

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

	Number of respondents	×	Frequency of response	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
Reporting burden .....	20		1		20		400

*Total Estimated Burden Hours:* 400.  
*Status:* Extension of currently approved collection.

**Authority:** Sec. 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 35, as amended.

Dated: June 22, 2001.

**Wayne Eddins,**

*Departmental Reports Management Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4210-72-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

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

**ACTION:** Request for public comments on an environmental assessment for Nutria (*Myocastor coypus*) marsh damage reduction on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is requesting public comments on an Environmental Assessment (EA) for nutria (*Myocastor coypus*) marsh damage reduction on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The EA addresses research to determine the most effective methods for nutria control and implementation of a comprehensive control program throughout the range of nutria in Maryland.

The EA contains an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of four alternatives for managing Maryland's nutria population. Included is an assessment of potential impacts on federally threatened and endangered species, in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

**DATES:** All comments must be received on or before August 6, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the EA are available for review at the Dorchester County Library, 303 Gay Street, Cambridge, Maryland; the Talbot County Free Library, 100 W. Dover Street, Easton, Maryland; the Wicomico County Free Library, 122 S. Division

Street, Salisbury, Maryland; and the visitor's center at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, 2145 Key Wallace Drive, Cambridge, Maryland. The EA may be obtained on the web at <http://www.fws.gov/r5cbfo/nutria.htm>; by written request to Maryland Nutria Partnership, c/o U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chesapeake Bay Field Office, 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; or by calling Mark Sherfy, at 410-573-4556. Comments may be submitted by electronic mail to [nutria@fws.gov](mailto:nutria@fws.gov), or by writing to the Maryland Nutria Partnership at the above address.

#### Author

The primary author of this notice is Mark Sherfy, Chesapeake Bay Field Office, 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401, phone: 410-573-4556.

**Authority:** The authority for this action is the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Dated: June 13, 2001.

**Mamie A. Parker,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 5, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-16821 Filed 7-3-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Intent To Conduct Public Scoping and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement Regarding the Lincoln County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, this notice advises the public that the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding the proposed Lincoln County, Nevada, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and issuance of an incidental take permit (Permit) to take endangered and threatened species in accordance with

section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The possible Permit applicants include, but are not limited to: Lincoln County Commissioners, City of Caliente, City of Mesquite, Nevada Fish and Wildlife, Coyote Springs Investments, and Union Pacific Railroad (Applicants). The application is related to potential development activities in southern Lincoln County. The Applicants intend to request a Permit for federally listed threatened or endangered species and/or Evaluation List species. Evaluation List species include species that have been petitioned for listing, state listed species, species that have been nominated for inclusion by technical specialists, and other species of concern that co-occur with federally listed species. The Evaluation List is being refined as a part of the scoping process. In accordance with the Act, the Applicants will prepare a Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan) for, among other things, minimizing and mitigating any such take that could occur incidental to the proposed Permit activities.

The Service is furnishing this notice to: (1) Advise other Federal and State agencies, affected Tribes, and the public of our intentions; (2) announce the initiation of a 60-day public scoping period, and (3) obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be included in the EIS.

**DATES:** Written comments from all interested parties must be received on or before September 4, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and requests for information should be sent to Robert D. Williams, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234, Reno, Nevada 89502, telephone 775-861-6300, facsimile 775-861-6301. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed project area generally includes the area in southern Lincoln County, Nevada, north of the Clark County line, west of the Utah/Nevada state line, south of the southern Township 3 South line, east of the eastern Range 63 East