

the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and its implementing regulations.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires the Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a comprehensive conservation plan is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge system, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, plans identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

The purpose of this notice is to achieve the following:

- (1) Advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and
- (2) Obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental document.

DATES: An open house style meeting will be held during the scoping phase and public draft phase of the comprehensive conservation plan development process. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and state and local government agencies of the dates and opportunities for input throughout the planning process. The planning process for the Louisiana Wetland Management District and Handy Brake National Wildlife Refuge will be conducted in conjunction with each other.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests for more information regarding the Louisiana Wetland Management District planning process should be sent to Lindy Garner, Planning Biologist, North Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 11372 Highway 143, Farmerville, Louisiana 71241; Telephone: (318) 726-4222 x5; Fax: (318) 726-4667; Electronic-mail: northlarefuges@fws.gov. To ensure consideration, written comments must be received no later than November 25, 2005. Our practice is to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that

we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Louisiana Wetland Management District was established in September 1990 “* * * for conservation purposes * * *” 7 U.S.C. 2002 (Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act). Most of the 37 Farm Service Agency easements, 10 fee title tracts, and 4 leases are concentrated in northeastern Louisiana. In 1988, the first fee title transfer of a Farm Service Agency tract in the Southeast Region resulted in the establishment of Handy Brake National Wildlife Refuge. The wetland management district currently oversees Fish and Wildlife Service interests on about 10,000 acres. This refuge is combined with D’Arbonne, Upper Ouachita, Black Bayou Lake, and Red River National Wildlife Refuges to form the North Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The wetland management district encompasses several parishes in the northern half of Louisiana: Natchitoches, Grant, Richland, Morehouse, West Carroll, and East Carroll.

Habitat management within the wetland management district focuses primarily on reforestation of marginal agricultural areas and development and maintenance of moist-soil units. Mowing, disking, burning, and/or spraying is periodically required to maintain early successional stages.

The varied habitat on lands within the wetland management district provide for a diverse array of wildlife. Bald eagles and peregrine falcons are known to occur on the district. Both are usually associated with large waterfowl concentrations. Small concentrations (<1,000) of waterfowl are seen on the easement tracts and on Handy Brake Refuge, depending upon the availability of water. Migratory songbirds also use several of the tracts and Handy Brake Refuge. Resident furbearers include fox, gray squirrels, rabbits, deer, beaver, and raccoon.

There are limited wildlife observation opportunities at Handy Brake Refuge and other fee title tracts within the Louisiana Wetland Management District. The observation tower at Handy Brake Refuge had approximately 3,200 visitors during 2002.

A few potential issues to be reviewed during the planning process include water manipulation, beaver control throughout the district, and control of undesirable plant species, such as willow, cocklebur, and Sesbania. Control methods in the past included mechanical means, water level manipulation, and spraying.

The Service will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for State and local governments, agencies, organizations, and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. Comments received by the planning team will be used as part of the planning process.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: September 7, 2005.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 05-20318 Filed 10-7-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting topics are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

DATES: The ANS Task Force will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19, 2005, and Thursday, October 20, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The ANS Task Force meeting will be held at the Hyatt Dulles, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon, VA, 20171; (703) 713-1234. Minutes of the meeting will be maintained in the office of Chief, Division of Environmental Quality, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Suite 322, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203, and will be made available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Newsham, ANS Task Force Executive Secretary, at (703) 358-1796.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), this notice announces meetings of the ANS Task Force. The ANS Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990.

Topics to be covered during the ANS Task Force meeting include: Federal member, Committee, and Regional Panel reports; revision of the Strategic Plan;

regional priorities; 100th Meridian Initiative activities; Caulerpa eradication activities in California; Caulerpa national management plan; development of a national database of taxonomic experts; invasive species forecasting; and risk analysis.

Dated: September 26, 2005.

Everett Wilson,

Acting Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Assistant Director—Fisheries & Habitat Conservation.

