

Increased wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and interpretation opportunities would result from the construction of an on-site Complex visitor center, boardwalk, canoe and birding tours, kiosks, and trail signs. Additionally, waterfowl and wildlife monitoring would be conducted periodically to identify areas of high use for the visiting public to observe. Environmental education would be expanded by addressing a wide range of local environmental concerns and would be offered to a broader range of student groups and schools through teacher workshops. A new on-site environmental education facility would be developed to better facilitate the new programs and workshops. New information brochures, tear sheets, and website postings would be published to increase public outreach and to promote public use and recreational opportunities.

Land acquisitions within the approved acquisition boundary would be based on the importance of the habitat for public use. Administration plans would stress the need for increased maintenance of existing infrastructure and construction of new facilities that would benefit public use activities. Additional funding would be needed to maintain the maximum number of trails and roads for access and to provide full-time staff and new facilities to support expanded public use activities.

Next Step

After the comment period ends, we will analyze the comments and address them.

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: April 6, 2011.

Mark J. Musaus,

Acting Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R9–EA–2011–N098]

Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce a public meeting of the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (Council).

DATES: *Meeting:* Wednesday June 15, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday, June 16, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern daylight time). *Meeting Participation:* The meeting is open to the public who have pre-registered (see “Public Input”). However, if you wish to make an oral presentation, you must notify Joshua Winchell (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) by close of business on June 6, 2011. Presentations are limited to 2 minutes per speaker. The meeting will accommodate no more than a total of 30 minutes for all public speakers. Written comments must be received by June 3, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this meeting.

ADDRESSES: On June 15th, the meeting will be held in the Secretary’s Conference Room at the Department of the Interior, Room 5160, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. On June 16th the meeting will be held in Room 104A of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Jamie L. Whitten Building, located at 12th St. and Jefferson Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Winchell, Council Coordinator, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mailstop 3103–AEA, Arlington, VA 22203; telephone (703) 358–2639; fax (703) 358–2548; or e-mail joshua_winchell@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., we announce that Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council will hold a meeting.

Background

Formed in February 2010, the Council provides advice about wildlife and habitat conservation endeavors that:

- (a) Benefit recreational hunting;
- (b) Benefit wildlife resources; and
- (c) Encourage partnership among the public, the sporting conservation

community, the shooting and hunting sports industry, wildlife conservation organizations, the States, Native American tribes, and the Federal Government.

The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, reporting through the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), in consultation with the Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Chief, Forest Service (USFS); Chief, Natural Resources Service (NRCS); and Administrator, Farm Services Agency (FSA). The Council’s duties are strictly advisory and consist of, but are not limited to, providing recommendations for:

(a) Implementing the Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Resource Conservation Plan—A Ten-Year Plan for Implementation;

(b) Increasing public awareness of and support for the Sport Wildlife Trust Fund;

(c) Fostering wildlife and habitat conservation and ethics in hunting and shooting sports recreation;

(d) Stimulating sportsmen and women’s participation in conservation and management of wildlife and habitat resources through outreach and education;

(e) Fostering communication and coordination among State, Tribal, and Federal Government; industry; hunting and shooting sportsmen and women; wildlife and habitat conservation and management organizations; and the public;

(f) Providing appropriate access to Federal lands for recreational shooting and hunting;

(g) Providing recommendation to improve implementation of Federal conservation programs that benefit wildlife, hunting and outdoor recreation on private lands; and

(h) When requested by the agencies’ designated ex officio members or the DFO in consultation with the Council Chairman, performing a variety of assessments or reviews of policies, programs, and efforts through the Council’s designated subcommittees or workgroups.

Background information on the Council is available at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

Meeting Agenda

The Council will convene to consider:

- (1) The Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Resource Conservation Plan—A Ten-Year Plan for Implementation;
- (2) Conservation programs within the Farm Bill;
- (3) Programs of the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture,

and their bureaus, that enhance hunting opportunities and support wildlife conservation; and

(4) other Council business.

