

canoeing, and paddling; (9) all-terrain vehicle use; (10) bicycling; and (11) boating are also available within the CCP.

Alternative B will focus on augmenting wildlife and habitat management to identify, conserve, and restore populations of native fish and wildlife species, with an emphasis on migratory birds and threatened and endangered species. This objective will partially be accomplished by increased monitoring of waterfowl, other migratory and resident birds, and endemic species, in order to assess and adapt management strategies and actions. Additionally, information gaps will be addressed by the initiation of baseline surveying, periodic monitoring, and ultimately adding adaptive habitat management.

Habitat management programs for impoundments, greentree reservoir, wetlands, open waters, forested habitats, scrub/shrub habitat, grasslands, and open lands will be reevaluated, and step-down management plans will be developed to meet the foraging, nesting, and breeding requirements of priority species. Additionally, monitoring and adaptive habitat management will be implemented to potentially counteract the impacts associated with long-term climate change and sea level rise.

The control of invasive and exotic plant species will be more aggressively managed by implementing a management plan, completing a baseline inventory, supporting research, and controlling with strategic mechanical and chemical means. Additionally, the Complex will utilize this management plan and monitoring to enhance efforts to control/remove invasive, exotic, and/or nuisance wildlife on the refuge.

Alternative B will enhance our visitor services opportunities by: (1) Improving the quality of fishing opportunities; (2) implementing an environmental education program component that utilizes volunteers and local schools as partners; (3) enhancing wildlife viewing and photography opportunities by implementing blinds, a swamp trail boardwalk, and additional observational areas; (4) developing and implementing a visitor services management plan, (5) working with partners to develop a Complex visitor center, including a law enforcement office and maintenance facility with an attached visitor contact station; and (6) enhancing personal interpretive and outreach opportunities. Volunteer programs and friends groups also would be expanded to enhance all aspects of management and to increase resource availability.

In addition to the enforcement of all Federal and State laws to protect archaeological and historical sites, we will identify and develop a plan to protect all known sites. The development of an onsite office for law enforcement officers will not only better provide security for these resources, but will also ensure visitor safety and public compliance with refuge regulations.

Land acquisitions within the approved acquisition boundary will be based on the importance of the habitat for wildlife, management, and access. Alternative B also will develop a preliminary land protection proposal to achieve a congressionally authorized refuge boundary expansion of approximately 17,000 acres within the Atchafalaya Basin Floodplain to improve buffer conditions, contribute to biological objectives, close gaps between existing tracts, and improve public access. Administration plans will stress the need for increased maintenance of existing infrastructure and construction of new facilities. Funding for new construction projects will be balanced between habitat management and public use needs. Additional staff will be required to accomplish the goals of this alternative. Personnel priorities will include adding a visitor services specialist, assistant manager, biological technician, forestry technician, maintenance worker, and law enforcement officer to the staff. The increased budget and staffing levels will better enable us to meet the obligations of wildlife stewardship, habitat management, and public use.

#### Authority

This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: September 27, 2011.

**Mark J. Musaus,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7403 Filed 3-27-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R4-ES-2012-N063; 40120-1112-0000-F2]**

#### **Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for Alabama Beach Mouse General Conservation Plan for Incidental Take on the Fort Morgan Peninsula, Baldwin County, AL**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announces the availability of a final environmental impact statement (EIS), which analyzes the environmental impacts associated with issuing, in accordance with the proposed General Conservation plan (GCP), incidental take permits requested under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended, for take of Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*). For record of decision (ROD) availability, see **DATES**.

**DATES:** The ROD will be available no sooner than April 27, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted with the applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to either of the following offices within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: David Dell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30345; or Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1208-B Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. David Dell, Regional HCP Coordinator (See **ADDRESSES**), telephone: (404) 679-7313; or Ms. Shannon Holbrook, Field Office Project Manager, at the Daphne Field Office (See **ADDRESSES**), telephone: (251) 441-5871.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Final EIS analyzes the consequences of the proposed action, take of the Alabama beach mouse incidental to construction of up to 500 single-family developments potentially affecting an estimated total of 75 acres of Alabama beach mouse habitat, and alternatives to the proposed action. Individual land owners who would need incidental take permits (ITP) for single-family developments, and whose development proposal fits within limits evaluated in the GCP, could apply for ITPs using the GCP provisions instead of producing their own habitat conservation plans. The GCP evaluates issuance of ITPs with up to 50-year terms under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The GCP describes the mitigation and minimization measures proposed to address the effects on the species. On August 9, 2011, we published a notice of availability for a draft EIS (76 FR 48879) for a 90-day public comment period. For ROD availability, see **DATES**. The EIS analyzes the preferred alternative, as well as a full range of reasonable alternatives, and the

associated impacts of each. Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative) would implement the GCP as proposed.

