

maintenance worker for a total of three full-time employees.

#### *Alternative D (Wildlife and Habitat Diversity)*

For sea turtles, regular law enforcement patrols would be conducted to protect these marine reptiles from disturbance and harassment. In addition, the refuge would work with private landowners and beach goers to minimize impacts to sea turtles (e.g., barriers to nesting, harassment of nesting and hatching sea turtles, and lighting). The refuge would coordinate and analyze sea turtle data and work with the partners to understand and manage nearshore habitats.

Management of southeastern beach mice would include modifying and restoring habitats utilized by this species, including maintaining and opportunistically planting sea oats and other forage plants. The refuge would increase control of feral predators.

Gopher tortoise management would be expanded under this alternative. The refuge, working with the partners, would identify locations where the gopher tortoise is especially vulnerable to vehicle collisions and evaluate the feasibility of developing wildlife underpasses, especially during roadway maintenance work. Gopher tortoise crossing signs would be posted in key areas.

To minimize injury and drowning, the refuge would coordinate with partners to prevent manatees from entering water control structures.

Piping plovers and eastern indigo snakes would be included in wildlife diversity surveys in an effort to determine the extent of their presence on the refuge.

Control of exotic, invasive, and nuisance species would be expanded. The refuge would locate and identify new infestations of Categories I and II plants and work to eradicate these, while controlling non-native plants already established. It would coordinate with partners to control feral and free-roaming animals.

The refuge would increase its efforts to minimize the effects of climate change. First, it would coordinate with researchers and partners to investigate the impacts of climate change on refuge resources and identify climate change research needs. It would foster and conduct needed research studies and adapt management as necessary.

Under Alternative D, the refuge would complete the boundary survey and prioritize active acquisition efforts on those properties with high biodiversity values. The refuge would work to

complete acquisition of lands within the acquisition boundary from willing sellers and use land swaps, where appropriate, as a method to meet this objective. Through collaboration with partners, areas high in biodiversity and wildlife corridors would be identified and protected.

Under this alternative, a complete archaeological and historical survey of the refuge would be conducted. The refuge would also actively work with the partners to acquire or otherwise manage and protect the Oak Lodge Site due to its contributions to research and historical data on barrier island biodiversity.

Visitor service programs would be expanded under this alternative. Informational resources available to visitors would emphasize biodiversity on the refuge. The refuge would work with the partners to incorporate wildlife and habitat diversity messages into their signage.

Fishing would be increased. The refuge would close all unapproved foot trails to public access through refuge properties and direct the fishing public to approved access points. The need to create additional dune crossovers on partner properties would be evaluated.

Wildlife viewing and photography would be changed from current management efforts. Sea turtle walk programs conducted by the Service would remain the same. The refuge would work with the partners to develop informational materials for partners' trails to include wildlife and habitat diversity messages of the refuge. Staff and/or volunteer-led migratory bird walks would be developed by the refuge.

The refuge would increase environmental education, interpretation, and outreach activities under this alternative. Through collaborative efforts with the partners, the refuge would incorporate more information on biodiversity into existing education programs. On- and off-site interpretive programs aimed at maintaining or increasing biodiversity and the minimization of human impacts would be developed.

Nighttime access to the beach from refuge properties would be eliminated and the refuge would close all unapproved foot trails to public access through its properties. On partner properties, the refuge would collaborate to eliminate nighttime access to the beach via unapproved foot trails. In addition, the need to close, relocate, or build dune crossovers at these sites would be evaluated.

Under Alternative D, staff levels would be increased. Shared staff with

Pelican Island Refuge would include: Wildlife refuge manager, assistant refuge manager, refuge officer, administrative assistant, supervisory park ranger, supervisory maintenance worker, and wildlife biologist for a total of seven shared full-time positions. Full-time refuge-specific staff would include: Biological science technician, park ranger, maintenance worker, and seasonal biological science technician for a total of 3.5 full-time positions.

#### **Next Step**

After the comment period ends, we will analyze the comments and address them in the form of a final CCP and Finding of No Significant Impact.

#### **Public Availability of Comments**

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: June 9, 2008.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**  
*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. E8-14478 Filed 6-25-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

