

- Quality Inn-South Mountain, 5121 E. LaPuente St. (Elliot Rd. & I-10), Ahwatukee, Arizona.
- Coolidge High School Auditorium, 800 W. Northern Ave., Coolidge, Arizona.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sandra Eto, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, Phoenix Area Office (Code: PXAO-150) 23636 N. 7th Street, PO Box 9980, Phoenix, AZ 85068; Telephone (602) 870-6771.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 (CRBPA) authorized the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), acting through Reclamation, to construct the Central Arizona Project (CAP). The CRBPA also authorized Reclamation to assist Indian communities receiving CAP water allocations with development of their water delivery facilities. In 1985, GRIC developed an agriculturally based master plan for rehabilitating and improving existing irrigation systems and agricultural lands, as well as developing new land and water resources. This plan was adopted by the Tribal Council in December 1985. Under the plan, an irrigation water delivery system and appurtenant facilities would be constructed to serve up to 146,330 acres of land.

On October 22, 1992, the Secretary entered into a water service contract with GRIC for the delivery of 173,100 acre-feet of CAP water annually to GRIC. To obtain the maximum benefit from Reclamation resources available through CRBPA, Reclamation and GRIC propose to use CAP-authorized funds for the design and construction of a common use irrigation delivery system. This common use irrigation delivery system would be capable of conveying irrigation water (including existing and potential future ground, surface, and CAP water resources) to a maximum of 146,330 acres identified in the master plan as having the potential for agricultural development. Plans also provide for enhancement of certain wildlife habitat within GRIC, and rehabilitation and betterment of the San Carlos Indian Irrigation Project (SCIIP) Joint Works, which are under BIA's jurisdiction. Reclamation would contribute resources to implement the agricultural development master plan in an amount that is equivalent to what would have been spent to design and construct a single purpose CAP water delivery system.

The major components of GRIC's agricultural development master plan include the following: (1) Development of up to 146,330 acres of land for agricultural use and construction of a

water delivery system to serve those lands; (2) development of riverine and riparian habitat areas associated with agricultural development; and (3) rehabilitation and betterment of SCIIP Joint Works, which would consist of (a) rehabilitation of Ashurst-Hayden Diversion Dam; (b) construction of sediment removal basins and designation of a sediment disposal area near the headworks of the Florence-Casa Grande Canal; (c) construction of a new concrete-lined Florence-Casa Grande Canal and rehabilitation and lining of the remaining SCIIP Joint Works distribution system canals; and (d) construction of an earth and soil cement-lined regulation reservoir. There would be no modification to the existing Picacho Reservoir, which would be available for temporary storage of drainage and floodflows.

Because CAP-authorized funds would be used to implement portions of the master plan, Reclamation will prepare a draft PEIS to evaluate potential overall impacts to the human environment from implementing the master plan. Once finalized, the PEIS would assist Reclamation in making decisions regarding use of Federal funds to implement portions of the master plan. For activities related to the master plan that require a Federal action or involve Federal funds, future NEPA documentation would be prepared as the specific design- and construction-related details are developed. Future NEPA documents would be tiered from the PEIS.

The draft PEIS will describe two proposed alternatives plus a no Federal action alternative. Under the preferred alternative, Reclamation would support and consider funding portions of all aspects of the agricultural development master plan. Under the second alternative, Reclamation would support and consider funding of all aspects of the agricultural development master plan that fall within GRIC's boundaries, and rehabilitation and betterment of the Pima Lateral portion of the SCIIP Joint Works.

Thus far, the following are significant environmental issues that will be evaluated in the draft PEIS: Potential loss of desert habitat and impacts to plants and wildlife, including threatened or endangered species; potential impacts to archaeological sites, and historic and traditional cultural properties; potential impacts to, and creation/enhancement of, wetland and riparian habitat; potential impacts to surface and ground water quality and quantity; potential impacts to Indian and non-Indian land owners, allottees and residents; potential impacts to the

socio-economic conditions of GRIC at large; potential impacts to Indian Trust Assets; and potential opportunities for developing passive recreational benefits.

Extensive scoping has occurred since the mid-1980's within GRIC, involving members of GRIC at all levels. This input was taken into consideration in identifying significant environmental issues to be evaluated in the draft PEIS. Therefore, no additional separate formal scoping meetings within GRIC are planned to be held in connection with the preparation of the draft PEIS.

The draft PEIS is expected to be completed and available for review and comment by late summer 1995. The authority for approving and filing this draft PEIS has been delegated to Reclamation.

Comments regarding the proposed action are welcome at the public meeting. To ensure consideration in the preparation of the draft PEIS, written comments should be sent to the address shown above by March 17, 1995. All public input received by Reclamation as a result of previous public involvement will automatically be considered in the preparation of the draft PEIS. If you would like to be placed on a mailing list for any subsequent information, please write or telephone Ms. Sandra Eto.

Dated: February 2, 1995.

Lawrence F. Hancock,

Regional Director.