The final agenda will be posted on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

Public Input

Interested members of the public may present, either orally or through written comments, information for the Council to consider during the public meeting. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period. Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, or those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, are encouraged to submit these comments in written form to the Council after the meeting.

Individuals or groups requesting an oral presentation at the public Council meeting will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker, with no more than a total of 30 minutes for all speakers. Interested parties should contact Joshua Winchell, Council Coordinator, in writing (preferably via email), by June 6 (See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), to be placed on the public speaker list for this meeting. Written comments must be received by June 3, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this meeting. Written statements must be supplied to the Council Coordinator in both of the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via email (acceptable file formats: Adobe Acrobat PDF, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, or RTF (Rich Text File)).

In order to attend this meeting, you must register by close of business June 6. Because entry to Federal buildings is restricted, all visitors are required to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, e-mail address, and phone number to Joshua Winchell via e-mail at joshua_winchell@fws.gov, or by phone at (703) 358-2639.

Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Council Coordinator at 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS-3103-AEA, Arlington, VA 22203, and will be available for public inspection within 90 days of the meeting and will be posted on the Council's Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

Dated: May 17, 2011.

Gregory E. Siekaniec,
Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-SATD-2011-N079; FY10-90110-1420-0000]

National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy; Notice of Intent: Request for Information and Comments

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), along with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, Department of Commerce) and other Federal, State, and tribal partners, announce that we are seeking public comments and information necessary to prepare a draft National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy (Strategy). The Strategy will provide a unified approach—reflecting shared principles and science-based practices—for reducing the negative impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, plants, habitats, and our natural resource heritage. It will serve as a valuable tool for Federal and State agencies, wildlife managers, tribes, and private landowners as they continue to manage their lands and natural resources in a changing environment.

DATES: To ensure that we are able to consider your comments and information as we develop our draft strategy document, please submit them on or before July 1, 2011 (see **ADDRESSES**).

We will release a draft Strategy in November 2011; at that time, we will allow additional opportunity for the public to provide comments. We expect to complete the final Strategy by May of 2012. Please visit the Strategy Web site at <http://www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov> for announcements of upcoming public meetings and engagement opportunities, as well as additional materials and information.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically through our website at <http://www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov/contact-us.php>. Alternatively, you may send comments by U.S. mail to the Office of the Science Advisor, Attn: National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Shaffer, Office of the Science

Advisor, at (703) 358-2603 (telephone), wildlifeadaptationstrategy@fws.gov (e-mail), or via the Strategy Web site at <http://www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov>. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), please call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In cooperation with NOAA and other Federal, State, and tribal partners, we intend to gather information necessary to prepare a National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy (Strategy). We are seeking public comment and information as we develop a draft Strategy.

The adverse impacts of climate change transcend political and administrative boundaries. No single entity or level of government can safeguard wildlife and society against the effects of climate change. This Strategy will provide a unified approach—reflecting shared principles and science-based practice—for reducing the negative impacts of climate change on fish, wildlife, plants, habitats, and our natural resource heritage. It will serve as a valuable tool for Federal and State agencies, wildlife managers, tribes, and private landowners as they continue to manage their lands and natural resources in a changing environment.

I. Background

Climate change affects more than temperature. According to the U.S. Global Change Research Program, impacts include shifts in rainfall and storm patterns, increasing wildfires and water shortages, as well as rising sea levels, loss of sea ice, ocean acidification, and coastal flooding and erosion. These changes are already having significant effects on fish, wildlife, and plants in the United States, necessitating new resource management approaches for climate adaptation.

Rapid warming may also begin to threaten the benefits that natural systems provide to people and communities, creating new challenges for human health, infrastructure, agriculture, transportation, and energy supplies. At risk are clean air and water; flood and erosion control; natural resource jobs and income; hunting, fishing, and wildlife-related recreation; and, ultimately, our quality of life.

Most simply, climate adaptation means helping people and natural systems prepare for and cope with the effects of a changing climate. Climate adaptation is an essential complement to climate change mitigation, or efforts to decrease the rate and extent of