### **Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS-R6-R-2008-N0122; 60138-1265-6CCP-S3]**

#### **Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Sullys Hill National Game Preserve, Fort Totten, ND**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announce that our Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Sullys Hill National Game Preserve is available. This Draft CCP/EA describes how the Service intends to manage this refuge for the next 15 years.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments on the draft CCP/EA by July 28, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Please provide written comments to Laura King, Planning Team Leader, c/o Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge, 9756 143½ Ave., SE., Cayuga, North Dakota 58013 or via facsimile at (701) 724-3683; or electronically to [laura\\_king@fws.gov](mailto:laura_king@fws.gov). A copy of the CCP/EA may be obtained by writing to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Refuge Planning, 134 Union Boulevard, Suite 300, Lakewood, Colorado 80228; or by download from <http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/planning>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura King, (701) 724-3596 (phone); 701-724-3683 (fax); or [laura\\_king@fws.gov](mailto:laura_king@fws.gov) (e-mail).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Sullys Hill National Game Preserve, established in 1904, is a 1,675-acre National Wildlife Refuge sitting on the south shores of Devils Lake, about 10 miles south of the city of Devils Lake, North Dakota. This Refuge supports a unique community of habitats such as an oak, ash, basswood and aspen woodland, mixed grassed prairie, and some natural wetlands. These diverse habitats provide "edge" habitat for over 250 species of migratory birds, plains bison, Rocky Mountain elk, white-tailed deer, turkeys, and prairie dogs.

The Refuge is one of only 19 designated natural areas in North Dakota, of which only four are National Wildlife Refuges. It is also one of only four Refuges nationally established for bison conservation.

Sullys Hill National Game Preserve has over 60,000 visitors annually. The Refuge is becoming a progressive regional conservation learning center, promoting the conservation role of the National Wildlife Refuge System while educating visitors about the functions and benefits of prairie wetlands and grasslands. Per its legislative purpose, there is no hunting permitted on this Refuge.

This draft CCP/EA identifies and evaluates three alternatives for managing the refuge for the next 15 years. Under Alternative A, funding, staff levels, and management activities at the Refuge would not change. Ungulates would be maintained at historic levels (25-35 bison, 20-30 elk and 30-50 white-tailed deer). Season-long grazing with infrequent prescribed fire would continue, limiting forest regeneration and resulting in continued decline of native prairie. Available habitat for forest interior breeding birds would be limited. Herd health history would continue to be collected and shared with applicable State and Federal agencies. The environmental

education and interpretation program would continue to take requests to participate in various teacher and/or Service staff-led on-site conservation programs. Visitor use would be limited to the seasonal auto tour route, nature trails, and visitor center depending primarily on volunteer availability. Cultural resource evaluations would be done to fulfill compliance with historic preservation laws. Only one staff person would be assigned to this Refuge.

Under Alternative B, habitat management would begin to address reduced forest regeneration by managing the uncontrolled browsing of bison, elk, and white-tailed deer within the big game forests. Ungulates would be maintained, as per the Fenced Animal Management Plan (25-40 bison; 15-25 elk; 10-30 white-tailed deer). The refuge would establish woodland restoration units, totalling 80 acres, using various management tools including exclusion fences. Chemical, biological and mechanical techniques (such as prescribed fire) would be used to enhance habitats for the benefit of grassland and forest interior breeding birds. Fuels treatment (including prescribed fire or other mechanical means) would be used to reduce hazardous fuels, minimizing the threat to life and property. Invasive species would be treated and areas restored. Visitors would be provided seasonal opportunities to view wildlife and learn about the Refuge. There would be an increase in on-site educational programs for adults and children. These and other special events would be designed to garner support and appreciation for the Refuge, North Dakota's wetland and grassland resources, and the conservation role of the Refuge System. The Refuges limited fishery would be used for educational programs only. There would be an increased law enforcement presence, particularly during peak visitor-use days. Cultural resource surveys would be completed in high probability areas. Two full time and one career seasonal staff would be added to address visitor services, biological, law enforcement, and maintenance needs.

Under Alternative C, the Proposed Action, habitat management would address enhancing and restoring native prairie and promoting forest regeneration. Ungulate populations would be maintained at lower levels ( $\leq 20$  bison,  $\leq 18$  elk, and  $\leq 18$  white-tailed deer) to control the overgrazing and overbrowsing that has impacted Refuge habitats. Management tools, including exclusion fences and other appropriate methods such as chemical, biological, and mechanical techniques

(including prescribed fire) will be used to restore and enhance habitat for the benefit of forest interior breeding and grassland nesting birds. Selected hay land acres would be restored to native prairie. Fuels treatment (including prescribed fire or other mechanical means) would be used to reduce hazardous fuels, minimizing the threat to life and property. Invasive species would be treated and areas restored. The ungulate herd health program would take a more active disease surveillance and treatment approach, including timely introduction of ungulates to maintain genetic health, particularly for the Refuges plains bison.

There would be an increase in delivery of both on-site and off-site programming of youth environmental education programs. In cooperation with local teachers, a formal wetland and grassland conservation curriculum would be designed for targeted grade levels and meet local and State standards. Emphasis would be placed on developing education partnerships with Spirit Lake Nation schools and agencies. The Refuges limited fishery would be used for educational programs only. Visitor, facility, and wildlife safety would be improved through regular routine patrols during peak and off-peak public use. A comprehensive cultural resource survey of the Refuge would be completed in partnership with other agencies and organizations. Four full-time staff would be recruited to expand, develop, and conduct biological, visitor services, law enforcement, and maintenance programs.

