

Dated: August 18, 2005.

Larry G. Bell,

Regional Director, Region 2, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 05-18789 Filed 9-20-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Decision and Availability of the Record of Decision for the Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement for Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Decision and Availability of the Record of Decision for the Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge, formerly known as Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces a Notice of Decision and Availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The refuge is located in the Gulf of Maine watershed, which extends along the entire coast of Maine. The Final EIS presents a thorough analysis of environmental, social, and economic considerations. The CCP and EIS were released to the public for 30 days after the publication of a Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** on July 15, 2005 (70 FR 135). The ROD documents the selection of Alternative B (the Service-preferred alternative) in the Final EIS, which is represented by the Final CCP for the refuge. The ROD was signed by the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Northeast Region, on August 24, 2005.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the ROD may be obtained from Charles Blair, Refuge Manager, Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 279, Water Street, Milbridge, Maine 04658-0279, or you may call Mr. Blair at 207-546-2124. A copy of the final CCP and EIS is available at the following Web site: <http://library.fws.gov/ccps.htm>.

FOR FURTHER CONTACT INFORMATION: Charles Blair, Refuge Manager, Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 279, Water Street, Milbridge, Maine 04658-0279, 207-

546-2124 (telephone), 207-546-7805 (FAX).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the ROD, which selects Final EIS Alternative B, represented by the Final CCP, for the Maine Coastal Islands NWR. The CCP provides management guidance that conserves refuge resources and facilitates compatible wildlife-dependent public use activities during the next 15 years.

The CCP addresses key issues and conflicts identified during the planning process, and will best achieve the purposes and goals for each of the five refuges in this complex, as well as the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS). The decision includes the management goals, objectives, and strategies identified in CCP chapter 4, "Management Direction," and in the compatibility determinations (Appendix C). The implementation of the CCP will occur over the next 15 years, depending on future staffing levels, funding, and willing sellers of the lands proposed for acquisition.

Factors Considered in Making the Decision:

The decision was based on a thorough analysis of environmental, social, and economic considerations. The Service reviewed and considered the impacts identified in chapter 4 of the Draft and Final EIS; the results of various studies and surveys conducted, or technical expert advice received in conjunction with the Draft and Final EIS and CCP; relevant issues, concerns, and opportunities; comments on the draft and final planning documents; and other relevant factors, including the purposes for which the refuges were established and statutory and regulatory guidance. The Final EIS and CCP address a variety of needs, including fish and wildlife conservation, habitat restoration and protection, National Wilderness Preservation System designation, refuge expansion, and the six priority public uses of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. The unique combination of those components contributes significantly to achieving refuge purposes and goals. The CCP also strengthens the monitoring of fish, wildlife, habitat, and public uses on refuge lands to provide the means to better respond to changing conditions in the surrounding landscape.

The Final CCP, was selected for implementation because it provides the greatest number of opportunities for the NWRS to contribute to fish, wildlife, and habitat conservation needs along the Maine coast.

Dated: August 24, 2005.

Richard O. Bennett,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley, Massachusetts.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-058-04-1610-DR-241E]

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan for the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Resource Management Plan (RMP).

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) management policies, and the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Establishment Act, the BLM announces the availability of the ROD/RMP for Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA). The Nevada State Director will sign the ROD/RMP, which becomes effective immediately.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD/RMP are available upon request from the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Manager, Timothy P. O'Brien, Las Vegas Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89130 or via the Internet at: <http://www.nv.blm.gov/vegas>. Copies can also be requested by calling (702) 515-5000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy P. O'Brien, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Manager, 4701 N. Torrey Pines, Las Vegas, NV 89130, or by telephone at (702) 515-5058, email Timothy_O'Brien@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RMP describes the actions to conserve, protect, and enhance the endangered species, wilderness characteristics, unique geological, archeological, ecological, cultural, and recreation resources that are encompassed within the RRCNCA for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The RRCNCA ROD/RMP

provides management decisions for 197,000 acres.

Juan Palma,

Field Manager, Las Vegas.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-100-05-1310-DB]

Notice of Meeting of the Pinedale Anticline Working Group

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (1972), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Pinedale Anticline Working Group (PAWG) will meet in Pinedale, Wyoming, for a business meeting. Group meetings are open to the public.

