

any instrument or document relinquishing or transferring any right, title, or interest of the Department in real or personal property.

Authority: Section 7(d) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)).

Dated: September 9, 2003.

Mel Martinez,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-23514 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Central Utah Project Completion Act

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to negotiate an agreement among the Forest Service, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, the Duchesne County Water Conservancy District, the Moon Lake Water Users Association, and Department of the Interior to Implement the Uinta Basin Replacement Project, Duchesne County, Utah.

SUMMARY: Public Law 102-575, Central Utah Project Completion Act, Section 203(a) authorized the construction of the Uinta Basin Replacement Project. Responsibilities for the construction and operation of the project are described in four contracts executed by the Department of the Interior and the other parties on November 15, 2001. The purpose of the proposed implementation agreement is to identify the entity or entities responsible for monitoring environmental mitigation, to allocate funds, and to delineate and assign any remaining tasks and obligations (not included in previous agreements). The terms of the implementation agreement are to be publicly negotiated among the Forest Service, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, the Duchesne County Water Conservancy District, the Moon Lake Water Users Association, and Department of the Interior.

DATES: Dates for public negotiation sessions will be announced in local newspapers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information on matters related to this **Federal Register** notice

can be obtained by contacting Mr. Wayne Pullan, Program Coordinator, CUP Completion Act Office, Department of the Interior, 302 East 1860 South, Provo, UT 84606-6154, (801) 379-1194, wpullan@uc.usbr.gov.

Dated: September 10, 2003.

Ronald Johnston,
Program Director, Department of the Interior.
[FR Doc. 03-23543 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Approved Recovery Plan for the Great Lakes Piping Plover (*Charadrius melanotos*)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability of the approved recovery plan for the Great Lakes piping plover (*Charadrius melanotos*), a species that is federally listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This species occurs or may occur on public and private land in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas. Actions identified for recovery of the Great Lakes piping plover seek to increase population numbers throughout its range and to protect essential breeding and wintering habitat.

ADDRESSES: This recovery plan is available from the following addresses:

1. Fish and Wildlife Reference Service, 5430 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110, Bethesda, Maryland 20814 (the fee for the plan varies depending on the number of pages).

2. Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, East Lansing Ecological Services Field Office, 2651 Coolidge Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

3. The World Wide Web at: <http://endangered.fws.gov/RECOVERY/index.html#plans>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jack Dingledine, East Lansing Ecological Services Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** section No. 2 above), telephone (517) 351-6320. The Fish and Wildlife Reference Service may be reached at (301) 492-6403 or (800) 582-3421. TTY users may contact Mr. Dingledine and

the Fish and Wildlife Reference Service through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Recovery of endangered or threatened animals or plants is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. A species is considered recovered when the species' ecosystem is restored and/or threats to the species are removed so that self-sustaining and self-regulating populations of the species can be supported as persistent members of native biotic communities. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for reclassification to threatened status or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, requires that recovery plans be developed for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that during recovery plan development, we provide public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment. Information presented during the comment period has been considered in the preparation of the approved recovery plan, and is summarized in an appendix to the recovery plan. We will forward substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation to appropriate Federal agencies and other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions.

The Great Lakes piping plover, a sand-colored shorebird, was listed as an endangered species under the Act in 1985. It inhabits beaches on the Great Lakes during the breeding season of April through September, and winters on Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coast beaches. Nesting occurs on wide, sand and cobble beaches with little vegetation and disturbance. In its wintering range, the Great Lakes piping plover roosts and forages along beaches, dunes, sandy and muddy flats of the Atlantic and gulf coasts. Destruction of habitat, disturbance, and increased predation rates due to elevated predator densities in its habitat are described as the main reasons for this species' endangered status and continue to be the primary threats to its recovery. Fifty-one nesting pairs were recorded in 2002, all in Michigan and Wisconsin. Breeding has not occurred outside of Michigan and Wisconsin for over a