

The Act requires recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. The original plan for the species was approved in 1993. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information received during a public comment period when preparing each new or revised recovery plan for approval. The Service and other Federal agencies also will take these comments into consideration in the course of implementing approved recovery plans. It is our policy to request peer review of recovery plans. We will summarize and respond to the issues raised by the public and peer reviewers in an appendix to the approved recovery plan.

The pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), found in the Missouri and Mississippi River basins of the United States, was listed as an endangered species on September 6, 1990 (55 FR 36641). At the time of listing, the species was threatened by habitat destruction and modification, overutilization, and inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms, as well as other natural or manmade factors.

The recovery of pallid sturgeon will rely on effective conservation responses to the issues facing the species, which remain varied and complex. The pallid sturgeon is native to the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers and adapted to the pre-development habitat conditions that historically existed in these rivers. These conditions generally can be described as large, free-flowing, warm-water, and turbid rivers with a diverse assemblage of physical habitats that were in a constant state of change. Limiting factors include: (1) Activities that affect connectivity and the natural form, function, and hydrologic processes of rivers; (2) illegal harvest; (3) impaired water quality and quantity; (4) entrainment in water diversion structures; and (5) life history attributes of the species (i.e., delayed sexual maturity, females not spawning every year, and larval drift requirements). The degree to which these factors affect the species varies among river reaches. The recovery strategy for the pallid sturgeon focuses on the need to better understand certain life history traits and the complex interactions between these traits and altered habitats in the contemporary Missouri and Mississippi River basins, threats abatement, population management, research, and monitoring. We emphasize conserving extant genetic viability through a

conservation augmentation program to prevent localized extirpation, researching and implementing habitat improvement as appropriate; monitoring habitat conditions; and monitoring population status.

#### Request for Public Comments

The Service solicits public comments on the draft revised recovery plan. All comments received by the date specified in **DATES** will be considered prior to approval of the plan. Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor (see **ADDRESSES** section). Comments and materials received will be available, by appointment, for public inspection during normal business hours at the above address. All public comment information provided voluntarily by mail, by phone, or at meetings (e.g., names, addresses, letters of comment, input recorded during meetings) becomes part of the official public record. If requested under the Freedom of Information Act by a private citizen or organization, the Service may provide copies of such information.

#### Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: January 28, 2013.

**Noreen E. Walsh,**

*Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Announcement of National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) will meet on April 3, 2013, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. The meeting will be held via Web conference and teleconference.

The NGAC, which is composed of representatives from governmental, private sector, non-profit, and academic organizations, has been established to advise the Chair of the Federal Geographic Data Committee on management of Federal geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and the implementation of Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Circular A-16. Topics to be addressed at the meeting include:

- Leadership Dialogue
- FGDC Guidance to the NGAC
- NSDI Strategic Plan
- FGDC Update

Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting must register in advance. Please register by contacting Arista Maher at the Federal Geographic Data Committee (703-648-6283, [amaher@fgdc.gov](mailto:amaher@fgdc.gov)). Meeting registrations are due by March 29, 2013. Meeting information (web conference and teleconference instructions) will be provided to registrants prior to the meeting. While the meeting will be open to the public, attendance may be limited due to web conference and teleconference capacity.

The meeting will include an opportunity for public comment. Attendees wishing to provide public comment should register by March 29. Please register by contacting Arista Maher at the Federal Geographic Data Committee (703-648-6283, [amaher@fgdc.gov](mailto:amaher@fgdc.gov)). Comments may also be submitted to the NGAC in writing.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on April 3, 2013, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Mahoney, U.S. Geological Survey (206-220-4621).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Meetings of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee are open to the public. Additional information about the NGAC and the meeting are available at [www.fgdc.gov/ngac](http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac).

Dated: March 7, 2013.

**Ivan DeLoatch,**

*Executive Director, Federal Geographic Data Committee.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[**AA-10782, AA-11132, AA-10784, AA-12440, AA-11020, AA-10783, AA-10774; LLAk-944000-L14100000-HY0000-P**]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Decision Approving Lands for Conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will issue an appealable decision to Chugach Alaska Corporation. The