

writing to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 646 Cajundome Boulevard, Suite 400, Lafayette, Louisiana 70506. Documents will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the Service's Louisiana Field Office (Attn: Darryl Clark). Written data or comments regarding the draft EA should be submitted to the Service's Louisiana Field Office. The data and comments must be submitted in writing to be adequately considered in the Service's decision-making process.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Darryl Clark, Senior Field Biologist, (*see ADDRESSES* above), telephone: 337/291-3111 or 337/291-3100, facsimile: 337/291-3139.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Grand-White Lakes Land Bridge Protection Project is being funded through the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act from the Tenth Priority Project List. The project purpose is to protect and facilitate the formation of marsh and submerged aquatic vegetation through the construction of a foreshore dike (with marsh creation) and earthen terraces, and by planting vegetation. The project is located in southwestern Louisiana in the southeastern portion of Grand Lake, approximately 15 miles northeast of Grand Chenier in Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The project area has experienced extensive marsh loss since the mid-1960s, with shoreline loss rates as high as 27 feet per year due mostly to elevated water levels produced by operation of water control structures for navigation and agricultural water supply purposes. The preferred alternative is to construct a foreshore dike, create marsh with dredged material from access channel construction, construct earthen terraces, and plant vegetation to protect and restore fresh marsh in the area and prevent the 17 mile-wide Grand Lake from eroding into Collicon Lake.

Dated: August 29, 2002.

Sam D. Hamilton,

Regional Director, Southeastern Region.

[FR Doc. 02-23794 Filed 9-18-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of the Draft Joint Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Lower Fox River and Green Bay Area

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior, lead; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce, cooperating agency; Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior, invited to be a cooperating agency, response pending. **ACTION:** Notice of 30 day comment period.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public and other agencies of the availability of the draft document titled "Joint Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Lower Fox River and Green Bay Area" (Plan) for public review and comment. Prior to implementing restoration projects Federal agencies are required to analyze alternatives to restore, rehabilitate, replace and/or acquire the equivalent of those natural resources injured and related services lost to the public associated with those resources. This analysis is contained in the Plan as required by the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) for the Federal action of restoration project implementation. This notice is provided pursuant to Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) regulations (43 CFR 11.81(d)(4)) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before October 21, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the document may obtain copies by contacting: Colette S. Charbonneau, 1015 Challenger Court, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311, Telephone: (920) 465-7407, Fax: (920) 465-7410, e-mail: colette_charbonneau@fws.gov. The document is also available at the following Internet address: <http://midwest.fws.gov/nepa/>. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for library addresses where copies may also be viewed.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The U.S. Department of the Interior (represented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs), U.S. Department of Commerce (represented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations), Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and

Michigan Attorney General (Trustees) are trustees for natural resources considered in this NRDAR project, pursuant to subpart G of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300.600 and 300.610) and Executive Order 12580.

The Trustees have a Memorandum of Agreement which establishes a Trustee Council to develop and implement a restoration plan for ecological restorations in the Fox River Valley and Green Bay watershed. The Trustees followed the NRDAR regulations found at 43 CFR part 11 for the development of the Plan.

The draft Joint Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment will be finalized prior to implementation after all public comments received during the public comment period are considered. Any significant additions or modifications to the Plan as restoration actions proceed will be made available for public review before any tasks called for in the addendum or modification are undertaken.

The objective of the NRDAR process in the Lower Fox River and Green Bay area is to compensate the public, through environmental restoration, for losses to natural resources that have been caused by historic releases of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) into the environment. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA, more commonly known as the Federal "Superfund" law) [42 U.S.C. 9601, *et seq.*] and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act (CWA)) [33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*] authorize states, federally recognized tribes, and certain Federal agencies that have authority to manage or control natural resources, to act as "trustees" on behalf of the public, to restore, rehabilitate, replace, and/or acquire natural resources equivalent to those harmed by release of hazardous substances. The Trustees have worked together, in a cooperative process, to determine appropriate restoration activities to address natural resource injuries caused by historic releases of PCBs into the Lower Fox River and Green Bay environment. The results of this administrative process are contained in a series of planning and decision documents that have been published for public review under CERCLA and the CWA. Natural resource damages received, either through negotiated settlements or adjudicated awards, must be used to restore, rehabilitate, replace and/or acquire the equivalent of those natural resources that have been injured. The Plan addresses the Trustees' overall approach

to restore, rehabilitate, replace or acquire the equivalent of natural resources injured by the release of PCBs into the Lower Fox River and Green Bay environment.

