

on the burden of disease, disability and death in various populations.

Contact Person for More Information: Linda Mitchell or Timothy G. Baker, Office of Genetics and Disease Prevention, NCEH, CDC, 2858 Woodcock Boulevard, M/S K-28, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, e-mail address: genetics@cdc.gov, telephone 770/488-3235, fax 770/488-3236.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Carolyn J. Russell,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Office of the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Announces the Following Meeting

Name: Guide to Community Preventive Services (GCPS) Task Force Meeting.

Times and Dates: 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m., April 14, 1998; 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., April 15, 1998.

Place: The Georgian Terrace, 659 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30308, telephone 404/897-1991.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available. The meeting room accommodates approximately 40 people.

Purpose: The mission of the Task Force is to develop and publish a Guide to Community Preventive Services, which is based on the best available scientific evidence and current expertise regarding essential public health services and what works in the delivery of those services.

Matters to be Discussed: Agenda items include: Setting priorities for the assessment of topics to be included in the Guide; report by the Methods Work Group; review and discussion of the draft chapter on Vaccine Preventable Diseases; discussions on cost effectiveness and plans for field testing; updates by the Tobacco Chapter Development Team, the Physical Activity Chapter Development Team, and the Violence and Abusive Behavior Chapter Development Team; evaluating the effectiveness of compound interventions; and plans for dissemination of the Guide.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Contact Person for Additional Information: Marguerite Pappaioanou,

Chief, GCPS Development Activity, Division of Prevention Research and Analytic Methods, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, M/S D-01, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone 404/639-4301.

Persons interested in reserving a space for this meeting should call 404/639-4301 by close of business on April 7, 1998.

Dated: March 25, 1998.

Carolyn J. Russell,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 98-8905 Filed 4-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Reduction of the Mid-Continent Lesser Snow Goose Population

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (hereinafter Service) intent to review aspects of the migratory bird regulations pertaining to the mid-continent lesser snow goose (MCLSG) population. The Service intends for this review to lead to proposed changes in the migratory bird regulations that would result in reducing the MCLSG population from over 3 million birds to a more sustainable population of approximately 1.5 million birds over the next few years. The reduction appears necessary to reverse the damage by these geese on the Arctic ecosystem which also provides important nesting habitat for many other species of migratory birds, some of which are species of management concern. Population reduction will also decrease the likelihood of avian disease outbreaks, such as avian cholera, that sometimes are associated with extremely high concentrations of waterfowl. The Service has attempted to curb the population growth of MCLSG through habitat management, expansion and liberalization of existing seasons, and increases in bag and possession limits. However, the population continues to grow and the geese continue to rapidly degrade their breeding habitats. Proposed regulatory measures, along with possible changes in the Service's habitat management strategies for MCLSG, may be the first of several phases needed to reduce the MCLSG population. Any subsequent proposals

will be noticed in the **Federal Register** and will be subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, as appropriate. As part of the first phase, the Service will prepare an Environmental Assessment for public review to evaluate migratory bird regulatory alternatives for reducing the MCLSG population. The Service invites public comment and suggestions on possible options.

DATES: Written comments are requested by June 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The public may submit written comments to the Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, ms 634 ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Paul R. Schmidt, Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, (703) 358-1714.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

"Migratory Birds" are defined in 50 CFR 10.12 as meaning any bird, irrespective of its origin in the wild or in captivity, which belongs to the species listed in 10.13, for the purposes of protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 703-712). Snow geese (*Anser caerulescens*) are among the species listed.

Mid-continent lesser snow geese (MCLSG) breed in the arctic and subarctic regions of Canada, specifically along the west coast of Hudson and James Bays and the southern portions of Baffin and South Hampton Islands. Beginning in late August, they migrate southward over the Canadian boreal forests and along the Central and western Mississippi flyways to their wintering grounds spanning across Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and New Mexico and into the northern States of Mexico. During migration, these geese stage at sites along the Central and Mississippi flyways such as the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District in Nebraska and De Soto National Wildlife Refuge on the Iowa-Nebraska border.

The MCLSG population has increased in the last 30 years from an estimated 900,000 birds in 1969 to over 3 million birds in 1996 and the population continues to grow at an annual rate of 5 percent (Abraham et al. 1996). Due to this high growth rate, virtually unlimited food resources in the lower 48 United States and prairie Canada, and a decline in overall mortality in the last 30 years, the MCLSG population has become a threat to itself and to other migratory bird species. MCLSG are destroying arctic and subarctic breeding