

and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Refuge Administration Act.

CCP Alternatives We Are Considering

Lewis and Clark Refuge Alternative 1

No changes to the current refuge management programs would occur under Alternative 1. Habitat management would consist of monitoring refuge islands and treating invasive plant infestations as funding allows. Refuge staff members would continue to protect and maintain wintering and foraging habitat for migratory waterfowl, and nesting and roosting habitat for bald eagles. Existing public uses, including hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation and photography, would continue at current levels.

Lewis and Clark Refuge Alternative 2

Under Alternative 2 (the preferred alternative), current wildlife and habitat management would be maintained. Key refuge enhancements would include establishing or expanding partnerships for managing invasive species, recruiting graduate students to conduct wildlife and habitat research, and exploring options for managing Oregon Department of State Lands property within the approved refuge boundary. The refuge would also expand opportunities for wildlife observation and photography, study potential wilderness lands, and work with partners to ensure that dredge-spoil islands provide benefits for wildlife.

Julia Butler Hansen Refuge Alternative 1

Under Alternative 1, no changes to the current refuge management programs would occur at Julia Butler Hansen Refuge. We would continue to maintain and protect habitats, establish early successional riparian forest habitat, maintain predator management January through April, and continue wildlife-dependent public use programs.

Julia Butler Hansen Refuge Alternative 2

Refuge management changes under Alternative 2 (the preferred alternative) would include opening Crims and Price Islands to waterfowl hunting, closing portions of refuge lands along the lower Elochoman River to waterfowl hunting for public safety purposes, studying potential wilderness lands, developing two trails, and improving interpretive media. To achieve the recovery goals for the Columbian white-tailed deer, predator management would take place on an as-needed basis year-round under

this alternative. We would also expand the Columbian white-tailed deer population by establishing an experimental population upriver.

Julia Butler Hansen Refuge Alternative 3

Refuge management changes under Alternative 3 would include opening Crims and Price Islands to waterfowl hunting, closing portions of refuge lands along the lower Elochoman River to waterfowl hunting for public safety purposes, studying potential wilderness lands, developing a bicycling and hiking trail, installing interpretive panels, and developing curriculum for refuge study sites. To achieve the recovery goals for the Columbian white-tailed deer, predator management would take place January through August under this alternative.

Comments

We solicited comments on the Draft CCP/EIS from February 10, 2010, to April 12, 2010. Public comments were considered and addressed in the final CCP/EIS, resulting in only minor changes to the final document.

Public Availability of Documents

In addition to the methods in **ADDRESSES**, you can view documents at the following libraries:

- Blanch Bradley Library, 100 Main Street, Cathlamet, WA 98612.
- Astoria Public Library, 450 10th Street, Astoria, OR 97103.
- Clatskanie Library District, 11 Lillich Street, Clatskanie, OR 97016.
- Ilwaco Timberline Regional Library, 158 1st Ave. Ilwaco, WA 98624.
- Longview Public Library, 1600 Louisiana Street, Longview, WA 98632.
- Fort Vancouver Regional Library, 1007 E. Mill Plain Blvd., Vancouver WA 98663.

Dated: June 10, 2010.

Carolyn A. Bohan,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

**[L51010000.FX0000 LVRWB10B4040
LLCAC05000]**

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Walker Ridge Wind Project, Lake and Colusa Counties, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ukiah Field Office, Ukiah, California, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until September 13, 2010. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers, and the BLM Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/ukiah.html>. In order to be considered in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Walker Ridge Wind Project by any of the following methods:

- Web site: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/ukiah.html>.
- E-mail: ukiahwindeis@ca.blm.gov.
- Fax: (707) 468-4027.
- Mail: BLM Ukiah Field Office, Attention: Rich Burns, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Ukiah Field Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Bethney Lefebvre, telephone (707) 468-4000; address Ukiah Field Office, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, California 95482; e-mail: ukiahwindeis@ca.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant, AltaGas Renewable Energy Pacific, Inc., has requested a right-of-way (ROW) to construct and operate a 67 megawatt (MW) wind energy project with an interconnection to the Pacific Gas and Electric 115-kilovolt (kV) distribution system. The proposed action would include up to 42 wind turbine generators, an underground electrical collection system, a substation, a 115-kV overhead transmission line, an interconnect station, an operations and maintenance building, access roads, and a temporary laydown area. The EIS will analyze the site-specific impacts to the environment from the project if the ROW is granted.