Public Involvement

Interested members of the public are invited to review and comment on the Plan. Copies can be requested from the address listed above. Comments on the Plan should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the address listed above. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide copies of all comments to the other Trustees. All comments received from individuals become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6(f)). Our practice is to make 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 record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If a respondent wishes us to withhold his/her name and/or address, this must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comment.

Addresses

In addition to obtaining a personal copy of the document at the address listed above, copies will also be available for onsite review at the Appleton Public Library, 225 North Oneida Street, Appleton, Wisconsin; Brown County Library, 515 Pine Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin; Door County Library, 104 South Fourth Avenue, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin; Oneida Community Library, 201 Elm Street, Oneida, Wisconsin; Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; and the Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington Street, Escanaba, Michigan.

Dated: September 6, 2002.

William F. Hartwig,

Regional Director, Region 3, Fort Snelling, MN.

[FR Doc. 02-23787 Filed 9-18-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Integrated Resource Management Plan, Coeur d'Alene Reservation, Plummer, ID

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), with the cooperation of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for an Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) for the approximately 345,000 acre Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, located within both Benewah and Kootenai Counties in the northern Idaho panhandle. Descriptions of this area and of the proposed action are provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. This notice also announces public scoping meetings for the content of the PEIS.

DATES: Comments on the scope of the PEIS/IRMP must arrive by October 18, 2002. The public scoping meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2002, and Wednesday, October 9, 2002, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand deliver written comments, or requests to be placed on the project mailing list, to Tiffany Allgood, Environmental Action Plan Coordinator, 850 A Street, P.O. Box 408, Plummer Idaho 83851. You may also comment via the Internet to tallgood1@earthlink.net. Please include your name and return address in Internet messages, and avoid the use of special characters or any form of encryption. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that your Internet message has been received, contact Tiffany Allgood at (208) 686-8802.

The October 8, 2002, public meeting will be held at the Tribal Wellness Center in Plummer, Idaho. The October 9, 2002, meeting will be held at the St. Maries Middle School in St. Maries, Idaho.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tiffany Allgood, (208) 686-8802, or June Boynton, (503) 231-6749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation is situated in an area that is rural in character, and includes portions of Lake Coeur d'Alene, the St. Joe River, Hangman

Creek and other streams. Land on the reservation is comprised of trust lands, which are lands held in trust by the United States for the use and benefit of Indian tribes or individuals, and fee lands, which are lands held in fee simple status. Land use is mainly agriculture and forest, with a small amount of land used for cities and for commercial and subdivision developments. There are 6,451 people living on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation according to U.S. Census 2000.

The proposed action is to develop a Coeur d'Alene Tribal IRMP for natural and cultural resources. The tribe, in response to increasing population and accelerated development on the reservation, is developing this IRMP as it leads the reservation community in planning for a future that integrates development with maintenance and enhancement of natural and cultural resources. With input from an IRMP Interdisciplinary Team, an IRMP Community Advisory Committee and an extensive public involvement, public workshop, and consensus building process, the IRMP will assess changes in the physical, biological, and social elements of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. The IRMP will benefit the tribe by documenting the desired conditions for natural and cultural resources on both tribal lands and the tribe's aboriginal lands for the next 20 to 100 years.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has done a comparison of past to existing environmental conditions in order to establish the parameters for which the desired future conditions will be assessed in the IRMP. General project goals are to (1) improve local environmental conditions to benefit human health, ecology and quality of life; (2) provide tools for tribal and community environmental planning and action; (3) improve environmental management by increasing communication and cooperation; and (4) involve the public throughout the planning process.

Expected issues and concerns to be addressed in the PEIS include impacts on wildlife, fish, water quality, recreation, roads, air quality, cultural and sacred sites and on residents from changes in land use, as well as socioeconomic feasibility and infrastructure changes. Alternatives will be developed to modify or eliminate the impacts from proposed activities or address unresolvable issues, while still meeting the purpose for this project.

Public Comment Availability

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be