

case will fellowship funds be paid to Fellows to provide support in excess of their actual total costs of tuition, required fees, books, room, and board. The Foundation may also reduce a Fellow's stipend if the Fellow is remunerated for the costs of tuition under a research or teaching assistantship or a work-study program. In such a case, the Foundation will require information from a Fellow's university about the intended use of assistantship or work-study support before remitting fellowship payments.

§ 2400.60 Renewal of award.

(a) Provided that Fellows have submitted all required documentation and are making satisfactory academic progress, it is the intent of the Foundation to renew Junior Fellowship awards annually for a period not to exceed two calendar years or the completion of their graduate degrees, whichever comes first, and Senior Fellowships for a period not to exceed 5 calendar years (except when those periods have been altered because of changes in Fellows' Plan of Study as provided for in § 2400.64), or until a Fellow has completed all requirements for a master's degree, whichever comes first. In no case, however, will the Foundation continue payments under a fellowship to a Fellow who has reached the maximum payments under a fellowship as indicated in § 2400.52, or completed the minimum number of credits required for the degree. Although Fellows are not discouraged in taking courses in addition to those required for the degree or required to maintain full-time status, the Foundation will not in such cases pay for those additional courses unless they are credited to the minimum number of credits required for the degree.

(b) Fellowship renewal will be subject to an annual review by the Foundation and certification by an authorized official of the university at which a Fellow is registered that the Fellow is making satisfactory progress toward the degree and is in good academic standing according to the standards of each university.

(c) As a condition of renewal of awards, each Fellow must submit an annual activity report to the Foundation by July 15th. That report must indicate, through submission of a copy of the Fellow's most recent transcript, courses taken and grades achieved; courses planned for the coming year; changes in academic or professional plans or situations; any awards, recognitions, or special achievements in the Fellow's academic study or school employment;

and such other information as may relate to the fellowship and its holder.

§ 2400.61 Postponement of award.

Upon application to the Foundation, a Fellow may seek postponement of his or her fellowship because of ill health or other mitigating circumstances, such as military duty, temporary disability, necessary care of an immediate family member, or unemployment as a teacher. Substantiation of the reasons for the requested postponement of study will be required.

§ 2400.62 Evidence of master's degree.

At the conclusion of graduate studies, each Fellow must provide a certified transcript which indicates that he or she has secured an approved master's degree as set forth in the Fellow's original Plan of Study or approved modifications thereto.

§ 2400.63 Excluded graduate study.

(a) James Madison Fellowships do not provide support for study toward doctoral degrees, for the degree of master of arts in public affairs or public administration, or toward the award of teaching certificates. Nor do fellowships support practice teaching required for professional certification or other courses related to teaching unless those courses are required for the degree. In those cases, however, the Foundation will provide reimbursement only toward those courses related to teaching that fall within the minimum number of courses required for the degree, not in addition to that minimum.

§ 2400.64 Alterations to plan of study.

Although Junior Fellows are expected to pursue full-time study and Senior Fellows to pursue part-time study, the Foundation may permit Junior Fellows with an established need (such as the need to accept a teaching position) to study part time and Senior Fellows with established need (such as great distance between the Fellow's residence and the nearest university, thus necessitating a full-time leave of absence from employment in order to study) to study full time.

§ 2400.65 Teaching obligation.

Upon receiving a Master's degree, each Fellow must teach American history, American government, social studies, or political science on a full-time basis to students in secondary school for a period of not less than one year for each academic year for which financial assistance was received. Each Fellow will be required to provide the Foundation with an annual certification from an official of the secondary school where the Fellow is employed

indicating the teaching activities of the Fellow during the past year. This same certification will be required each year until the Fellow's teaching obligation is completed. Any teaching done by the Fellow prior to or during graduate studies does not count towards meeting this teaching obligation.

§ 2400.66 Completion of fellowship.

A Fellow will be deemed to have satisfied all terms of a fellowship and all obligations under it when the Fellow has completed no fewer than 12 graduate semester hours or the equivalent of study of the Constitution, formally secured the masters degree, attended the Foundation's Summer Institute on the Constitution, completed teaching for the number of years and fractions thereof required as a condition of accepting Foundation support for study, and submitted all required reports.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Gray Wolf in Arizona and New Mexico

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings and hearings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces its intention to hold public open house meetings and hearings on the Proposed Rule for the Proposed Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Gray Wolf in Arizona and New Mexico. The meetings and hearings will be held in El Paso, Texas; Alamogordo and Silver City, New Mexico; and Springerville, Arizona.

