

the proposals and confidential and financial information about an individual's proposal. The discussion may also reveal information about procurement activities exempt from disclosure by statute and trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged and confidential. Accordingly, the meeting is concerned with matters exempt from mandatory disclosure in Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (4), and (6) and 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(d).

Committee Name: SAMHSA Special Emphasis Panel II.

Meeting Date: March 16–18, 1998.

Place: Residence Inn, Calvert Room, 7335 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Closed: March 16–17, 1998, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; March 18, 1998, 9:00 a.m.–adjournment.

Contact: Michael S. Backenheimer, Ph.D., Room 17–89, Parklawn Building, Telephone: (301) 443–4783 and FAX: (301) 443–3437.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

Jeri Lipov,

Committee Management Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 98–4849 Filed 2–25–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162–20–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Public Law 92–463, notice is hereby given of the following meeting of the SAMHSA Special Emphasis Panel II in March 1998.

A summary of the meeting may be obtained from: Ms. Dee Herman, Committee Management Liaison, SAMHSA, Office of Program Planning and Coordination (OPPC), Division of Extramural Activities, Policy, and Review, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 17–89, Rockville, Maryland 20857. *Telephone:* (301) 443–7390.

Substantive program information may be obtained from the individual named as Contact for the meeting listed below.

The meeting will include the review, discussion and evaluation of individual contract proposals. These discussions could reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals and confidential and financial information about an individual's proposal. The discussion may also reveal information about procurement activities exempt from disclosure by statute and trade secrets and commercial or financial information

obtained from a person and privileged and confidential. Accordingly, the meeting is concerned with matters exempt from mandatory disclosure in Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (4), and (6) and 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(d).

Committee Name: SAMHSA Special Emphasis Panel II

Meeting Date: March 2, 1998

Place: Rockwall II Building 9th Floor, Conference Room #2 5515 Security Boulevard Rockville, MD 20852

Closed: March 2, 1998 9:30 a.m.—Adjournment

Contact: George Lewis, Room 17–89, Parklawn Building, Telephone: (301) 443–3042 and FAX: (301) 443–3437.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

Jeri Lipov,

Committee Management Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 98–4919 Filed 2–25–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent to Revise and Combine the Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge Complex Comprehensive Conservation Plans and to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice and solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Service (Service) intends to revise and combine the comprehensive conservation plans (comprehensive plans) for the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges, Alaska. The Service furnishes this notice in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations to advise agencies and the public of its intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information regarding the scope of issues to be addressed in the revised comprehensive management plan and its accompanying environmental impact statement. The outdated plans need to be revised to respond to changed laws, regulations, and circumstances. A revised plan covering the entire refuge complex will enable the Service to better manage the Refuge and will reduce the general management direction to one document

from the 12 documents covering the topics today.

DATES: Comments should be received no later than June 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Bob Steven, Refuge Planning Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503, telephone (907) 786–3499; fax (907) 786–3965.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, contact Helen Clough, Refuge Planning, at (907) 586–7240 ext. 239, fax (907) 586–9391.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (NILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) was signed into law on December 2, 1980. The broad purpose of this law is to provide for the disposition and use of a variety of federally owned lands in Alaska. Section 303 of ANILCA established Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuges. ANILCA states that the purposes for which Alaska Peninsula and Becharof Refuges were established and shall be managed include: to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity; to fulfill the international treaty obligations of the United States with respect to fish and wildlife and their habitats; to provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by local residents; and to ensure water quality and necessary water quantity within the refuge.

The Alaska Peninsula comprehensive plan was completed in 1987. The Becharof comprehensive plan was completed in 1985. In 1988, draft and final supplemental environmental impact statements and records of decision were prepared for the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof comprehensive plans addressing their wilderness reviews.

In 1987, the Service decided to manage the Ugashik and Chignik units of Alaska Peninsula Refuge, the 5,800 acre Seal Cape area of Alaska Maritime Refuge, and Becharof Refuge as a “complex.” These units share a contiguous boundary and common resources and resource issues. A public use management plan was prepared for the refuge complex and approved in 1994. All together, there are 12 documents that comprise the comprehensive plan for the refuge complex. The Pavlof Unit of the Alaska Peninsula Refuge is managed as part of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Complex and changes to its management will be addressed when that plan is revised.