DATES: The PAWG will meet October 25, 2005, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting of the PAWG will be held in the Lovatt room of the Pinedale Library, 155 S. Tyler Ave., Pinedale, WY.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Stiewig, BLM/PAWG Liaison, Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office, 432 E. Mills St., P.O. Box 738, Pinedale, WY 82941; (307) 367-5363.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pinedale Anticline Working Group (PAWG) was authorized and established with release of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project on July 27, 2000. The PAWG advises the BLM on the development and implementation of monitoring plans and adaptive management decisions as development of the Pinedale Anticline Natural Gas Field proceeds for the life of the field.

The agenda for this meeting will include discussions concerning any modifications task groups may wish to make to their monitoring recommendations, a discussion on monitoring funding sources, and overall adaptive management implementation as it applies to the PAWG. At a minimum, public comments will be heard prior to lunch and adjournment of the meeting.

Dated: September 14, 2005.

Priscilla Mecham,

Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 05-18877 Filed 9-20-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft South Denali Implementation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Draft South Denali Implementation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Draft South Denali Implementation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Denali National Park and Preserve. The document describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of a preferred alternative and one action alternative for expanding visitor facilities and access opportunities in the south Denali region. A no action alternative also is evaluated. This notice announces the 60-day public comment period and solicits comments on the draft plan and EIS.

DATES: Written comments on the draft plan and EIS must be received no later than November 21, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the draft plan and EIS should be submitted to the Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve, Post Office Box 9, Denali Park, Alaska 99755. Submit electronic comments to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. The draft EIS may be viewed online at <http://www.southdenaliplanning.com>. Hard copies or CDs of the Draft South Denali Implementation Plan and EIS are available by request from the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Tranel, Chief of Planning, Denali National Park and Preserve. Telephone: (907) 644-3611.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Park Service (NPS) in cooperation with the State of Alaska, and Matanuska Susitna Borough has prepared a draft implementation plan and accompanying EIS for expanded visitor facilities and access opportunities in the south Denali region. The purpose of the plan and EIS is to address the needs of a growing visitor population in the south Denali region for the next two decades. The south Denali region is defined to include the southern portions of Denali

National Park and Preserve, Denali State Park in its entirety, and adjoining lands owned and managed by the State of Alaska and the Matanuska Susitna Borough. The implementation plan and EIS was initiated to address the rapidly growing level of visitation, resource management concerns, and anticipated demand for future uses of public lands in the south Denali region.

The draft plan and EIS includes a range of alternatives based on planning objectives, environmental resources, and public input. Each alternative represents a development concept that addresses the needs and concerns of the land managers, local communities, and visitors. Two alternatives in addition to a no-action alternative were developed.

Alternative A (No Action): Under Alternative A, no new actions would be implemented to support the 1997 Record of Decision for the South Side Denali Development Concept Plan except for those projects already approved and initiated. This alternative represents no change from current management direction and therefore represents the existing condition in the south Denali region. However, it does not ensure a similar future condition which could be affected by factors unrelated to this planning effort.

Alternative B: This destination facility in the Peters Hills would serve package tourism, the independent traveler, local school groups, and Alaskan travelers. Access to this facility would be from the Trapper Creek area on the Petersville Road, and a new, seven mile access road. The vision is for a high quality facility that offers a range of opportunities for learning and recreating during the summer months. Development of campgrounds, enhancements to local trail systems and road corridors, and increased interpretive signage are also components of this alternative.

Alternative C (Preferred Alternative): This destination facility would be reached by a new four mile access road from the George Parks Highway, and would serve package tourism, the independent traveler, local school groups, and Alaskan travelers. The vision is for a high quality facility that offers a range of opportunities for learning and recreating from late spring to early fall. It would provide visitors of various abilities a chance to experience a subarctic tundra environment and opportunities to view Mount McKinley and the Alaska Range. Development of campgrounds, enhancements to local trail systems and road corridors, and increased interpretive signage are also components of this alternative.