

west, and east boundaries, a portion of the subdivisional lines, and the east and west centerline of sections 23, 24, 28, and 31, of Township 27 North, Range 2 West, of the Fourth Principal Meridian, in the State of Wisconsin, and was accepted December 16, 2009.

We will place copies of the plats we described in the open files. They will be available to the public as a matter of information.

If BLM receives a protest against a survey, as shown on the plat, prior to the date of the official filing, we will stay the filing pending our consideration of the protest.

We will not officially file a plat until the day after we have accepted or dismissed all protests and they have become final, including decisions on appeals.

Dated: January 19, 2010.

Dominica Van Koten,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor.

[FR Doc. 2010-1576 Filed 1-26-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a General Management Plan Amendment/Wilderness Study, for Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Alaska

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a General Management Plan Amendment/Wilderness Study, for Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Alaska.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an environmental impact statement for a general management plan amendment, including a wilderness study, for Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Alaska. The environmental impact statement will be approved by the Regional Director, Alaska Region.

A notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for a backcountry management plan/general management plan amendment for Gates of the Arctic was published in the September 23, 2002, **Federal Register** 67(184). However, that plan was never completed. This notice of intent replaces the September 23, 2002, notice.

The general management plan amendment will establish the overall

direction for both the park and preserve (referred to hereafter as park), setting broad management goals for managing the area during the next 15 to 20 years. The plan will prescribe desired resource conditions and visitor experiences that are to be achieved and maintained throughout the park based on such factors as the park's purpose, significance, special mandates, the body of laws and policies directing park management, resource analysis, and public input. The plan also will outline the kinds of resource management activities, visitor activities, and developments that would be appropriate in the park in the future. In addition, the plan will generally address visitor-use related issues and provide management direction for the six designated wild rivers within the park. The wilderness study will evaluate portions of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve for possible recommendation for wilderness designation. The wilderness study will be included as part of the general management plan amendment.

A range of reasonable alternatives for managing the park will be developed through this planning process and will include, at a minimum, a no-action and a NPS preferred alternative. Major issues the plan amendment will address include visitor access and use of the park, level of administrative and scientific research activities, management of natural and cultural resources, protection of the wilderness character, management adaptations to climate change, external threats the park is or will be facing, partnership opportunities, and collaboration with other land managers to address regional issues. The environmental impact statement will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the alternative management approaches and the possible proposal for additional wilderness designation within the park.

As the first phase of the planning process, the National Park Service is identifying the issues to be addressed in the general management plan amendment/wilderness study/environmental impact statement. All interested persons, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to submit comments and suggestions on issues and concerns that should be addressed in the general management plan amendment/wilderness study/environmental impact statement, and the range of appropriate alternatives that should be examined.

DATES: The National Park Service is planning to begin public scoping in January 2010 via a newsletter to State and Federal agencies; associated native

corporations; neighboring communities; borough; local organizations, researchers and institutions; the congressional delegation; and other interested members of the public. In addition, the National Park Service will hold public scoping meetings regarding the general management plan amendment in the winter of 2010 in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and many of the resident zone communities of Gates of the Arctic. Specific dates, times, and locations will be announced in the local media, on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/gaar>, and will also be available by contacting the park headquarters. In addition to attending the scoping meetings, people wishing to provide input to this initial phase of developing the general management plan/wilderness study/environmental impact statement may mail or e-mail comments to the park at the address below.

Written comments concerning the scope of the general management plan/wilderness study/environmental impact statement will be accepted for 60 days from the publication of this notice.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to comment on any issues and opportunities associated with the plan, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may comment via the Internet to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gaar>. You may also mail comments to Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, 4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the park at the above address.

General park information and requests to be added to the project mailing list should be directed to: the Superintendent, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, 4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Dudgeon, Superintendent, at the address above. Telephone: 907-457-5752. General information about Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve is available on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/gaar>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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.

Dated: January 11, 2010.

Sue E. Masica,

Regional Director, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 2010-1568 Filed 1-26-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2009-N187; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Lanier County, GA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability: final comprehensive conservation plan and finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of our final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the environmental assessment for Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). In the final CCP, we describe how we will manage this refuge for the next 15 years.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the CCP by writing to: Ms. Laura Housh, Regional Planner, Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, 2700 Suwannee Canal Road, Folkston, GA 31537. You may also access and download the document from the Service's Web site: <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Laura Housh; telephone: 912/496-7366, Extension 244; E-mail: laura_housh@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for Banks Lake NWR. We started this process through a notice in the **Federal Register** on December 6, 2007 (72 FR 68892). For more about the process, see that notice.

Established in 1985, Banks Lake NWR is located near the city of Lakeland, Lanier County, Georgia. The refuge lies in the Grand Bay-Banks Lake (GBBL) ecosystem, an area that comprises the second-largest freshwater wetland system in Georgia. The 3,559-acre refuge includes a diversity of habitats consisting of open water, cypress-gum swamp, herbaceous marsh, scrub/shrub, and evergreen forested wetlands. Banks Lake is a prominent feature of the refuge, with many anglers seeking bass and other fish. Other recreational opportunities include wildlife

observation and wildlife photography. The refuge hosts several listed species, migratory birds, and a variety of other wildlife, many of which are aquatic.

We announce our decision and the availability of the final CCP and FONSI for Banks Lake NWR in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [40 CFR 1506.6(b)] requirements. We completed a thorough analysis of impacts on the human environment, which we included in the draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment (Draft CCP/EA). The CCP will guide us in managing and administering Banks Lake NWR for the next 15 years.

The CCP will guide us in managing and administering Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge for the next 15 years. Alternative B, as we described in the final CCP, is the foundation for the CCP.

The compatibility determinations for fishing; wildlife observation; wildlife photography; environmental education and interpretation; research studies and scientific collection; special events that advance outdoor recreation or conservation; commercial guided services for wildlife observation, photography, and interpretation; guided sport fishing; vegetation control on refuge shoreline by adjacent landowners; and fishing tournaments are available in the CCP.

Background

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Administration Act.

Comments

Approximately 50 copies of the Draft CCP/EA were made available for a 30-day public review period as announced

in the **Federal Register** on June 4, 2009 (74 FR 26883). Approximately 25 comments were received from local citizens and the State.

Selected Alternative

After considering the comments we received, we have selected Alternative B for implementation. The primary focus under Alternative B will be to expand management of all refuge resources. Monitoring efforts for listed species, general fish and wildlife, habitats, and water quality will be increased in order to gain a better understanding of their status and trends. The refuge boundary will be surveyed. We will conduct additional surveys to increase the understanding and protection of cultural resources. Public use opportunities will be increased.

Alternative B is considered to be the most effective for meeting the purposes of the refuge by protecting rare, threatened, and endangered species; maintaining biodiversity; and improving visitor services.

Authority

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

Dated: September 30, 2009.

Jacquelyn B. Parrish,

Acting Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-FHC-2010-N015; 94300-1122-0000-Z2]

Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee; Announcement of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), will host a Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting March 2-4, 2010. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting agenda will include discussion of the current draft Recommendations to the Secretary.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for March 2-4, 2010. For session times, see "Session Times" under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. To attend, you must register by February 23, 2010. See below.