DATES: The meetings/hearings will be held in El Paso, Texas, on June 10 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.; in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on June 11 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.; in Silver City, New Mexico, on June 13 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.; and in Springerville, Arizona, on June 15 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Times and places of these meetings will also be announced in the local media and in mailings to the interested public. The comment period on the Proposed Rule closes on July 1, 1996, and comments must be

postmarked by the closing date to be considered.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting/hearing location in El Paso, Texas, is the Ysleta Unified School District, Christo Rey and Chamizal Rooms, at 9600 Sims Drive; the location in Alamogordo, New Mexico, is the Civic Center Conference Room and Auditorium at 800 First Street; the location in Silver City, New Mexico, is the Lighthall Classroom 202 and Lighthall Auditorium on the Western New Mexico University campus; and the location in Springerville, Arizona, is the Round Valley Unified School District Auditorium at 450 South Butler Street. Questions and comments on the Proposed Rule should be sent to David R. Parsons, Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1306. Copies of the Proposed Rule, a fact sheet that summarizes the rule, the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Proposed Reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf to its Historic Range in the Southwestern United States, and the draft EIS summary can be obtained at this address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David R. Parsons (see **ADDRESSES** section), or phone at (505) 248-6920; or facsimile at (505)248-6922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In the June 27, 1995, Federal Register (60 FR 33224-33225) the Service announced the availability of a draft EIS for a proposal to reintroduce Mexican wolves to portions of their historic range in the southwestern United States. Alternatives A (the Proposed Action) and B of the draft EIS propose the reintroduction of Mexican wolves

classified as a nonessential experimental population as allowed under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

In the May 1, 1996, Federal Register (61 FR 19237-19248), the Service issued the Proposed Rule for establishing a nonessential experimental population of the Mexican gray wolf in Arizona and New Mexico. A nearly identical Draft Proposed Mexican Wolf Experimental Population Rule was included as Appendix C in the draft EIS. The Proposed Rule is an integral part of Alternatives A and B in the draft EIS, both of which propose the establishment of a nonessential experimental population of Mexican wolves. It provides needed management flexibility for addressing potential wolf-human conflicts associated with wolf reintroduction, such as livestock depredation by wolves. This Proposed Rule differs from Appendix C of the draft EIS only by the inclusions of an updated status of the National Environmental Policy Act process and some "plain language" revisions to make the rule more readable. No substantive provisions of Appendix C of the draft EIS have changed.

If you submitted a written comment or formal oral testimony during the draft EIS comment period on the Draft Proposed Rule, as set forth in Appendix C, or as summarized in the draft EIS text or the draft EIS Summary, it is not necessary to resubmit that comment for it to be considered in this comment period on the Proposed Rule.

Four public open house meetings/hearings will be held (see **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** sections). Agency representatives will be available at these meetings to provide information about the Proposed Rule; consult with you

regarding provisions of the rule; answer your questions; and receive your written comments. Carter Niemeyer, the Animal Damage Control Wolf Specialist for the northern Rocky Mountain region, will give a formal presentation on wolf-livestock interactions following wolf reestablishment in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. We will conclude with a formal public hearing where oral testimony on the Proposed Rule will be recorded. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement for the record is encouraged to provide a copy of his or her statement at the start of the hearing. If attendance at the hearing is large, the time allotted for oral statements may be limited. Written comments and oral testimony receive equal consideration.

The Proposed Rule will be revised after the close of the comment period and, depending on future decisions with respect to Mexican wolf recovery, may then be issued as a Final Rule. The Service's goal is that the Final Rule, if issued, would, to the maximum extent practicable, represent an agreement between the Service and the agencies, local governments, tribes, private landowners, and other potentially affected parties regarding how to manage reintroduced Mexican wolves with minimal adverse impacts while promoting their conservation and recovery. This goal is consistent with ESA regulations on experimental populations (50 CFR sec. 17.81(d)).

Comments on the Proposed Rule must be received or postmarked by July 1, 1996, and sent to the Service office in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Dated: May 16, 1996.

Nancy M. Kaufman,
Regional Director.

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