, except that, of the members first appointed, four members were appointed for a term of 1-year and four members were appointed a term of 2 years. The wild horse, dispersed recreation, local environmentalist, and grazing permittee positions were all 1-year terms and will expire August 2002. These four positions will all be replaced with 3-year terms, and will begin no earlier than August 2002. The no financial interest position was a 3-year term. The member of this position has resigned; therefore, the newly-appointed member will complete the existing 3-year term. This appointment will begin upon appointment and will expire August 2004.

Members will serve without monetary compensation, but will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for government employees. The SMAC shall meet only at the call of the Designated Federal Official, but not less than once per year.

Dated: February 7, 2002.

Miles R. Brown,

Designated Federal Official, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-330-02-1610-00]

Notice of Availability of the Headwaters Forest Reserve Draft Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office, and the California Department of Fish and Game.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Headwaters Forest Reserve Draft Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), have prepared A Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/ DEIR) for the Headwaters Forest Reserve located in Humboldt County, California. The Draft RMP and DEIS/DEIR comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the act authorizing the acquisition of the Headwaters Forest Reserve (H.R. 2107), and BLM and DFG management policies. The Draft RMP and DEIS/DEIR were developed with broad public participation in a scoping process which included three public meetings held in Eureka, Sacramento, and San Francisco, California. The Draft RMP and DEIS/ DEIR provide for a range of alternatives reflecting public input for management direction for the Headwaters Forest Reserve. Management is addressed on approximately 7,500 acres of public land with a state interest in the form of a conservation easement over the reserve held by the State of California and managed by the California Department of Fish and Game. Issues raised by the public and addressed in the Draft RMP and DEIS/DEIR include balancing preservation of old-growth forest ecosystems and threatened and endangered species with public recreation access, extent of trail access to or within old-growth groves, types of uses of a trail system, management of traffic impacts to local residents adjacent to the reserve, appropriate levels of watershed and forest restoration, and access of disabled and elderly to old-growth forest. H.R. 2107 provided specific planning direction to address scientific research on forests, fish, wildlife and other such activities

that shall be fostered and permitted, providing recreation opportunities, access, construction of minimal necessary facilities so as to maintain the ecological integrity, other management needs, and annual budget. Special designations include Wilderness Study Area, Wild and Scenic River eligibility and suitability, Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area, and Ecological Reserve (State of California designation). The action alternatives were prepared in accordance with applicable planning procedures.

DATES: Public comments must be received on or before July 22, 2002. Three public meetings will be held to solicit input on the draft: Eureka, CA: May 7, 2002; San Francisco, CA, May 14, 2002; and Sacramento, CA, May 15, 2002.

Comments on the DEIS/DEIR

Public comments may be submitted during the public meetings or in writing to the addresses provided below. Written comments on the Headwaters Forest Reserve draft plan/DEIS/DEIR will be considered in preparing the final RMP and EIS/EIR. Comments on the contents of this document are being solicited, particularly comments that address one or more of the following: (1) New information that would affect the analysis; (2) possible improvements in the analysis; and (3) suggestions for improving or clarifying the proposed management direction. Specific comments are most useful. Please note that comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, are available for public review and/or release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or street address from public review or from disclosure under FOIA, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Headwaters Forest Reserve Draft Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report may be obtained from the following Bureau of Land Management Locations: BLM, Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521, telephone (707) 825-