

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service**

[NPS–MWR–INDU–10718; PPMWROW2/PPMPSAS1Y.YP0000]

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Final White-Tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Final White-tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/EIS), Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (Indiana Dunes), Indiana.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD are available by request by writing to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, 1100 North Mineral Springs Road, Porter, Indiana 46304; telephone (219) 395–1550.

Copies of the document also may be picked up in person at the Indiana Dunes Headquarters at the address above. The document may be found on the internet on the NPS PEPC Web site at <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/indu>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wildlife Biologist Randy Knutson, Indiana Dunes, at the address above or by telephone at (219) 395–1550.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NPS has issued a ROD for the Final White-tailed Deer Management Plan/EIS for Indiana Dunes. On June 22, 2012, the Regional Director for the Midwest Region approved the ROD for the Final EIS. As soon as practicable, the NPS will begin to implement the selected alternative, Alternative D, which was the preferred alternative identified in the Final Plan/EIS.

The EIS described four alternatives for the management of deer at Indiana Dunes. Action is needed at this time to ensure that the local deer population does not become a dominant force that negatively influences ecosystem components within Indiana Dunes, such as sensitive vegetation or other wildlife. Impacts to these Indiana Dunes resources would compromise the exceptional biodiversity found within its boundaries. The Indiana Dunes staff currently implements resource management actions to protect other resources, but no specific deer management plan exists.

Under Alternative A (no action), current deer management actions

(including limited fencing, limited use of repellents, and inventorying and monitoring efforts) would have continued; no new deer management actions would be taken. Alternative B would have included all actions described under Alternative A, but would have also incorporated non-lethal actions to possibly reduce deer numbers at Indiana Dunes. The additional actions would have included the construction of additional small-scale and new large-scale exclosures, more extensive use of repellents in areas where fenced exclosures would not be appropriate or feasible, and phasing in reproductive control of does when there is a federally approved fertility-control agent for application to free-ranging populations that provides multiple year (three to five years) efficacy for does. Alternative C would have included all actions described under Alternative A, but would also have incorporated a direct reduction of the deer herd size through sharpshooting and capture/euthanasia, where appropriate. Alternative D, the selected alternative, also includes all the actions described under Alternative A, but will incorporate a combination of specific lethal and non-lethal actions from Alternatives B and C. These actions will include the reduction of the deer herd through sharpshooting, in combination with capture/euthanasia and phasing in reproductive control of does (as described in alternative B) for longer-term maintenance of lower herd numbers.

Dated: July 31, 2012.

Patricia S. Trap,

Deputy Regional Director, Midwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Ocean Energy Management**

[Docket No. BOEM–2012–0088]

Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf Offshore North Carolina—Call for Information and Nominations (Call)

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Interior.

ACTION: Call for Information and Nominations for Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf, Offshore North Carolina.

SUMMARY: BOEM invites the submission of nominations for commercial wind leases that would allow a lessee to propose the construction of a wind energy project on the Outer Continental

Shelf (OCS) offshore North Carolina, and to develop the project if approved after further environmental review. Although this announcement is not itself a leasing announcement, the Call Areas described herein, or portions thereof, may be available for future leasing. BOEM will use responses to this Call to gauge specific interest in acquiring commercial wind leases in some or all of the Call Areas, as required by 43 U.S.C. 1337(p)(3).

Parties wishing to submit a nomination in response to this Call should submit detailed and specific information in response to the requirements described in the section entitled, “Required Nomination Information.”

This announcement also requests comments and information from interested and affected parties about site conditions, resources, and multiple uses in close proximity to, or within, the Call Areas that would be relevant to BOEM’s review of any nominations submitted and/or to BOEM’s subsequent decision to offer all or part of the Call Areas for commercial wind leasing. The information that BOEM is requesting is described in the section of this Call entitled, “Requested Information from Interested or Affected Parties.”

This Call is published pursuant to subsection 8(p)(3) of the OCS Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1337(p)(3), which was added by section 388 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPA Act), as well as the implementing regulations at 30 CFR part 585.

The Call Areas described in this notice are located on the OCS offshore North Carolina and are delineated as Wilmington-West, Wilmington-East and Kitty Hawk (formerly referred to as North Carolina Planning Areas 1, 2, and 5, respectively, during BOEM’s North Carolina offshore wind planning efforts). The three Call Areas include 195 whole OCS blocks and 60 partial blocks in total and comprise approximately 1,441 square nautical miles (494,016 hectares). These Call Areas were established in consultation with the BOEM North Carolina Renewable Energy Intergovernmental Task Force (Task Force). A detailed description of the areas and how they were developed is described in the section of this Call entitled, “Description of the Area.”

DATES: BOEM must receive your nomination describing your interest in one or more, or any portion of the Call Areas, postmarked by January 28, 2013 for your nomination to be considered. BOEM requests comments or submissions of information to be