DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

2004 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) Contest

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service announces the dates and locations of the 2004 Federal Duck Stamp contest; the public is invited to enter and to attend.

DATES: 1. The official date to begin submission of entries to the 2004 contest is June 1, 2004. All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, Monday, August 16, 2004.
3. Judging will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Requests for complete copies of the contest rules, reproduction rights agreement, and display and participation agreement may be requested by calling 1-703-358-2000, or requests may be addressed to: Federal Duck Stamp Contest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP–4070, Arlington, VA 22203–1622. You may also download the information from the Federal Duck Stamp Web site at http://duckstamps.fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chris Tollefson, Chief, Federal Duck Stamp Office (703) 358–2000, E-mail: Chris_Tollefson@fws.gov or fax: (703) 358–2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 16, 1934, Congress passed and President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. Popularly known as the Duck Stamp Act, it required all waterfowl hunters 16 years or older to buy a stamp annually. The revenue generated was originally earmarked for the Department of Agriculture, but 5 years later was transferred to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to buy or lease waterfowl sanctuaries.

In the years since its enactment, the Federal Duck Stamp Program has become one of the most popular and successful conservation programs ever initiated. Today, some 1.6 million stamps are sold each year, and as of 2002, Federal Duck Stamps have generated more than $600 million for

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended; Public Law 102–575, Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA), as amended; and the July 2, 1999, Federal Register Notice (FR Doc. 99–16852) the Department of the Interior is initiating a NEPA process with public involvement for the execution of a Lease of Power Privilege contract and the construction, operation, and maintenance of a non-federal hydroelectric generation facility on Jordanelle Dam, of the Bonneville Unit, Central Utah Project and associated power transmission lines and facilities. Through a competitive selection process the joint application of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (District) and Heber Light and Power (HL&P) was chosen as the potential lessee to develop hydropower at Jordanelle Dam. Construction and generation of power will be accomplished by the non-federal partnership of the District and HL&P through a Lease of Power Privilege. A lease contract will be executed among the District, HL&P, and the Department, which will describe the development, operation, and maintenance of a hydroelectric generation facility at Jordanelle Dam, consistent with the purposes and operations of the Bonneville Unit. Development of a hydroelectric facility will not change the operation of Jordanelle Dam and Reservoir.

DATES: Public meeting(s) will be announced in local newspapers. The purpose of the meeting(s) will be to provide information and request public input.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information on matters related to this Federal Register notice can be obtained from Mr. Reed R. Murray, Deputy Program Director, CUP Completion Act Office, Department of the Interior, 302 East 1860 South, Provo UT 84606–6154, (801) 379–1237, rmurray@uc.usbr.gov. Written comments may be submitted to this same address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Central Utah Project’s Bonneville Unit, located in northern Utah, was authorized for construction, including hydroelectric power, by the Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) Act of April 11, 1956 (ch. 203, 70 Stat. 105(CRSPA). The construction and operation of a hydroelectric generating facility below Jordanelle Dam was contemplated in the 1979 Municipal and Industrial System (M&I) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The 1987 Final Supplement to the M&I Final EIS deferred construction of a powerplant at Jordanelle awaiting non-Federal participation. The potential to produce hydropower was incorporated in the construction of Jordanelle Dam. The proposed Draft Environmental Assessment will rely on and update the 1987 Final Supplement to the M&I Final EIS regarding construction of a powerplant at Jordanelle Dam. The operation of Jordanelle Dam and Reservoir will remain the same as described in the 1987 Final Supplement to the Final EIS.

The Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA), comprised of Titles II–VI of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4600, Pub. L. 102–575) authorized the construction of other features of the Bonneville Unit. Section 208 of the CUPCA provides that power generation facilities associated with the CUP be developed and operated in accordance with the CRSPA, which explicitly embodies all Reclamation law except as otherwise provided in the CRSPA. In accordance with a Federal Register notice published July 2, 1999 (Volume 64, Number 127, Pages 36030–36032), Interior, in consultation with the Western Area Power Administration, selected the joint proposal of the District/HL&P to develop non-federal hydroelectric power at Jordanelle Dam through a lease of power privilege. A lease of power privilege is an alternative to federal hydroelectric power development. A lease of power privilege grants a non-federal entity the right to utilize, consistent with CUP purposes, water power head and storage and/or operationally in conjunction with the CUP, for non-federal electric power generation and sale by the entity. The general authority for lease of power privilege under Reclamation law includes, among others, the Town Sites and Power Development Act of 1906 (43 U.S.C. 522) and the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(c)) (1939 Act). The intent to hold public negotiations for the lease of power privilege contract was announced in the Federal Register on October 25, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 207, Pages 63879–63880). Negotiations on the lease contract began on November 12, 2000, and are still underway. Power developed by the Jordanelle hydroelectric generation facility will be purchased by Heber Light and Power and sold to their customers.

Ronald Johnston,
Program Director, Department of the Interior.
the preservation of more than 5 million acres of waterfowl habitat in the United States. Numerous other birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians have similarly prospered because of habitat protection made possible by the program. An estimated one-third of the Nation’s endangered and threatened species find food or shelter in refuges preserved by Duck Stamp funds. Moreover, the protected wetlands help dissipate storms, purify water supplies, store flood water, and nourish fish hatchlings important for sport and commercial fisherman.

The Contest

The first Federal Duck Stamp was designed at President Franklin Roosevelt’s request by Jay N. “Ding” Darling, a nationally known political cartoonist for the Des Moines Register and a noted hunter and wildlife conservationist. In subsequent years, noted wildlife artists were asked to submit designs. The first contest was opened in 1949 to any U.S. artist who wished to enter, and 65 artists submitted a total of 88 design entries in the only art competition of its kind sponsored by the U.S. Government. To select each year’s design, a panel of noted art, waterfowl, and philatelic authorities are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. Winners receive no compensation for the work, except a pane of their stamps, but winners may sell prints of their designs, which are sought by hunters, conservationists, and art collectors.

The public may view the 2004 Federal Duck Stamp entries on Monday, October 4, 2004, in the Department of the Interior Auditorium (“C” Street entrance), 18th C Street, NW., Washington, DC. This year’s judging will be held Tuesday, October 5, 2004.

Eligible Species

Species eligible for the 2004 contest include American wigeon, wood duck, gadwall, ring-necked duck, and hooded merganser. Entries featuring a species other than the above listed species will be disqualified.


Steve Williams, Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID–912–1020–PH 24 1A]

Idaho Resource Advisory Councils:
Notice of Intent To Establish and Call for Nominations

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

For further information contact: Jerry Rohnert, Idaho RAC Coordinator, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise Idaho 83709; 208–373–4017; or e-mail Jerry_Rohnert@blm.gov.

Supplementary Information: The FLPMA directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM. Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10 to 15 member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with the requirements of the FACA. As required by FACA, RAC membership must be balanced and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands. These include three categories:

Category One—Holders of federal grazing permits and representatives of energy and mineral development, timber industry, transportation or rights-of-way, off-highway vehicle use, and commercial recreation;

Category Two—Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historic interests, dispersed recreation, and wild horse and burro groups;

Category Three—Holders of State, county or local elected office, employees of a State agency responsible for management of natural resources, academicians involved in natural sciences, representatives of Indian tribes, and the public-at-large.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Nominees must be residents of the State or States in which the RAC has jurisdiction. Nominees will be evaluated based on their education, training, and experience and their knowledge of the geographical area of the RAC. Nominees should have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from represented interests or organizations, a completed background information nomination form, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee’s qualifications.

Simultaneous with this notice, BLM will issue press releases providing additional information for submitting nominations, with specifics about the number and categories of member positions available for each Idaho BLM RAC. Public nominations will be considered until May 3, 2004.