

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Railroad Administration****49 CFR Parts 222 and 229**

[Docket No. FRA-1999-6439, Notice No. 6;
Docket No. FRA-1999-6440]

RIN 2130-AA71

Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of Public Hearings.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice of additional public hearings to be held in Chicago, Illinois and Madison, Wisconsin regarding FRA Docket Nos. 1999-6439 and 1999-6440. On January 13, 2000 (65 FR 2230), FRA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on the Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings (Docket No. FRA-1999-6439). On the same date FRA released a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEIS) (Docket No. FRA-1999-6440) pertaining to the proposals contained in the NPRM. In both documents, FRA stated that public hearings would be held in a number of locations throughout the country. On February 15, 2000 (65 FR 7483), March 22, 2000 (65 FR 15298), and March 29, 2000 (65 FR 16559) FRA published in the **Federal Register** documents regarding the locations of combined hearings on the NPRM and DEIS to be held in various cities. This document provides notice of two additional public hearings to be held in Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin. This document provides information pertaining to those hearings as well as repeating information previously published regarding hearings to be held after the date of this document.

DATES: *Public Hearings:* Public hearings will be held in:

1. Chicago, Illinois area on the following dates:
Western Springs, Illinois on April 25, 2000, beginning at 12 noon;
Chicago, Illinois on April 26, 2000, beginning at 9 a.m.;
Saint Xavier University campus on April 26, 2000, beginning at 5 p.m.;
Des Plaines, Illinois on April 27, 2000; beginning at 9 a.m.;
2. Berea, Ohio on May 1, 2000, beginning at 6 p.m.; and
3. Madison, Wisconsin on May 3, 2000, beginning at 9 a.m.

Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below for further

information concerning participation in the public hearings.

ADDRESSES: *Public Hearings:* Public hearings will be held at the following locations:

1. *Chicago, Illinois:* On April 25, 2000, beginning at 12 noon, at Lyons Township High School, South Campus, The Little Theater, 4900 Willow Springs Road, Western Springs, Illinois;
On April 26, 2000, beginning at 9 a.m., at The Field Museum of Natural History (James Simpson Theater) 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60605;
On April 26, 2000, beginning at 5 p.m., at Saint Xavier University (McGuire Hall) 3700 West 103rd Street, Chicago, Illinois 60655;
On April 27, 2000, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Federal Aviation Administration (The Minnesota Room), 2300 East Devon Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018; and
2. *Berea, Ohio:* Baldwin-Wallace College, Kleist Center for Art and Drama, 95 E. Bagley Road, Berea, Ohio 44017; and
3. *Madison, Wisconsin:* The Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club (Madison Wisconsin Room), 1 West Dayton Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.

FRA Docket Clerk: Docket Clerk, Office of Chief Counsel, Mail Stop 10, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20590. E-mail address for the FRA Docket Clerk is renee.bridgers@fra.dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ron Ries, Office of Safety, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: 202-493-6299); or Mark Tessler, Office of Chief Counsel, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: 202-493-6038).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Any person wishing to provide testimony at one of the public hearings should notify FRA's Docket Clerk at the address above at least three working days prior to the date of the hearing. The notification should also provide either a telephone number or e-mail address at which the person may be contacted. If a participant will be representing an organization, please indicate the name of the organization.

FRA will attempt to accommodate all persons wishing to provide testimony, however depending on the number of people wishing to participate, FRA may find it necessary to limit the length of oral comments to accommodate as many people as possible. Participants may

wish to submit a complete written statement for inclusion in the record, while orally summarizing the points made in that statement.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 18, 2000.

Michael T. Haley,

Deputy Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration.

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BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****50 CFR Part 17**

RIN 1018-AF79

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Proposed Critical Habitat Determination for the Plant *Silene spaldingii* (Spalding's Catchfly) and Reopening of Comment Period

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of critical habitat determination and reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, propose a critical habitat determination for *Silene spaldingii* (Spalding's catchfly) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) and reopen the comment period on the proposed rule to list this species. On December 3, 1999, we proposed to list *S. spaldingii* as a threatened species. The proposed rule stated that we would publish a critical habitat determination for *S. spaldingii* in the **Federal Register** subsequent to the proposed rule. We now propose that designation of critical habitat is prudent for *S. spaldingii*. We request comments on this proposed prudency determination and reopen the comment period for the proposed listing. We will make the final prudency determination with the final listing determination for *S. spaldingii*. If this final determination is that a critical habitat designation is prudent, we will develop a proposal to designate critical habitat for *S. spaldingii* as soon as feasible, considering our workload priorities and budgetary capabilities.

DATES: Comments from all interested parties must be received by June 23, 2000. Public hearing requests must be received by June 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to the Supervisor, Snake River Basin Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,