DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of the Secretary
Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission: Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, that a meeting of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission will be held on Thursday, September 16, 2010.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99–647. The purpose of the Commission is to assist federal, state and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for those lands and waters within the Corridor.

The meeting will convene on September 16, 2010 at 9 a.m. at Slater Mill Historic Site located at 67 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI for the following reasons:
1. Approval of Minutes.
2. Chairman’s Report.
3. Executive Director’s Report.
5. Public Input.

It is anticipated that about thirty people will be able to attend the session in addition to the Commission members.

Interested persons may make oral or written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made prior to the meeting to:
Jan H. Reitsma, Executive Director, John H. Chafee, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel.: (401) 762–0250.

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Jan H. Reitsma, Executive Director of the Commission at the aforementioned address.

Jan H. Reitsma,
Executive Director, BRVHNCC.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
[FR Doc. 2010–19616 Filed 8–9–10; 8:45 am]
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Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Indiana Bat; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on a Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the Indiana Bat (Myotis sodalis) at a wind power project in Adair, Sullivan, and Putnam Counties, Missouri (Project).

The meeting may be obtained from Jan H. Reitsma, Executive Director, John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel.: (401) 762–0250.

You may submit your comments and materials considering this notice by one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we use in preparing the NEPA document, will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Missouri Field Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section). You may obtain copies of this notice by mail from the Ecological Services Missouri Field Office, or on the Internet at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/permits/hcp/r3hcps.html.

Background

The Indiana Bat was added to the list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants on March 11, 1967 (32 FR 4001). It is currently listed as an endangered species under the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) The population has declined as a result of pesticides, agricultural development, and loss of forest habitat affecting the summer range. Impacts to caves used for hibernation have also contributed to population declines. White-nose syndrome (Geomyces destructans), a fungus causing infected bats to rouse from hibernation early and attempt to hunt for food, is now believed to be a cause of death in Indiana bats.

The range of the Indiana bat extends from eastern Vermont, western Oklahoma, southern Wisconsin, and northern Florida. Indiana bats migrate between their summer forested ranges and winter hibernacula, which typically are climatically stable caves and mines. During summer months, they forage for insects along streams, in riparian forests and floodplains, and in upland forests and low open areas. Males roost individually or in small groups throughout the range, preferring areas near hibernacula. Females, forming larger maternity colonies of 50 to 100, roost in dead or dying trees or living trees with broken branches.

There are no known hibernacula in the Project area or nearby. However, maternity roosts and maternity colonies have been identified proximate to and within the Project area. The Service and the Applicant have determined that the development and operation of the Project, in proximity to summer maternity colonies and spring and fall migratory flight paths, may affect the Indiana bat and their habitat, possibly resulting in the involuntary take of Indiana bats.

Shuteye, LLC continues to develop an HCP and plans to request issuance of an INCIDENTAL TAKE PERMIT (ITP) FOR THE INDIANA BAT (MYOTIS SODALIS) AT A WIND POWER PROJECT IN ADAIR, SULLIVAN, AND PUTNAM COUNTIES, MISSOURI. THE ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS; INDIANA BAT; NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON A PROPOSED HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND INCIDENTAL TAKE PERMIT

You may submit your comments and materials considering this notice by one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we use in preparing the NEPA document, will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Missouri Field Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section). You may obtain copies of this notice by mail from the Ecological Services Missouri Field Office, or on the Internet at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/permits/hcp/r3hcps.html.

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