Section 304(g) of ANILCA states that comprehensive conservation plans shall

be prepared and "from time to time" revised for each refuge. Before plans are prepared the following shall be identified and described: the populations and habitats of the fish and wildlife resources of the refuge; the special values of the refuge, as well as any other archaeological, cultural, ecological, geological, historical, paleontological, scenic, or wilderness value of the refuge; areas of the refuge that are suitable for use as administrative sites or visitor facilities, or for visitor services; present and potential requirements for access; and significant problems which may adversely affect the populations and habitats of fish and wildlife. Plans shall: designate areas within the refuge according to their respective resources and values; specify programs for conserving fish and wildlife and maintaining the special values of the refuge; specify uses which may be compatible with the major purposes of the refuge; and identify opportunities to be provided for fish and wildlife-oriented recreation, ecological research, environmental education and interpretation of refuge resources and values, if they are compatible with the purposes of the refuge.

In preparing and revising plans consultation is required with appropriate State agencies and Native corporations and public hearing are to be held at "locations as may be appropriate to insure that residents of local villages and political subdivisions of the State which will be primarily affected by the administration of the refuge concerned have opportunity to present their views with respect to the plan or revisions." Before adopting a plan, public notice in the **Federal Register** and an opportunity for public views and comment was required.

The plans state that every three to five years the Service will review public comments, local and state government recommendations, staff recommendations, and research studies to determine if revisions to the plan are necessary. If major changes are proposed, public meetings may be held, or new environmental assessment/ environmental impact statements may be necessary. Full review and updating of the plans will occur every 15 to 20 years, more often if necessary.

In 1996 the Service began reviewing the numerous documents that comprise the comprehensive plan for the complex to determine if the "plan" should be revised. A number of discrepancies between the two plans were noted including: (1) Conflicting management direction (where one plan allows an activity in a management category and

the other plan does not); (2) topics are not addressed by both plans (one plan has management direction for a topic and the other plan does not mention the topic); and (3) format inconsistencies (in some cases the management direction is organized so differently that it is almost impossible to accurately compare). Much of the management direction in the plans is out of date due to changes in laws, regulations, and circumstances (e.g. federal management of subsistence hunting on Alaska refuges which began in 1991). Therefore, the Service decided to revise the plans and prepare one revised comprehensive conservation plan for the refuge complex.

This notice formally begins the revision of the comprehensive plan for the Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge Complex. In addition to soliciting public comments through this notice, public comments on issues to be addressed in the revision will be solicited through a newsletter to be mailed to approximately 6,000 individuals and organizations on the mailing list. The comprehensive plan revision will be one agenda topic during a series of community meetings to be held in Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Egegik, Ivanof Bay, Naknek, Perryville, Pilot Point, Port Heiden, and South Naknek in March and April 1998. Once issues are identified, the Service will identify options to address the issues and prepare a draft comprehensive plan and draft environmental impact statement. This document is scheduled to be released for public review in the fall of 1999. After public review and comment on the draft plan and environmental impact statement, including public hearings, a final plan and environmental impact statement will be prepared and released.

Electronic Access

Interested persons may submit comments and data by electronic mail (E-mail) to: Bob_Stevens@fws.gov.

Submit electronic comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. WordPerfect file format up to Version 6.1 is also acceptable. Additional information may be obtained electronically by contacting Helen Clough at Helen_Clough@fws.gov.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director, Anchorage, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 98-4936 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192, telephone (703) 648-7313.

Specific public comments are requested as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the Bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: User Survey for National Biological Information Infrastructure.

OMB Approval Number: New Collection.

Abstract: The U.S. Geological Survey is leading the cooperative development of the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII). The NBII is a distributed electronic federation of biological data and information which is available publicly on the Internet/World Wide Web (<http://www.nbii.gov>). Internet users from government agencies, non-government organizations, universities, and from the general public use the NBII to locate and access data and information on biological resources and resource issues. In order to better understand the requirements of NBII users and to continue to make improvements to the NBII system, both in content and in functionality, a voluntary survey will be conducted whereby "visitors" to the