

in a way that obscures the postal code; and

(2) Inclusion of the word "city" or "town" within the domain name is optional and may be used at the discretion of the local government.

(b) The preferred format for city governments is to denote the State postal code after the city name, optionally separated by a dash. Examples of preferred domain names include:

- (1) chicago-il.gov;
- (2) cityofcharleston-sc.gov;
- (3) charleston-wv.gov; and
- (4) townofdumfries-va.gov.

(c) If third-level domain naming is available from the State government, cities and towns are encouraged to register for a domain name under a State's registered second-level (e.g., chicago.il.gov) in accordance with the policies established by the State government.

§ 102–173.60 What is the naming convention for Counties or Parishes?

(a) To register any second-level domain within dot-gov, County or Parish governments must register the County's or Parish's name or abbreviation, the word "county" or "parish" (because many counties have the same name as cities within the same State), and a reference to the State in which the county or parish is located. However, the use of the State postal code should not be embedded within a single word in a way that obscures the postal code.

(b) The preferred format for county or parish governments is to denote the State postal code after the county or parish, optionally separated by a dash. Examples of preferred domain names include:

- (1) richmondcounty-ga.gov;
- (2) pwc-county-va.gov; and
- (3) countyofdorchester-sc.gov.

(c) If third-level domain naming is available from the State government, counties or parishes are encouraged to register for a domain name under a State's registered second-level (e.g., richmondcounty-ga.gov).

§ 102–173.65 What is the naming convention for Native Sovereign Nations?

To register any second-level domain in dot-gov, Native Sovereign Nations may register any second-level domain name provided that it contains the registering NSN name followed by a suffix of "-NSN.gov" (case insensitive).

§ 102–173.70 Where do I register my dot-gov domain name?

Registration is an online process at <http://nic.gov>. At the Network Information Site (NIC), you will find the

instructions and online registration forms for registering your domain name. To register your domain name you will need to provide information such as your desired domain name, sponsoring organization, points of contact, and at least two name server addresses.

§ 102–173.75 How long does the process take?

The process can be completed within 48 hours if all information received is complete and accurate. Most requests take up to thirty (30) days because the registrar is waiting for CIO approval.

§ 102–173.80 How will I know if my request is approved?

A registration confirmation notice is sent within one business day after you register your domain name, informing you that your registration information was received. If all of your information is accurate and complete, a second notice will be sent to you within one business day, informing you that all of your information is in order. If you are ineligible, or if the information provided is incorrect or incomplete, your registration will be rejected and a notice will be sent to you stating the reason for rejection. Registration requests will be activated within two business days after receiving valid authorization from the appropriate CIO. Once your domain name has been activated, a notice will be sent to you.

§ 102–173.85 How long will my application be held, waiting for my CIO approval?

Registrations will be held in reserve status for sixty (60) days pending CIO authorization from your sponsoring organization.

Dated: May 9, 2002.

G. Martin Wagner,

Associate Administrator, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

[FR Doc. 02–12127 Filed 5–15–02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018–AH33

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designating Critical Habitat for the Appalachian Elktoe

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of public hearings, availability of draft economic analysis, and reopening of comment period for the proposed designation of

critical habitat for the Appalachian elktoe.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service, announce that we will hold two public hearings on the proposed determination of critical habitat for the Appalachian elktoe (*Alasmidonta raveneliana*) and that the comment period on this proposal is reopened. We also announce the availability of the draft economic analysis of this proposed designation of critical habitat. We are reopening the comment period for the proposal to designate critical habitat for this species to hold the public hearings and to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted and will be fully considered in the final determination of the proposal.

DATES: *Comments:* The comment period is hereby reopened until July 1, 2002. We must receive comments on the proposal and draft economic analysis from all interested parties by the closing date. Any comments that we receive after the closing date will not be considered in the final decision on this proposal.

Public Hearings: The first public hearing on the proposal will be held June 4, 2002, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Erwin, TN, and the second, on June 6, 2002, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Bryson City, NC.

ADDRESSES: The first public hearing will be held in the auditorium of the Unicoi County High School, 700 Mohawk Drive, Erwin, TN. The second public hearing will be held in the Swain County Administration Building, Superior Court Room, 101 Mitchell Street, Bryson City, NC.

Copies of the draft economic analysis are available on the Internet at <http://southeast.fws.gov/hotissues> or by writing to or calling the State Supervisor, Asheville Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, NC 28801; telephone 828/258–3939.