All public comment information provided voluntarily by mail, by phone, or at meetings (for example, 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. The Environmental Review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 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 laws and regulations.

Dated: May 27, 2008.

**James J. Slack,**

*Deputy Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. E8-14483 Filed 6-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-100-2008-1310-DJ]

#### Notice of Extension of the Call for Nominations for the Pinedale Anticline Working Group and Task Groups (PAWG)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Extension of the Call for Nominations for the Pinedale Anticline Working Group and Task Groups (PAWG).

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is extending the call for nominations for six membership positions on the PAWG. The original notice calling for nominations was published in the **Federal Register** on May 21, 2008 [73 FR 29532]. The original deadline for the call for nominations was June 20, 2008, 30 days from the publication of the original notice. The purpose of the Working Group and Task Groups will be to advise the BLM, Pinedale Field Office Manager, regarding recommendations on matters pertinent to the BLM's responsibilities related to the Pinedale Anticline Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision.

**DATES:** Submit a completed nomination form and nomination letters no later than July 20, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lauren McKeever, PAWG Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office, 1625 West Pine Street, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, Wyoming 82941, Phone: (307) 367-5352.

Dated: June 20, 2008.

**Jamie E. Connell,**

*Acting Associate State Director.*

[FR Doc. E8-14503 Filed 6-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-220-08-1110-CB]

#### Notice of Shooting, Glass Container, and Vehicle Parking Closure; La Cienega Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Santa Fe County, NM

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DOI.

**ACTION:** Notice of Emergency Shooting, Glass Container, and Vehicle Closure at La Cienega Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Santa Fe County, New Mexico.

**SUMMARY:** This notice places restrictions on shooting, with the exception of valid legal hunting approved by New Mexico Game and Fish Department, the possession of glass containers on specific public lands administered by the BLM Taos Field Office in Santa Fe County, New Mexico; an area of approximately 530 acres referred to as the La Cienega ACEC. This action is necessary to halt ongoing impacts and prevent future degradation of cultural resources and protect the public safety of users on the public lands; pending revision of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for this area administered by the BLM Taos Field Office.

**DATES:** This notice is effective July 1, 2008, and shall remain in effect until modified or the RMP is revised.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sam DesGeorges, Taos Field Manager, BLM Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico 87571, telephone 575-758-8851.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Taos RMP (1988, as amended) identified La Cienega ACEC, which included La Cieneguilla Petroglyph Site. In 2004, the Galisteo Basin Archaeological Sites Protection Act became public law (Public Law 108-208—March 19, 2004) and included La Cieneguilla Petroglyph site. This Act's purpose is to "provide for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of these nationally significant archaeological resources."

La Cieneguilla Petroglyph site has received damage by deliberate shooting of petroglyphs and some inadvertent damage by the shooting of clay pigeons with shotguns on the mesa/canyon rims. Target shooting in the immediate vicinity, using rock or vegetation as the only backdrop, is causing an immediate threat to public safety. A highway, parking area for La Cieneguilla Petroglyph site, hiking paths, two-track vehicle routes, and nearby residences are subject to stray or ricocheting

bullets, some of which can carry up to two or more miles in distance. In addition, trash accumulation from items being used as targets (television sets, household items, etc.) and spent brass and shotgun shells are impacting these public lands.

Glass containers are a problem in this area, both as a littering problem and a safety problem. La Cieneguilla Petroglyph site is located along a volcanic cliff wall with large boulders at the cliff base. Glass containers inadvertently break by accidentally being dropped. The majority of glass containers are purposely thrown onto the rocks or used as targets for firearms. The broken glass adversely affects public use of this area, detracting from the petroglyphs. Additionally, the broken glass is a hazard to vehicles, domestic animals, and wildlife.

Use and visitation of La Cieneguilla Petroglyph site has significantly increased after passage of the Galisteo Basin Archaeological Sites Protection Act. Educational field trips, including public schools and museums, are common place as well as the general public interested in this nationally recognized petroglyph site.

The BLM recently constructed a parking area for access to La Cieneguilla Petroglyph Site along Santa Fe County Road 56 (Paseo Real). This closure order prohibits parking on BLM-administered lands along Via de los Romero, immediately adjacent to La Cieneguilla Petroglyph Site, to encourage visitors to use one preferred access trail from the BLM parking area.

Shooting is defined in this order as the discharging of any projectile by means including, but not limited to, firearms (including rifle, shotgun, handgun, BB-gun, pellet gun, etc.), bows, cross bows, paintball guns, or sling-shot type devices.

This closure is in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-579, 90 stat. 2743, 43 U.S.C. 1701) and Title 43, Subpart 8364.1 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Maximum penalties are \$1,000.00 fine and/or 12 months in prison.

Maps depicting the area affected by this closure are available for public inspection at the BLM Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico, and the New Mexico BLM State Office, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.