*Authority:* The environmental review of this project is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508), and with other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, policies, and procedures of the Service for compliance with those regulations.

Dated: February 17, 2012.

**Mark J. Musaus,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7370 Filed 3-27-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNML00000 L12200000.DF0000]

#### Notice of Public Meeting, Las Cruces District Resource Advisory Council Meeting, New Mexico

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

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

**DATES:** The meeting date is April 11 2012, at the BLM Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, NM 88005, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. The public may send written comments to the RAC at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rena Gutierrez, BLM Las Cruces District, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, NM 88005, 575-525-4338. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8229 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 10-member RAC advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in New Mexico.

Planned agenda items include opening remarks from the District Manager, access issues, illegal trash dumps, and the Social-Economic Strategic Plan.

A half-hour public comment period during which the public may address the Council will begin at 2:30 p.m. on April 11, 2012. All RAC meetings are open to the public.

Depending on the number of individuals wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited.

**Bill Childress,**

*District Manager, Las Cruces.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7408 Filed 3-27-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Remanded Biological Opinions on the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Scoping Meetings

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent and scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation intends to prepare an environmental impact statement for modifications to the continued long-term operation of the Central Valley Project, in a coordinated manner with the State Water Project, that are likely to avoid jeopardy and destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. We are seeking suggestions and information on the alternatives and topics to be addressed and any other important issues related to the proposed action.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on the scope of the environmental impact statement by May 29, 2012.

Four public scoping meetings will be held to solicit public input on alternatives, concerns, and issues to be addressed in the environmental impact statement:

1. Wednesday, April 25, 2012, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Madera, CA.
2. Thursday, April 26, 2012, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Diamond Bar, CA.
3. Wednesday, May 2, 2012, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sacramento, CA.
4. Thursday, May 3, 2012, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Marysville, CA.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Janice Piñero, Endangered Species Compliance Act Specialist, Bureau of

Reclamation, Bay-Delta Office, 801 I Street Suite 140, Sacramento, CA 95814-2536; fax to (916) 414-2439; or email at [jpinero@usbr.gov](mailto:jpinero@usbr.gov).

The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

1. Madera—Madera County Mail Library, Blanche Galloway Room, 121 N. G Street, Madera, CA 93637.
2. Diamond Bar—South Coast Air Quality Management District, Room CC6, 21865 Copley Dr., Diamond Bar, CA 91765.
3. Sacramento—Federal Building, 650 Capitol Mall, Stanford Room, Sacramento, CA 95814.
4. Yuba County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 915 Eighth St., Marysville, CA 95901.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janice Piñero at (916) 414-2428; or email at [jpinero@usbr.gov](mailto:jpinero@usbr.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Agencies Involved
- II. Why We Are Taking This Action
- III. Results of Litigation
- IV. Purpose and Need for Action
- V. Project Area
- VI. Alternatives To Be Considered
- VII. Statutory Authority
- VIII. Request for Comments
- IX. Public Disclosure
- X. How To Request Reasonable Accommodation

#### I. Agencies Involved

We, the Bureau of Reclamation, are the lead Federal agency. We will invite the following agencies to participate as cooperating agencies for preparation of the environmental impact statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS),
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS),
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

We have also identified other Federal, State, and local agencies (e.g., California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Game, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency, etc.) as potential cooperating agencies, and we will invite them to participate as such in the near future.

#### II. Why We Are Taking This Action

The Central Valley Project (CVP) is the largest Federal Reclamation project. We operate the CVP in coordination with the State Water Project (SWP), under the Coordinated Operation Agreement between the Federal government and the State of California