
DATES: Comments must be filed on or before August 23, 2004, and reply comments on or before September 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The Commission permits the electronic filing of all pleadings and comments in proceeding involving petitions for rule making (except in broadcast allotment proceedings). See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rule Making Proceedings, GC Docket No. 97–113 (rel. April 6, 1998). Filings by paper can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. The Commission’s contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission’s Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any hand deliveries must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service mail. The Commission permits the electronic filing of all pleadings and comments in proceeding involving petitions for rule making (except in broadcast allotment proceedings). See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rule Making Proceedings, GC Docket No. 97–113 (rel. April 6, 1998). Filings by paper can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service First-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be sent to the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail.)

The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission’s Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Tom W. Davidson, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP, 1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20036 (Counsel for KSEE License, Inc.).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418–1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MB Docket No. 04–236, adopted June 23, 2004, and released July 2, 2004. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. This document may also be purchased from the Commission’s duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 301–816–2820, facsimile 301–816–0169, or via e-mail joshr@erols.com.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all ex parte contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible ex parte contacts. For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Digital television broadcasting, Television.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR Part 73 as follows:

PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:


§ 73.622 [Amended]

2. Section 73.622(b), the Table of Digital Television Allotments under California is amended by removing DTV channel 16 and adding DTV channel 38 at Fresno.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,
Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 04–15638 Filed 7–8–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

50 CFR Part 17

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Finding for Petitions To List the Greater Sage-Grouse as Threatened or Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the reopening of the public comment period for submitting information that is pertinent to our status review of the greater sage-grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus). This status review is to be completed by December 29, 2004, and will provide the basis for a decision on whether the greater sage-grouse should be proposed for listing as a threatened or endangered species and, if so, whether such a proposed listing would be precluded by higher priorities.

We initiated the status review on April 21, 2004, based on our finding regarding three petitions to list the species as threatened or endangered, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). As a result of that finding, we initiated a status review and solicited information from the public concerning the status of the species and threats to it. We are reopening the comment period to allow all interested parties additional time to submit information. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, because they will be incorporated in the public record as part of this reopened comment period and will be fully considered in our status review.

DATES: You may submit new information concerning this species for our consideration until July 30, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Data, information, comments, or questions concerning this finding should be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4000 Airport Parkway, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001. The petitions, finding, and supporting information are available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours, at the above address. Submit new information, materials, comments, or questions concerning this species to the Service at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Pat Deibert, at the address given in the ADDRESSES section (telephone (307) 772–2374; facsimile (307) 772–2358).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 2, 2002, we received a petition from Craig G. Dremann to list the greater sage-grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus) as endangered across its entire range. Mr. Dremann’s 7-page petition summarizes several threats to the species’ habitat, based on the author’s review of the Oregon Bureau of Land Management’s management guidelines for the greater sage-grouse (Barett et al. 2000). A second petition requesting the same action was received from the Institute for Wildlife Protection on March 24, 2003. On December 29, 2003, we received a third petition from the American Lands Alliance and 20 additional conservation organizations to list the greater sage-grouse as threatened or endangered rangewide. On April 21,
2004, we published in the Federal Register (69 FR 21484) a finding that these petitions and additional information available in our files presented substantial information that listing the species may be warranted. We requested in that finding that commenters submit any new information concerning the species to us by June 21, 2004. To ensure that all interested parties have adequate opportunity to provide us with information, we are formally reopening the comment period until July 30, 2004. Section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)), requires that, for any petition to revise the List of Threatened and Endangered Species that contains substantial information that listing may be warranted, we make a finding within 12 months of the date of the receipt of the petition on whether the petitioned action is: (a) Not warranted, or (b) warranted, or (c) warranted but that the immediate proposal of a regulation implementing the petitioned action is precluded by other pending proposals to determine whether any species is threatened or endangered, and expeditious progress is being made to add or remove qualified species from the List of Threatened and Endangered Species. We are to base this finding on the best scientific and commercial information available to us at the time we make the finding. Because of the volume and complexity of the information that must be reviewed and considered in time to meet the statutory deadline for the 12 month petition finding, we do not anticipate being able to fully consider any substantive information received after July 30, 2004, and we have structured the public comment period accordingly.

The sage-grouse is the largest North American grouse species. Sage-grouse depend on a variety of shrub-steppe habitats throughout their life cycle, and are particularly tied to several species of sagebrush (Wyoming big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata wyomingensis), mountain big sagebrush (A. t. vaseyana), and basin big sagebrush (A. t. tridentata)). Because of the dependence of sage-grouse on sagebrush, they are rarely found outside of this habitat type (typically limited to periods of migration).

Public Information Solicited

We are conducting a review of the status of the species after making a 90-day finding that the petitions provided substantial information indicating that listing the sage-grouse may be warranted. We are requesting information primarily concerning the species’ population status and trends, potential threats to the species, and ongoing management measures that may be important with regard to the conservation of the greater sage-grouse throughout the contiguous United States.

Previously submitted comments for this status review need not be resubmitted. If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this finding to the Field Supervisor (see ADDRESSES section). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Respondents may request that we withhold a respondent’s identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name or address, you must state this request prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. To the extent consistent with applicable law, we will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the 90-day finding and the status review of the sage-grouse, will be available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours, in our Wyoming Fish and Wildlife Office at the above address.

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


Steve Williams,
Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.
[FR Doc. 04–15588 Filed 7–8–04; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
50 CFR Part 224
[I.D. 040704A]

Endangered Fish and Wildlife; Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) for Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction; Extension of Public Comment Period; Notice of Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings and extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: NMFS is conducting public meetings along the Atlantic coast in association with an ANPR published June 1, 2004, which provided that NMFS is considering regulations to implement a strategy to reduce mortalities to North Atlantic right whales as a result of vessel collisions. The public, as well as Federal, state, and local agencies are encouraged to participate in these meetings. In addition, to ensure the public has adequate time to review and comment on the ANPR, NMFS is extending the comment period on the ANPR until September 15, 2004.

DATES: Written and electronic comments on the ANPR must be received (see ADDRESSES) no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on September 15, 2004. The public meetings will be held in July and August 2004. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates, times, and locations.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to: Chief, Marine Mammal Conservation Division, Attn: Right Whale Ship Strike Strategy, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Comments may be sent via fax to (301)427–2522, Attn: Right Whale Ship Strike Strategy. Comments may also be sent via email to shipstrike.comments@noaa.gov or to the Federal eRulemaking portal: http://www.regulations.gov (follow instructions for submitting comments).

The June 1, 2004, ANPR may be obtained at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/ under the ‘Recent News and Hot Topics’ link. Using the drop-down menu, the link ‘Ship Strike Strategy’ provides access to the ANPR, as well as links to background and supporting documentation related to the proposed strategy.