

materials to the Field Supervisor of the Colorado Fish and Wildlife Office (*see ADDRESSES* section). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Respondents may request that we withhold a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name or address, you must state this request prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. To the extent consistent with applicable law, we will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the Lakewood address (*see ADDRESSES* section).

#### References Cited

A complete list of all references cited in this finding is available, upon request, from the Colorado Fish and Wildlife Office (*see ADDRESSES* section).

**Authority:** The authority for this action is section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: March 18, 2004.

#### Marshall Jones,

*Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.*  
[FR Doc. 04-7165 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

---

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1010-PO]

#### Notice of Public Meeting, Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior, Montana, Billings and Miles City Field Offices.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held May 6, 2004 in Sidney, MT beginning at 8 a.m. When determined, the meeting place will be announced in a News Release.

The public comment period will begin at approximately 11 a.m. and the meeting will adjourn at approximately 3:30 p.m.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Jacobsen, Public Affairs Specialist, Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana, 59301. Telephone (406) 233-2831.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Montana. At this meeting, topics to discuss include: Field Manager Updates; Weatherman Draw subcommittee update; Billings shooting area subcommittee update; Access subcommittee update; and Other topics the council may raise.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided above.

Dated: March 22, 2004.

#### David McInay,

*Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 04-7125 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P**

---

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-110-; HAG04-0131]

#### Notice of Medford District Resource Advisory Committee Meetings; OR110 5882 HD

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Medford District Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Medford to tour project sites and to discuss proposed 2005 projects. Agenda topics include on-site inspections of 2004 projects and proposed 2005 projects, review of last meeting minutes, presentations on proposed fiscal year 2005 Title II projects, and discussion regarding proposed projects.

#### DATES:

1. July 15, 2004, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
2. July 29, 2004, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
3. August 12, 2004, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
4. August 19, 2004, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The field trips will start from, and the meetings will be held at, the Medford District Office, located at 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Gillespie, Medford District Office (541) 618-2424.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The field trips on July 15, 2004 and July 29, 2004 will begin at 7 a.m. The meetings on August 12, 2004 and August 19, 2004 will begin at 10 a.m.

A public comment period will be held from 2 to 2:30 p.m. on August 12, 2004 and August 19, 2004.

The field trips and meetings are expected to adjourn at 4 p.m.

(Authority: 43 CFR Subpart 1784/Advisory Committees)

#### Lance E. Nimmo,

*Acting Medford District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 04-7130 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-33-P**

---

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Availability of the Final Wilderness Study/Final Environmental Impact Statement, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of a final wilderness study/environmental impact statement (EIS) for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Wisconsin.

**DATES:** The draft wilderness study/environmental impact statement was on public review from July 11, 2003, through October 17, 2003. As required under § 3(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (Act), a public hearing was held on the draft wilderness study on August 27, 2003, near Ashland, Wisconsin. Responses to substantive public comments are addressed in the final EIS. The NPS will execute a record of decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability of the final environmental impact statement in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the final EIS are available upon request by writing Mr.

Jim Nepstad, Wilderness Study Coordinator, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814, by calling (715) 779-3398, extension 102, or by e-mail message at [apis\\_comments@nps.gov](mailto:apis_comments@nps.gov). The document can be picked-up in person at the park's headquarters at 415 Washington Avenue, Bayfield, Wisconsin.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jim Nepstad, Wilderness Study Coordinator, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814, or by calling (715) 779-3198, extension 102.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Act and the NPS management policies require that all lands administered by the NPS be evaluated for their suitability for inclusion within the national wilderness preservation system. The purpose of this wilderness study is to determine if and where lands and waters within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be proposed for wilderness designation. The study identifies four possible wilderness configurations within the park, including a no wilderness alternative, and evaluates their effects. Based on the findings of this study, a formal wilderness proposal will be submitted to the Director of the NPS for approval and subsequent consideration by the Department of the Interior, President, and Congress under the provisions of the Act.

Dated: February 12, 2004.