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods:

1. You may submit written comments and information to the State Supervisor, Asheville Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

2. You may hand-deliver written comments to our Asheville Field Office, at the above address or fax your comments to 828/258–5330.

3. You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to

john_fridell@fws.gov. For directions on how to submit electronic filing of comments, see the "Public Comments Solicited" section.

4. You may provide oral and/or written comments at either of the public hearings.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of this proposed rule, will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John A. Fridell, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Asheville Field Office (*see ADDRESSES* section) (telephone 828/258-3939, extension 225).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Appalachian elktoe is endemic to the upper Tennessee River drainage in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. Historic and recent records indicate that the species was once fairly widely distributed throughout the upper Tennessee River system in western North Carolina, with the possible exceptions of the Hiwassee and Watauga River systems. In Tennessee, the species is known only from a short reach of the Nolichucky River above the town of Erwin in Unicoi County, TN. Presently, the Appalachian elktoe survives only in scattered pockets of suitable habitat in portions of the Little Tennessee River system, Little River, and Pigeon River system in North Carolina; and, in portions of the Nolichucky River system in North Carolina and Tennessee. Numerous factors have been implicated as having contributed to decline and loss of populations of the Appalachian elktoe including pollutants in wastewater discharges; the runoff of sediment and other pollutants in poorly controlled runoff from land disturbance activities, and habitat destruction or alteration from impoundments, channelization, and in-stream dredging activities.

We listed the Appalachian elktoe as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), on November 23, 1994 (59 FR 60324). On February 8, 2001, we published in the **Federal Register** a proposal to designate critical habitat for this species (66 FR 9540). The proposed designation includes 38.5 kilometers (km) (24.0 river miles (rm)) of the Little Tennessee River in Swain and Macon Counties, NC; 41.6 km (26.0 rm) of the

Tuckasegee River in Jackson and Swain Counties, NC; 14.6 km (9.1 rm) of the Cheoah River in Graham County, NC; 7.5 km (4.7 rm) of the Little River in Transylvania County, NC; 17.8 km (11.1 rm) of the West Fork Pigeon River and the Pigeon River in Haywood County, NC; 22.6 km (14.1 rm) of the South Toe River and 26.4 km (16.5 rm) of the Cane River in Yancey County, NC; 5.9 km (3.7 rm) of the North Toe River and 34.6 km (21.6 rm) of the Toe River in Yancey and Mitchell Counties, NC; and 21.6 km (13.5 rm) of the Nolichucky River in Yancey and Mitchell Counties, NC, and Unicoi County, TN. The initial comment period on the proposal closed on April 9, 2001.

Section 4(b)(5)(E) of the Act requires that a public hearing be held if requested within 45 days of the proposal's publication in the **Federal Register**. Two groups requested public hearings within the specified timeframe of the initial comment period. One group requested hearings in every county where critical habitat is proposed; the other group requested hearings in every watershed where critical habitat is proposed. We will hold one public hearing in each State where we have proposed critical habitat to accommodate both requests (*see DATES and ADDRESSES* sections).

Section 4(b)(2) of the Act requires that we designate or revise critical habitat based upon the best scientific data available and after taking into consideration the economic impact, and any other relevant impact, of specifying any particular area as critical habitat. We may exclude an area from critical habitat if we determine that the benefits of excluding the area outweigh the benefits of including the area as critical habitat, provided such exclusion will not result in the extinction of the species. Consequently, we have prepared a draft economic analysis concerning the proposed critical habitat designation, which is available for review and comment (*see ADDRESSES* section).

Public Comments Solicited

We solicit comments on the draft economic analysis described in this notice, as well as any other aspect of the proposed designation of critical habitat for the Appalachian elktoe. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement for the record at the public hearings is encouraged to provide a written copy of their statement to us at the start of the hearing. In the event there is a large

attendance, the time allotted for oral statements may have to be limited. Oral and written statements receive equal consideration. There are no limits to the length of written comments presented at the hearings or mailed to us. Our final determination on the proposed critical habitat will take into consideration comments and any additional information received by the date specified above. All previous comments and information submitted during the comment period need not be resubmitted. Written comments may be submitted to the State Supervisor (*see ADDRESSES* section).

Please submit electronic comments as an ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and encryption. Please also include "Attn: RIN 1018-AH33" and your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your e-mail message, please contact us directly by calling our Asheville Field Office (*see ADDRESSES* section).

Our practice is to make all comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. In some circumstances, we would withhold from the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish for us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Author

The primary author of this document is John A. Fridell (*see ADDRESSES* section).

Authority: The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 26, 2002.

Craig Manson,

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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