

announcing the commencement of a 30-day public comment period on the Notice of Intent to Delete.

(4) EPA has made all relevant documents available for public review at the information repository and in the Regional Office.

Partial deletion of a site from the NPL does not itself create, alter, or revoke any individual's rights or obligations. The NPL is designed primarily for information purposes and to assist EPA management. As mentioned earlier, section 300.425(e)(30) of the NCP states that deletion of a site from the NPL does not preclude eligibility of the site for future Fund-financed response actions.

For the partial deletion of this site, EPA will accept and evaluate public comments on this Notice of Intent to Delete before finalizing the decision. The Agency will prepare a Responsiveness Summary to address any significant public comments received during the comment period. The deletion is finalized after the Regional Administrator places a Notice of Deletion in the **Federal Register**.

The NPL will reflect any deletions in the next publication of the final rule. Public notices and copies of the Responsiveness Summary will be made available to local residents by Region 4.

#### **IV. Basis for Intended Sangamo Site Partial Deletion**

The following Site summary provides the Agency's rationale for the proposed intent for partial deletion of this Site from the NPL.

The Sangamo site (Site) is located in Pickens County, South Carolina. Sangamo Weston, Inc. owned and operated a capacitor manufacturing plant in Pickens, South Carolina from 1955 to 1987. In its manufacturing processes, Sangamo used several varieties of dielectric fluids which contained several varieties of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs reportedly enhanced the performance and durability of the fluids. Waste disposal practices from the Sangamo Plant included land-burial of off-specification capacitors and wastewater treatment sludges on the plant site and six satellite (remote) disposal areas within a 3-mile radius of the plant. Three of these, which are proposed for deletion, are the Trotter, Nix, and Welborn properties. PCBs were also discharged with the effluent directly into Town Creek, which is a tributary of Twelvemile Creek. Twelvemile Creek is a major tributary of the 56,000 acre Lake Hartwell. As part of its overall strategy in addressing the Sangamo site, EPA split the site into two Operable Units. Operable Unit One (OU1) consists of the

land-based source areas including the plant site and the six satellite disposal areas. OU2 addresses the sediment and biological impacts downstream of the land-based source areas.

The specific areas associated with this partial delisting include only a portion of the soils for OU1. The areas proposed for delisting (an unused tract of land across from the plant property, and three remote properties, Trotter, Nix, and Welborn) have been the subject of previous investigations. The majority of the investigatory and remedial actions taken within the area targeted for partial delisting was performed under a Consent Decree, dated April 15, 1992.

An RI/FS was initiated by the potentially responsible party (Schlumberger Industries, Inc. (SII) in 1988, which showed soils to be primarily contaminated with PCBs, but there were also VOCs and metals detected. The Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in December 1990 which stated that the contaminated soils would be treated by thermal desorption. The groundwater at these three remote properties did not pose a risk to human health or the environment and, therefore, remedial action was not warranted for the groundwater.

Under a Consent Decree with SII signed in April 1992, the contaminated soils were excavated from all six of the remote properties between November 1993 and July 1994. The soils were excavated to 10 parts per million (ppm) for the remote properties (except for the ravine parts of the Nix and Welborn properties, which were excavated to 1 ppm), and to 25 ppm on the plant property. Sampling to confirm the effectiveness of the waste removal efforts showed that the performance standards were achieved. The excavated areas were then backfilled with clean soil. Treatment of all contaminated soils (from the six remote properties and the plant property) by thermal desorption began in December 1995, and was completed in May 1997. Approximately 60,000 tons (40,000 cubic yards) of contaminated soils were treated to 2 ppm. The cleanup level was confirmed through sampling of treated soils.

Samples collected from the unused property across the street from the plant site did not detect any of the contaminants stated in the ROD.

The remedial activities associated with removing contaminated soil within the areas targeted for partial delisting at the Sangamo Site are considered a permanent remedy. No additional treatment of soils within these areas will be necessary. As such, no operation and maintenance activities are necessary for these areas. Because no hazardous

substances, pollutants, or contaminants remain in the soils within the areas targeted for partial delisting, no Five Year Review will be performed on these areas.

EPA, in concurrence with the State of South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control, has determined that all appropriate Fund-financed responses under CERCLA for the soils within the areas targeted for this partial deletion have been completed, and that no further activities by responsible parties are appropriate. Therefore, EPA proposes to delete these areas from the NPL.

Dated: August 6, 1998.

**A. Stanley Meiburg,**

*Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 4.*  
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## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

### **Fish and Wildlife Service**

#### **50 CFR Part 17**

**RIN 1018-AE00**

#### **Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening of Comment Period on 90-Day Finding and Commencement of Status Review for a Petition To List the Westslope Cutthroat Trout as Threatened**

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

**ACTION:** Reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides notice that the comment period on the westslope cutthroat trout 90-day finding is being reopened. All interested parties are invited to submit comments on this proposal.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted until October 13, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Data, information, technical critiques, comments, or questions relevant to this amended petition should be sent to the Chief, Branch of Native Fishes Management, Montana Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office, 4052 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, Montana 59715. The amended petition, its appendices, and bibliography are available for public inspection, by appointment, at the above address. Electronic copies of the amended petition and bibliography may be requested and received via e-mail from lynn\_kaeding@fws.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lynn Kaeding, at the above address, or telephone (406) 582-0717.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On June 10, 1998, the Service published in the **Federal Register** a positive 90-day finding on a formal petition to list the westslope cutthroat trout as threatened throughout its range and designate critical habitat for this subspecies pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Copetitioners were American Wildlands, Clearwater Biodiversity Project, Idaho Watersheds Project, Inc., Montana Environmental Information Center, the Pacific Rivers Council, Trout Unlimited's Madison-Gallatin Chapter, and Mr. Bud Lilly.

The Service has reviewed the amended petition, as well as other available information, published and unpublished studies and reports, and agency files. On the basis of the best scientific and commercial information available, the Service finds that there is sufficient information to indicate that listing of the westslope cutthroat trout as threatened, throughout all or parts of its range, may be warranted. The Service believes that the decline of westslope cutthroat trout is due mainly to the

destruction and adverse modification of habitat and the negative effects of stocked, nonnative fish species, as described above under the listing factors. However, the Service also believes that the present status of westslope cutthroat trout throughout its historic range is not well understood, particularly with regard to the genetic characteristics of many known populations, the possible occurrence of additional populations in areas that have not been studied, and the measures now underway to protect remaining populations. Within 1 year from the date the petition was received, a finding as to whether the petitioned action is warranted is required by section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Act.

**Public Comments Solicited**

Oral and written statements concerning the proposed rule will receive equal consideration by the Service. There are no limits to the length of written comments presented at the hearing or mailed to the Service. News released announcing the date, time, and location of the hearings are being published in newspapers

concurrently with this **Federal Register** notice.

The previous comment period on this finding closed on August 10, 1998. At the request of the U.S. Forest Service and several State fish and wildlife agencies, the Service reopens the comment period. Written comments may not be submitted until October 13, 1998, to the Service office identified in the **ADDRESSES** section above. All comments must be received before the close of the comment period to be considered.

**Author:** The author of this notice is Chuck Davis, Regional Environmental Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6, P.O. Box 25486, DFC, Denver, CO 80225-0486; telephone 303-236-7400 extension 235.

**Authority:** The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: August 10, 1998.

**Mary Lou Gessner,**

*Acting Deputy Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

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