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Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Application; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement To Allow Incidental Take of Four Threatened Species on Lands Administered by Plum Creek Timber Company, L.P. in the State of Washington

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS will consider a permit application by Plum Creek Timber Company, L.P. (applicant) to take federally listed species, under the provisions of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended. It will also consider the development of an unlisted species agreement. The Service is conducting scoping and hereby encourages

interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the issues which should be addressed in the EIS.

DATES: Written comments regarding the scope of the EIS should be received on or before March 10, 1995. A scoping workshop will be held on February 22, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Mr. Curt Smitch; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 3773 Martin Way East; Building C, Suite 101; Olympia, Washington 98501. Comments received will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). A scoping workshop will be held from 6:00–9:00 p.m. at the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel; Overlake Room; 300 112th Avenue S.E.; Bellevue, Washington 98004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Vogel, Wildlife Biologist; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 3773 Martin Way East; Building C, Suite 101; Olympia, Washington 98501, (360) 534-9330.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant has launched an effort to address species conservation and ecosystem management on approximately 171,000 acres of private land in the Cascade Mountains of Washington. The subject ownership occurs in a "checkerboard" pattern in an area commonly referred to as the I-90 Corridor. The term "checkerboard" refers to alternate sections of public and private land. This effort will include the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and application for an incidental take permit as authorized under section 10 of the Act. The applicant intends to request permits for the incidental take of the northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) which would occur as a result of timber harvest within a portion of the owl sites present on the subject property. There are currently more than 100 owl sites present within the larger 419,000-acre planning area.

The applicant plans to avoid the take of marbled murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus marmoratus*), but will likely include murrelets in the incidental-take permit application in the event take occurs accidentally. The applicant also plans to include grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos* = *U.a. horribilis*) and gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) in the permit application to cover circumstances where these species may occur on the subject property in the future and may at some point be subject to disturbance. The applicant is also addressing

numerous other species in the HCP and intends to request an unlisted species agreement.

As a further opportunity for interested persons to comment on these and other issues associated with this planning effort, a scoping workshop is scheduled for 6:00–9:00 p.m. on February 22, 1995. The workshop location will be the Overlake Room of the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel, 300 112th Avenue S.E.; Bellevue, Washington 98004.

Interested parties may contact the Service at the address listed above to receive additional information, including a map for the workshop location.

Dated: February 1, 1995.

Thomas Dwyer,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 95-3079 Filed 2-7-95; 8:45 am]

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Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Application of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to the Pacific Coast

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) intends to gather information to prepare a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the application of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) on the Pacific coast. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) require publication of a notice to inform other agencies and the public on the scope of issues to be addressed and identified in the EIS. All previous public comments received by the FWS during the review of the 1993 Draft Coastal Barriers Study, conducted according to Section 6 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990, will be considered part of the information gathering process for this EIS.

Changes to individual mapped coastal barrier unit boundaries that would depict new development or structural changes are not within the scope of this programmatic EIS. All major issues raised during the public review of the 1993 Draft Coastal Barriers Study and maps regarding technical criteria used in mapping the units have been considered and will be addressed in the EIS. Any future changes to individual units in the current inventory will require the recommendation of the Governors or Congressional representatives of the affected States.

Please submit recommendations or comments on the scope of issues to be addressed in this EIS by 45 days after the publication of this notice.

DATES: Written comments should be received by March 27, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: CBRA EIS Team Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paula Levin, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 9732-4181, (503) 231-2068. Table "A" provides a summary of technical changes on the 1993 Draft Coastal Barrier Maps of California, Oregon, and Washington. No unit boundary changes were made in Hawaii, however, the EIS will address the applicability of the technical criteria to the coastal barriers in Hawaii, the Pacific Islands and the other affected States. The 1994 draft Coastal Barrier maps can be viewed at the central locations listed in this notice. The maps are being provided for informational purposes at the locations listed and only to county planning offices in those counties where unit boundaries were changed.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Coastal barriers are unique landforms that provide protection for diverse aquatic habitats and are the mainland's first line of defense against the impacts of coastal storms and erosion.

Congress recognized the vulnerability of coastal barriers to development by passing the Coastal Barriers Resource Act in 1982 (CBRA). CBRA (Pub L. 97-348) established the Coastal Barriers Resources System (System) that prohibits all new Federal expenditures and financial assistance within the units of that System unless specifically excepted by the Act. Congress took this action because Federal expenditures and financial assistance have the effect of encouraging development of coastal barriers. By restricting these Federal expenditures, Congress intended to minimize the loss of human life, wasteful expenditure of Federal revenues, and damage to fish, wildlife, and other natural resources associated with coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts.

In 1990, Congress passed the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (CBIA). The CBIA (Pub. L. 101-591) tripled the size of the System by adding coastal barriers of the Great Lakes and additional areas along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts. The System currently includes 560 units, comprising almost 1.3 million acres and about 1,200 shoreline miles.