

through Friday of each week from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary E. Riordan or Nicole C. Hall, Office of Counsel to the Inspector General, (202) 619-2078.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The development of compliance program guidances has become a major initiative of the OIG in its effort to engage the private health care industry in addressing and combating fraud and abuse. Over the past several years, the OIG has developed and issued compliance program guidances directed at various segments of the health care industry.³ These guidances are designed to provide clear direction and assistance to specific sections of the health care industry that are interested in reducing and eliminating fraud and abuse within their organizations.

The guidances have represented the culmination of the OIG's suggestions on how providers can most effectively establish internal controls and implement monitoring procedures to identify, correct and prevent fraudulent or wasteful activities. The suggestions contained in the guidances are not mandatory for providers, nor do they represent an exclusive discussion of the advisable elements of a compliance program.

The compliance program guidance for the pharmaceutical industry will be designed to reach segments of the health care industry which have not been covered by previous guidances, but which have recently been the subject of increasing scrutiny, such as pharmaceutical manufacturers and retail pharmacy chains. As the public debate about prescription drug costs and a potential expansion of the Medicare drug benefit continues, this scrutiny is likely to intensify.

Through this **Federal Register** notice, the OIG is seeking input from interested parties as the OIG considers developing a compliance program guidance directed at the pharmaceutical industry. The OIG will consider all comments, recommendations and suggestions received within the time frame indicated above.

We anticipate that the guidance for the pharmaceutical industry will

³ The OIG has issued compliance program guidance for the following nine industry sectors: hospitals, clinical laboratories, home health agencies, durable medical equipment suppliers, third-party medical billing companies, hospices, Medicare+Choice organizations offering coordinated care plans, nursing facilities, and individual and small group physician practices. The compliance program guidances for these industry sectors can be found on the OIG web site at <http://www.hhs.gov/oig> or by calling the OIG Public Affairs office at (202) 619-1343.

contain the seven elements that we consider necessary for a comprehensive compliance program. These seven elements have been discussed in our previous guidances and include:

- The development of written policies and procedures;
- The designation of a compliance officer and other appropriate bodies;
- The development and implementation of effective training and education programs;
- The development and maintenance of effective lines of communication;
- The enforcement of standards through well-publicized disciplinary guidelines;
- The use of audits and other evaluation techniques to monitor compliance; and
- The development of procedures to respond to detected offenses and initiate corrective action.

The OIG would appreciate specific comments, recommendations and suggestions on (1) risk areas for the pharmaceutical industry, and (2) aspects of the seven elements contained in the previous guidances that may need to be modified to reflect the unique characteristics of the pharmaceutical industry. Detailed justifications and empirical data supporting any suggestions would be appreciated.

We request that any comments, recommendations and suggestions be submitted in a format that addresses the topics outlined above in a concise manner, rather than in the form of a comprehensive draft guidance that mirrors previous guidances.

Dated: May 31, 2001.

Michael F. Mangano,

Acting Inspector General,

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Associated National Environmental Policy Act Document for the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge, Butte, Glenn, and Tehama Counties, California.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is preparing a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and National Environmental

Policy Act (NEPA) document for Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). This notice advises the public that the Service intends to gather information necessary to prepare a CCP and environmental documents pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended, and NEPA. The public is invited to participate in the planning process. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the Service CCP policy:

1. To advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and
2. To obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental documents.

3. To announce a series of public open houses to occur in May and June 2001. Information about the time and location of the open house is available by contacting the Refuge.

DATES: To ensure that the Service has adequate time to evaluate and incorporate suggestions and other input into the planning process, comments should be received on or before July 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments or requests to be added to the mailing list to the following address: Planning Team Leader—Sacramento River NWR, California / Nevada Refuge Planning Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, W-1916, Sacramento, California, 95825.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Miki Fujitsubo, Planning Team Leader, (916) 414-6507.

History and Background

The Refuge was established in 1989 by the authority provided under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986, using monies made available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. The Service proposed acquisition of 18,000 acres of land for establishment of the multi-unit Sacramento River NWR. The multiple units of the refuge are located along both banks of the Sacramento River between Red Bluff and Princeton in Glenn, Butte, and Tehama Counties, California. A combination of fee title and conservation easement acquisitions was used to protect this habitat.

