

comments on the DEIS. Comments will be recorded on tape and transcribed by a court reporter, and will be part of the official record. Statements are limited to 10 minutes and must include the commentator's name in order to be included in the official record. Address and affiliation are optional.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ronald J. Schuster, Westwide Settlement Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, P.O. Box 25007 (Mail Code D-5010), Denver, Colorado 80225, telephone (303) 236-9336 ext. 237.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An identical notice is published in this **Federal Register** regarding extension of comment period on the proposed rules and regulations implementing the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982.

Dated: May 31, 1995.

Daniel P. Beard,
Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 95-13692 Filed 6-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

Travel Management Plan for Owyhee Reservoir, Owyhee Project, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), in accordance with the provisions of the Off-road Vehicle Use regulation and Executive Orders 11644 and 11989, is implementing a Travel Management Plan for Reclamation lands in the vicinity of Owyhee Reservoir, Oregon. The purpose of the Travel Management Plan is to provide appropriate and safe access to Reclamation lands.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The effective date of the travel management plan is June 5, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Owyhee Reservoir Resource Management Plan (RMP) Travel Management Plan map are available at:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Snake River Area Office, 214 Broadway Avenue, Boise, ID 83702.
- Malheur County Courthouse, Vale, Oregon, 97918.
- Bureau of Land Management, Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, OR 97918.
- Lake Owyhee State Park, PO Box 247, Adrian, OR 97901.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steve Dunn, Natural Resource Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, Snake River Office, 214 Broadway Avenue, Boise, ID, 83702, (208) 334-9844.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In April 1994 Reclamation completed a RMP and Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact for approximately 26,190 acres of land and 12,740 acres of water surface at Owyhee Reservoir in southeastern Oregon. The RMP was developed through extensive public involvement and interagency consultation and coordination. To meet the goal of providing appropriate and safe access to Reclamation lands consistent with Reclamation's Off Road Vehicle use regulations in 43 CFR part 420, a Travel Management Plan was incorporated into the RMP.

The Travel Management Plan designates all Reclamation lands at Owyhee Reservoir closed to motorized travel except for those roads and areas specifically designated as "open" for such use. Areas and roads designated as "open" are shown on Reclamation's Owyhee Reservoir RMP Travel Management Plan map in the RMP and available separately at the addresses above. This designation of "open" lands at Owyhee reservoir supersedes the Notice of Off-Road Vehicle Use published in 39 FR 46951, Aug. 9, 1979.

Dated: May 19, 1995.

John W. Keys, III,
Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 95-13573 Filed 6-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-M

Fish and Wildlife Service

Environmental Impact Statement for the Reintroduction of Grizzly Bears to the Bitterroot Mountains of Central Idaho and Western Montana

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public open houses.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces its intention to hold public scoping sessions in the States of Idaho and Montana, and in one major city elsewhere, to further identify issues and develop management alternatives for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the reintroduction of grizzly bears to the Bitterroot Mountains of central Idaho and western Montana. This notice is being furnished as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (CFR 1501.7) to obtain input from other agencies and the public on issues and alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

DATES: Public scoping sessions will be held in Boise, Grangeville, and Orofino, Idaho; Hamilton, Helena, and Missoula, Montana; and Salt Lake City, Utah, from

July 5 through July 11, 1995. The times and locations of the open houses will be announced in the local media and in mailings to interested public. Written comments should be received by July 20, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Questions and comments concerning these public scoping sessions should be addressed to Dr. John Weaver, Team Leader, Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Environmental Impact Statement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 5127, Missoula, Montana 59806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Weaver (see **ADDRESSES** section) at telephone (406) 329-3254.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Historically, the grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) was a widespread inhabitant of the Bitterroot Mountains in central Idaho and western Montana. The last documented grizzly bear was killed in the late 1930's, although occasional unverified reports persist. In 1975, the grizzly bear was listed as a threatened species in the 48 contiguous States under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). An interagency task force, working with a citizen's involvement group, drafted a chapter on grizzly bear recovery in the Bitterroot Ecosystem. Several scoping meetings were held in local communities of central Idaho and western Montana to gather public comments. The chapter developed for the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan calls for an EIS to evaluate a full range of grizzly bear recovery alternatives, including the reintroduction of four to six grizzly bears per year for 5 years to the wilderness areas of central Idaho as an experimental, nonessential population under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act.

During scoping meetings concerning the chapter on the Bitterroot Ecosystem and the Notice of Intent to complete an EIS (60 FR 2399), the public identified several issues. These included recovery needs of the grizzly bear, recovery options and statutory classification, boundaries of the recovery zone, location and costs of a reintroduction program, management authority, concern for human safety, control of nuisance bears, and possible restrictions on human uses of public and private lands. Preliminary alternatives suggested to date include—(1) no action (natural recolonization from other grizzly bear populations), (2) reintroduction of grizzlies as a threatened species (management similar to other grizzly bear populations), and (3) reintroduction of grizzlies as an experimental, nonessential population

(greater management flexibility under a special rulemaking). Additional alternatives may be identified through the upcoming series of public scoping sessions for analysis in the draft EIS.