[FR Doc. 05–20313 Filed 10–7–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR–010–1020–PK; HAG 06–001]

Joint Meeting for the Southeast Oregon, John Day-Snake, and Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Councils (TRI RAC)

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The TRI RAC will hold a joint meeting for all members on Monday November 7, 2005 from 8 a.m. Pacific Standard Time (PT) to 5 p.m. Tuesday November 8, 2005. The meeting will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end about noon. The meeting is being held at the Running Y Ranch Resort, Conference Room, 5500 Running Y Road, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601. Meeting sessions are open to the public. A comment period is scheduled for 10:15 a.m. (PT) on Monday November 7, 2005. The meeting topics to be discussed include: New member orientation and video, a BLM and Forest Service update by the State Director and Regional Forester, Congressional updates, and a panel discussion on RAC involvement. Grazing regulations, the wild horse and burro program, and planning and implementation updates will follow. There will be a panel discussion on volunteerism and outside funding, stewardship contracting, proactive strategies and a RAC restructuring proposal. There may also be other issues that may come before the Councils.

The Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council will hold a brief meeting Sunday November 6, 2005, at the Running Y Ranch Resort at 3 p.m. (PT) in the Board Room. The John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council will hold a brief meeting on Tuesday November 8, 2005 following the close of the TRI RAC meeting. These additional meetings will be to discuss the same

issues and concerns that are scheduled for the TRI RAC meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional information concerning the TRI RAC meeting may be obtained from Pam Talbott, contact representative, Lakeview Interagency Office, 1301 South G Street, Lakeview, Oregon 97630 (541) 947–6107, or ptalbott@or.blm.gov.

Dated: October 4, 2005.

Shirley Gammon,

Lakeview District Manager.

[FR Doc. 05–20321 Filed 10–7–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–33–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO–260–09–1060–00–24 1A]

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces that the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will conduct a meeting on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet Monday, November 7, 2005, from 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., local time. This will be a one day meeting.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board will meet at the Hotel Washington, 515 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC, 20004. The Hotel Washington's phone numbers are (202) 638–5900 or (800) 424–9540. Written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, National Wild Horse and Burro Program, WO–260, Attention: Ramona DeLorme, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada, 89502–7147. Submit written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting no later than close of business, November 2, 2005. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access and filing address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ramona DeLorme, Wild Horse and Burro Administrative Assistant, (775) 861-6583. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may reach Ms. DeLorme at any time by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–(800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Meeting

Under the authority of 43 CFR part 1784, the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board advises the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the BLM, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Chief of the Forest Service, on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands. The tentative agenda for the meeting is:

Monday, November 7, 2005 (8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.)

8 a.m. Call to Order & Introductions:

8:15 a.m. Old Business:

Approval of August 2005 Minutes.

Update Pending Litigation.

8:45 a.m. Program Updates:

Gathers.

Adoptions.

Facilities.

Forest Service Update.

Break (9:30 a.m.–9:45 a.m.)

9:45 a.m. Program Updates

(continued):

Adoption Strategy.

Program Accomplishments.

Lunch (11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.)

1 p.m. New Business:

Break (2:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m.)

2:45 p.m. Board Recommendations.

4 p.m. Public Comments.

4:45 p.m. Recap/Summary/Next Meeting/Date/Site.

5–6 p.m. Adjourn: Roundtable Discussion to Follow.

The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability needing an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting, such as an interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format, must notify the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although the BLM will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it.

The Federal Advisory Committee Management Regulations [41 CFR 101–6.1015(b)] require BLM to publish in the **Federal Register** notice of a meeting 15 days prior to the meeting date.

II. Public Comment Procedures

Members of the public may make oral statements to the Advisory Board on November 7, 2005, at the appropriate point in the agenda. This opportunity is anticipated to occur at 4 p.m., local time. Persons wishing to make statements should register with the BLM by noon on November 7, 2005, at the meeting location. Depending on the