Riparian habitat along the Sacramento River has been identified as critically important for various threatened and endangered species, fish, migratory birds, plants, and to the natural ecosystem of the River itself. There has been an 89 percent reduction of riparian vegetation throughout the Sacramento

Valley and foothills region, and probably in excess of a 95 percent reduction along the Valley's major river systems. The relatively small amount of remaining riparian woodland provides a strikingly disproportionate amount of habitat value for wildlife.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended, mandates that all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. The CCP will guide management decisions and identify refuge goals, long-range objectives and management strategies for achieving refuge purposes. The planning process will consider many elements, including habitat and wildlife management, habitat protection, cultural resources, and environmental effects. Public input into this planning process is very important. The CCP will provide other agencies and the public with a clear understanding of the desired conditions for the refuges and how the Service will implement management strategies.

The Service is soliciting information from the public via written comments. The Service will send out special mailings, newspaper articles, and announcements to people who are interested in the refuge. These mailings will provide information on how to participate in public involvement for the CCP. Comments received will be used to develop goals, key issues, and habitat management strategies. Additional opportunities for public participation will occur throughout the process, which is expected to be completed in mid-2002. Data collection has been initiated to create computerized mapping, including vegetation, topography, habitat types and existing land uses.

The outcome of this planning process will be a CCP to guide refuge management for the next 15 years and accompanying NEPA document.

We have estimated that a draft CCP and NEPA document will be made available for public review in early 2002.

Dated: May 17, 2001.

John Engbring,

Acting California/Nevada Operations Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California.

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BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Education Facilities Replacement Construction

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Call for applications and notice of revised instructions and ranking criteria.

SUMMARY: This Notice is the official call for applications for Bureau-funded education facilities replacement construction. It also explains how to obtain copies of the publication, "Instructions and Application for Replacement School Construction 2001," which describes the process the Bureau is using in 2001 to rate and rank applications submitted for education facilities replacement construction projects. Applications for construction of Bureau-funded replacement education facilities may be submitted in accordance with the 2001 instructions.

DATES: New applications and requests to reevaluate applications from the previous application process, conducted in 1999, must be received on or before August 21, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the instructions and ranking criteria are available upon request from the BIA Office of Indian Education Programs at 1849 C Street NW., MS-3512 MIB, Washington, DC 20240 or from 201 Third St. NW., Suite 510, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102. The instructions are also available from BIA Area and Education line offices and from the BIA Office of Facilities Management and Construction, 201 Third St. N.W., Suite 500, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102.

All applications must be submitted to the BIA Office of Indian Education Programs at 201 Third St., NW., Suite 510, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding applications may be submitted to the attention of Dr. Kenneth G. Ross, Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Indian Education Programs, 201 Third St. N.W., Suite 510, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102, (505) 346-6544, Fax (505) 346-6553 or to applicable Education Line Officers whose addresses and phone numbers are available in Appendix A of the application document.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice is the official call for applications for construction of Bureau-funded replacement education facilities. The 2001 application evaluation and ranking process was developed in consultation with Tribal organizations

and incorporates revisions to the 1999 application instructions.

In August 1999, we used a process described in "Instructions and Application for Replacement School Construction 1999 Revision 6—2/26/99" to evaluate, rate, and rank applications for education facilities replacement construction projects. As a result of that process, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** on January 31, 2000 (65 FR 4623), establishing the Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priority List as of FY 2000 (List). On January 9, 2001, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 1689), expanding the FY 2000 List by adding seven more schools. These seven schools received the next highest rankings after the 10 educational facilities that were identified in the 1999 application process that established the FY 2000 Priority List.

We sent copies of the Draft 2001 Instructions and Application for Replacement School Construction 2001, in March 2001 to all BIA schools and to schools that receive BIA funds under contract or grant (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number: 15.062 "Replacement and Repair of Indian Schools.") and conducted tribal consultation on the draft document in May 2001. We have considered all verbal comments and have reviewed all written comments received, and we have incorporated some of the comments in the revised instructions referred to in this notice. The revised instructions entitled, "Instructions and Application for Replacement School Construction 2001, May 2001" is available at the address provided in the **ADDRESSES** section. We will send copies of the revised instructions to all BIA schools and schools that receive BIA funds under contract or grant.

Applications for construction of Bureau-funded replacement education facilities may be submitted in accordance with the 2001 revised instructions. In lieu of submitting a new application for an education facility replacement school construction project, a tribe may revise and update the application it submitted in the 1999 process.

The process will not provide for new school starts, grade level expansions, charter schools, nor satellite extensions. The procedures will continue to provide continuity, objectivity and accountability in the priority rankings for construction of replacement education facilities; address the handling of emergency needs; and accommodate Federal/Tribal financial partnerships for education construction projects. As in the 1999 application