The project would be built on about 500 acres within the 8,157.35 acre ROW on Federal land under the jurisdiction of the BLM within the Ukiah Field Office area.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. At present, the BLM has identified the following preliminary issues: Social and economic impacts, including impacts to the public from traffic; ground and surface water quantity and quality impacts; plant and animal species impacts, including impacts to special status species; cultural resources impacts; visual resource impacts; and impacts to lands with wilderness characteristics.

The BLM will use and coordinate the NEPA commenting process to satisfy the public involvement process for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) as provided for in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). Native American Tribal consultations will be conducted, and Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets, will be given due consideration. Federal, state, and local agencies, along with other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by the BLM's decision on this project, are invited to participate in the scoping process. If eligible, the agencies may request or be requested by the BLM to participate as a cooperating agency.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7.

Thomas Pogacnik,
Deputy State Director, Natural Resources.
[FR Doc. 2010-19958 Filed 8-12-10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Northwest Area Water Supply Project, North Dakota

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is commencing work under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) on a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northwest Area Water Supply Project (NAWS Project), a Federal reclamation project, located in North Dakota. A Final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD) for the NAWS Project were previously completed in December 2008 and January 2009, respectively. The Final EIS and ROD were challenged in U.S. District Court. A subsequent court order found the Final EIS to be insufficient in two areas. Therefore a supplement is being prepared to address those areas in more detail and any others that interested parties or the public may identify warranting additional analysis, as well as to re-examine and update, to the extent necessary, prior NEPA analysis that has been completed in connection with the NAWS Project to date. This notice is being published to inform the public about the preparation of the Supplemental EIS and to initiate a formal scoping period for obtaining public comment. The scoping period for the supplement will conclude 60 days following publication of this notice. Public meetings are scheduled as part of the scoping process.

Reclamation invites all interested parties to submit written comments or suggestions during the scoping period related to significant issues, environmental impacts, and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Reclamation will provide a separate project information document that describes the Supplemental EIS actions and how the public can become involved and participate. The project information document will provide details relative to the Supplemental EIS and is intended to assist the public in providing comments during the scoping period.

DATES: Public scoping meetings will be held during September 2010. See the Supplemental Information section for dates and locations of these meetings. Individuals who want to receive the additional project information document should contact Reclamation within 15 days following publication of this notice. Written or e-mailed comments on the scope of issues and alternatives should be received by October 12, 2010. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practical.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Bureau of Reclamation, Dakotas Area Office, Attention: Alicia Waters, P.O. Box 1017, Bismarck, ND 58502.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alicia Waters, Northwest Area Water Supply Project EIS, Bureau of Reclamation, Dakotas Area Office, P.O. Box 1017, Bismarck, ND 58502; Telephone: (701) 221-1206; or facsimile (701) 250-4326. You may submit e-mail to NAWS_EIS@usbr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Dates of Public Scoping Meetings

- September 13, 2010, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m., Bottineau, ND.
- September 14, 2010, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m., Minot, ND.
- September 15, 2010, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m., New Town, ND.
- September 16, 2010, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m., Bismarck, ND.

Locations of Public Scoping Meetings

- MSU–Bottineau, Nelson Science Center Room 125, 105 Simrall Boulevard, Bottineau, ND.
- Sleep Inn—Inn and Suites, North Convention Center, 2400 10th Street, NW, Minot, ND.
- 4 Bears Casino, Mandan Room, 202 Frontage Room, New Town, ND.
- Best Western Doublewood Inn, Congress Room, 1400 Interchange Avenue, Bismarck, ND.

The meeting facilities are physically accessible to people with disabilities. People needing special assistance to attend and/or participate in the public meetings should contact Patience Hurley at 701-221-1204 as soon as possible. To allow sufficient time to process special requests, please call no later than one week before the public meeting of interest.

Background

The Garrison Diversion Unit's Municipal, Rural and Industrial Water Supply (MR&I) program was authorized by the U.S. Congress on May 12, 1986, through the Garrison Diversion Unit Reformulation Act of 1986. This act authorized the appropriation of \$200 million of Federal funds for the planning and construction of water supply facilities throughout North Dakota. The NAWS Project is being constructed under this authorization.

The NAWS Project is designed as a bulk water distribution system that will service local communities and rural water systems in 10 counties in northwestern North Dakota including the community of Minot. The NAWS Project would convey water from Lake