

Dated: January 11, 1998.

Richard Kopanda,

Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 98-1217 Filed 1-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans.

SUMMARY: This notice advises that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) and associated environmental documents for the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex in southeastern North Dakota and the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge Complex in northeastern South Dakota. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with Service CCP policy to advise other agencies and the public of its intentions and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

DATES: Written comments should be received by February 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests for more information to Allison Banks, Planning Team Leader, Division of Realty, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, CO 80225.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allison Banks, Planning Team Leader, Division of Realty, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, CO 80225.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Service has initiated Comprehensive Conservation Planning for the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The Tewaukon Complex includes the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge and the Tewaukon Wetland Management District (WMD). The Waubay Complex includes the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and the Waubay Wetland Management District. Each National Wildlife Refuge has specific purposes for which it was established and for which legislation was enacted. Those purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses occur on the refuge. The planning process is a way for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the

best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with each national wildlife refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge (approximately 8,500 acres) was established as " * * a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife * * *" and " * * * for use as an inviolate sanctuary or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds" (Migratory Bird Conservation Act), by Executive Order 6910, on November 26, 1934. The Tewaukon WMD consists of fee Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA's) (approximately 14,000 acres), and wetland easements (approximately 33,000 acres). The Complex is located in Richland, Ransom, and Sargent counties of North Dakota. The Tewaukon Complex also administers three easement refuges: Lake Elsie, Storm Lake, and Wild Rice. The WPA's are all open to hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations.

The Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex lies within the prairie pothole and tallgrass/mixed grass prairie ecosystem in southeastern North Dakota. High densities of a variety of shallow, productive wetlands surrounded by grasslands produce high quality migration and nesting habitat for migratory birds. Tewaukon is a mixing point for migrating birds of both the Central and Mississippi Flyways. The name "Tewaukon" is derived from an ancient tribal name Te Wauk Kon, roughly translated as Son of Heaven. The main water source for Tewaukon, the Wild Rice River, is a tributary of the Red River which flows through Fargo, North Dakota. A portion of the refuge fee title land, several WPA's, and wetland easements are located within the Sisseton-Wahpeton Indian Reservation boundary.

Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, located northeastern South Dakota, was established as " * * a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife: * * *," by Executive Order 7245, dated December 10, 1935. The word "Waubay" is of Sioux Indian original meaning "a nesting place for birds." The refuge covers 4,740 acres of grasslands, wetlands, native forests, and croplands. Present public use includes wildlife viewing, environmental education, deer hunting, ice fishing, hiking, and picnicking.

The Waubay WMD manages 40,000 acres of fee WPA's, 100,000 acres of

waterfowl management rights easements and 125,000 waterfowl habitat protection easements in Clark, Codington, Day, Grant, Roberts, and Marshall counties of northeastern South Dakota.

Three distinct physiographic regions dominate the Waubay WMD, each with unique habitat properties. The *Coteau des Prairies*, a series of north to south parallel terminal moraines rising 800 feet or more in elevation above adjacent lowlands, covers nearly 80 percent of the WMD. Numerous glacial lakes and smaller wetland basins dot the Coteau. To the east and west of the Coteau lies the Minnesota River and James River Lowlands, respectively. These lowland areas contain flat, fertile, agricultural land that is more intensively cropped than the hilly Coteau grassland region. All WPA's are open to hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations.

The Service will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for Tribal, State and local governments, agencies, organizations, and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. The Service is requesting input for issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of the Tewaukon and Waubay Complexes. Anyone interested in providing input is invited to respond to the following three questions.

(1) What makes the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes (or any specific unit) special or unique for you?

(2) What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the Comprehensive Conservation Plans?

(3) What improvements would you recommend for the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes (or any specific unit)?

The Service has provided the above questions for your optional use. There is no requirement to provide information to the Service. The Planning Team developed these questions to facilitate finding out more information about individual issues and ideas concerning the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes. Comments received by the Planning Team will be used as part of the planning process, individual comments will not be referenced in our reports or directly respond to.

There will also be an opportunity to provide input at open houses to be scheduled for February and/or March 1998 to scope issues and concerns (schedule can be obtained from the Planning Team Leader at the above address). All information provided voluntarily by mail, phone, or at public meetings becomes part of the official public record (e.g., names, addresses,

letters of comment, input recorded during meetings). If requested under the Freedom of Information Act by a private citizen or organization, the Service may provide copies of such information.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, Executive Order 12996, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.

We estimate that the draft environmental documents will be available for review in March 1999.

Dated: January 9, 1998.

Ralph O. Morgenweck,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 98–1204 Filed 1–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of the Technical/ Agency Draft Recovery Plan for the Spruce-Fir Moss Spider for Review and Comment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Document availability and public comment period.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of the technical/agency draft recovery plan for the spruce-fir moss spider (*Microhexura montivaga*). Historically, at least five different mountain peaks in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee are known to have supported populations of the spruce-fir moss spider. Today, however, only two small relict populations of the spider are known to survive—one on Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina and one on Mount LeConte in Tennessee. The typical habitat of the spruce-fir moss spider is found in well-drained moss mats growing on rocks and boulders in well-shaded situations in mature high-elevation conifer forests dominated by Fraser fir (*Abies fraseri*) and scattered red spruce (*Picea rubens*). These factors are deteriorating rapidly, primarily due to infestation and the resulting mortality of the fir by the balsam woolly adelgid (an exotic insect pest) and possibly air population and other factors now yet

fully understood. The spider requires situations of high and constant humidity, and the loss of forest canopy, leading to increased light and decreased moisture on the forest floor (resulting in desiccation of the moss mats), appears to be the major threat to its continued existence. Unless new populations are found or reestablished and existing population are maintained, this species will remain in jeopardy of extinction for the foreseeable future. The Service solicits review and comments from the public on this draft plan.

DATES: Comments on this technical/ agency draft recovery plan must be received on or before March 23, 1998 to receive consideration by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the technical/agency draft recovery plan may obtain a copy by contacting the Asheville Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28801 (Telephone 704/258–3939). Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor at the above address.

Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Fridell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the address and telephone number shown in the **ADDRESSES** section (Ext. 225).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for recognizing the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (Act), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that a public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery

plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The primary species considered in this draft recovery plan is the spruce-fir moss spider (*Microhexura montivaga*). The area of emphasis for recovery actions includes the Southern Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. Habitat protection, reintroduction, and the preservation of genetic material are the major objectives of this recovery plan.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the final plan.

Authority

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

Dated: January 6, 1998.

Brian P. Cole,

State Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98–1232 Filed 1–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Closure to Collection of Petrified Wood Order Established; Folsom Field Office, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Establishment of petrified wood collecting closure order within public lands managed by the Folsom Field Office, California.

SUMMARY: Certain described public lands administered by the Folsom Field Office in the vicinity of the communities of Dutch Flat and Gold Run are hereby closed to the collection of petrified wood. This closure will be in effect on all the below described public lands:

Mount Diablo Meridian, California

T. 15 N., R. 10 E.,

Section 3: Lots 4,5;

Section 4: Lot 19;

Section 9: SWSE; Lots 3,4,5,7,8,9; MS1483;

Section 16: N/2NE, SWNE.

Totalling 320.29 acres, more or less.