**Ernest Quintana,**

*Regional Director, Midwest Region.*

[FR Doc. 04-7136 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-97-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **Environmental Statements; Availability, etc: Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line Right-of-Way Crossing of the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, WI**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line Right-of-Way Crossing of the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, Wisconsin.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS)

for the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line Right-of-Way Crossing of the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (Riverway), Wisconsin.

**DATES:** There will be a 60-day public review period for comments on this document. Comments on the Draft EIS must be received no later than 60-days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. A public open house for information about, or to make comment on, the Draft EIS will be announced in the local media and the Riverway's Web site when they are scheduled. Information about meeting time and place will also be available by contacting the Riverway at (715) 483-3284 or by visiting the Riverway's Web site at [http://www.nps.gov/sacn/management/planning\\_docs.html](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/management/planning_docs.html).

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the draft EIS will be sent to over 100 interested parties, as well as to public libraries throughout the project area. Please check our Web site for a listing of the libraries to which the draft EIS will be sent. The draft EIS is approximately 500 pages long with many figures and oversize color plates. Due to the size of the document, it was not possible to provide it over the Internet. A limited number of hardcopies are available upon request for individuals or organizations with special needs. Additional copies are available on compact disk. To request a hardcopy of the draft EIS or a copy on compact disk, please contact the Superintendent, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, Attention: Jill Medland, or phone at (715) 483-3284 Ext 609.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jill Medland, Planning and Compliance Specialist, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, 401 Hamilton Street, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, or by phone (715) 483-3284 Ext 609.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Arrowhead-Weston Project (Project) is a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line proposed by Minnesota Power, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and American Transmission Company (the Applicant's) that would run 220 miles from Duluth, Minnesota to Wausau, Wisconsin. The governmental entity with approval authority for the overall Project is the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). The PSCW approved the Project in 2001 and re-approved it in 2003. According to the Applicants, and as reflected in the PSCW decision, the purpose of the overall Project is to (1) strengthen the bulk transmission system by providing

a second high-capacity connection across the Minnesota-Wisconsin interface and (2) to transmit electricity from the upper Midwest to markets in the eastern Wisconsin area.

The State-approved route of the Project would cross the Namekagon River, which is part of Riverway, at a location approximately 10 miles downstream of the city of Hayward in Washburn County, Wisconsin. The NPS has received a right-of-way (ROW) request from the Applicants to cross the Riverway with the State-approved Project. To reach a decision about the right-of-way request to cross the Riverway, the NPS is preparing an EIS. The Corps of Engineers (Corps) is a cooperating agency on the EIS, since the Corps would also need to issue a permit for the river crossing.

The Applicant's propose to cross the Riverway and the Namekagon River at an existing 161kV electric transmission line corridor granted to Xcel Energy as an easement by private landowners prior to NPS land acquisition in the area. All alternatives (except no action) would require additional right-of-way from the NPS. The following alternatives are under consideration for crossing the Namekagon River:

*No Action (Deny ROW Request):* The existing 161kV line would remain as it is on 70-foot wood poles (this alternative would require the Applicants to go around the Riverway and reopen of the State approval process);

*Alternative 1:* This alternative would double circuit the 345kV and 161kV lines overhead on 145-150 foot-tall single steel poles (Applicant's preferred);

*Short-span Option:* This option calls for the use of 130 to 150 foot-tall steel structures to carry each of three electrical phases, using bundled conductors for each circuit, with a pair of overhead shield wires, for the entire crossing.

*Long-span Option:* This option calls for much the same equipment for the right-of-way except at the actual crossing of the Namekagen River. At the river crossing, the Project will use shorter (125 foot-tall) steel structures set further back from the river, use of special long-span conductors which allows fewer conductors and longer span lengths, and the elimination of the two overhead shield wires.

*Alternative 2:* This alternative would have a single circuit 345kV overhead on 120-130 foot-tall single steel poles, underground the existing 161kV, and use transition structures at the overhead-to-underground changeover;