A scoping newsletter details the EIS process; issues and alternatives identified to date; locations, dates, and times of open houses, and how to become involved. A 16-page booklet with answers to citizens' questions about grizzly bear recovery in the Bitterroot Ecosystem is available and will be inserted in the newsletter. Individuals who previously requested information on grizzly bear recovery in the Bitterroot Ecosystem will receive copies.

Other interested persons can obtain copies of these materials and be placed on the mailing list by writing to Dr. John Weaver (see ADDRESSES section).

Dated: May 25, 1995.

Terry T. Terrell,
Deputy Regional Director, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 95-13488 Filed 6-1-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a Permit Application to Incidentally Take the Endangered Karner Blue Butterfly in the State of Wisconsin

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent and meetings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared regarding an application from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Madison, Wisconsin, for a permit to allow the incidental take of the Karner blue butterfly (*Lycaeides melissa samuelis*) in the State of Wisconsin with an accompanying habitat conservation plan (HCP). This notice describes the conservation plan (proposed action) and possible alternatives, invites public participation in the scoping process for preparing the EIS, and identifies the Service official to whom questions and comments concerning the proposed action may be directed. Three public scoping meetings will be held in the State of Wisconsin on the following dates at the indicated locations and times:

1. June 27, 1995; Wisconsin Rapids, WI at City Hall, 444 W. Grand Ave., Council Chambers; 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

2. June 28, 1995; Siren, WI at the Burnett County Government Center,

7410 Cty. Rd. K, Room 165; 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

3. June 29, 1995; Eau Claire, WI at the South Middle School, 2115 Mitscher Ave., Auditorium; 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

There will be a presentation at 3 p.m. at each meeting which will address the Karner blue butterfly, the background and history of the HCP development process, the information available on the presence of this species in Wisconsin, activities which may be affected by their presence, and strategies to conserve the species while allowing land use activities to continue. Submission of written and oral comment and questions will be accepted at the scoping meetings. Written comments regarding EIS scoping also may be submitted by August 30, 1995, to the address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Janet M. Smith, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1015 Challenger Court, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Karner blue butterfly was listed by the Service as an endangered species in December, 1992. Because of its listing as endangered, the Karner blue butterfly population is protected by the Endangered Species Act's (Act) prohibition against "taking." The Act defines "take" to mean: to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in such conduct. "Harm" is further defined by regulation as any act that kills or injures wildlife including significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavior patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering (50 CFR 17.3).

However, the Service may issue permits to carry out prohibited activities involving endangered and threatened species under certain circumstances. Regulations governing permits for endangered and threatened wildlife are at 50 CFR 17.22, 17.23, and 17.32.

The WDNR is preparing to apply to the Service for an incidental take permit pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act, which authorizes the issuance of incidental take permits to non-Federal landowners. The largest populations of the Karner blue butterfly in the nation occur in this State. This permit would authorize the incidental take of the Karner blue butterfly, and, possibly, associated threatened or endangered species addressed in the HCP, during the course of conducting otherwise lawful land use or development activities on public and private land in

the State of Wisconsin. Although public and private entities or individuals have participated in development of the HCP and may benefit by issuance of an incidental take permit, the WDNR has accepted the responsibility of coordinating preparation of the HCP, submission of the permit application and coordination of the preparation and processing of an EIS for Service review and approval. The action to be described in the HCP is a program that will ensure the continued conservation of the Karner blue butterfly in the State of Wisconsin, while resolving potential conflicts that may arise from otherwise lawful activities that may involve this species and its habitat on non-Federal lands in the State of Wisconsin. The environmental impacts which may result from implementation of a conservation program described in the HCP or as a result of implementing other alternatives will be evaluated in the EIS. The WDNR and more than 30 other persons or entities are involved in the process of information gathering, development and preparation of the Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit application, NCP, and the EIS, which is being developed concurrently.

Development of the HCP will involve a public process that includes open meetings of the HCP team and its advisory subcommittees. Those involved in this effort include other State and Federal agencies; counties; towns; industries, utilities, foresters, lepidopterists and biologists; and representatives of various environmental and recreational use organizations. Conservation strategies to be applied to the lands will differ depending on the landowner, ownership objective and management capability. It is anticipated that implementation of the conservation strategies will be through an implementation agreement or cooperative agreement entered into by the landowner and the WDNR.

Alternatives

I. Statewide HCP and Incidental Take Permit (Proposed Action)

This alternative, the proposed action, seeks to address all lands which constitute potential Karner blue butterfly habitat and associated land uses in the State of Wisconsin, whether publicly or privately owned or large or small in size. Such lands include utility, highway and railroad rights-of-way; private and publicly owned forest lands; other publicly owned lands such as parks, fisheries and wildlife areas, and recreational use areas; and private and publicly owned land subject to other