DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard
[USCG—2005–21777]

Towing Safety Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Towing Vessel Inspection Working Group of the Towing Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) will meet to discuss matters relating to inspection issues for towing vessels. The meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: The Towing Vessel Inspection Working Group will meet on Tuesday, July 19, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Wednesday, July 20, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The meetings may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before July 15, 2005. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the Working Group should reach the Coast Guard on or before July 15, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The Working Group will meet at George Mason University, Arlington Campus, 3301 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201. Please bring a government-issued ID with photo (e.g., driver’s license). Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Mr. Gerald Miante, Commandant (G–MSO–1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001. This notice and related documents are available on the Internet at http://dms.dot.gov under the docket number USCG–2004–21777.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gerald Miante, Assistant Executive Director of TSAC, telephone 202–267–0214, fax 202–267–4570, or e-mail gmiante@comdt.uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of these meetings is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770, as amended).

Agenda of Working Group Meetings: The agenda for the Towing Vessel Inspection Working Group tentatively includes the following items:

(1) What personnel standards, if any, should be included in a subchapter devoted to the inspection for certification of towing vessels; and
(2) What standards, if any, regarding use of third parties, including auditing of third parties, should be included in a subchapter devoted to the inspection for certification of towing vessels?

Procedural

The meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may close early if all business is finished. At the Chair’s discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify the Assistant Executive Director (as provided above in FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) no later than July 15, 2005. Written material for distribution at the meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than July 15, 2005.

Information on Services for Individuals with Disabilities: For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Mr. Miante at the number listed in FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT as soon as possible.

Dated: July 6, 2005.
Howard L. Hime,
Acting Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge in Union and Morehouse Parishes, Louisiana.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region, intends to gather information necessary to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires the Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a comprehensive conservation plan is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, plans identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

The purpose of this notice is to achieve the following:

1. Advise other agencies and the public of our intent to, and
2. Obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental document.

DATES: An open house style meeting will be held during the scoping phase and public draft phase of the comprehensive conservation plan development process. Public hearings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and state and local government agencies of the dates and opportunities for input throughout the planning process.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests for more information regarding Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge’s planning process should be sent to Lindy Garner, Planning Biologist, North Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 11372 Highway 143, Farmerville, Louisiana 71241; Telephone: (318) 726–4222; Fax: (318) 726–4667; Electronic-mail: northlarefuges@fws.gov. To ensure consideration, written comments must be received no later than August 29, 2005. Our practice is to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge was established in November 1978.
purposes of the refuge are “for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds” (Migratory Bird Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 715d); “* * * the conservation of the wetlands of the nation in order to maintain the public benefits they provide and to help fulfill international obligations contained in various migratory bird treaties and conventions. * * *” (16 U.S.C. 3901(b)).

Upper Ouachita Refuge is located in northeastern Louisiana. The northern boundary lies on the Louisiana-Arkansas State line. The refuge borders both sides of the Ouachita River for 13.7 miles and extends 3.3 miles to the east and 13 miles to the west. The refuge extends approximately 20 miles in a north-south direction, and its widest east-west dimension is approximately 16 miles. The southernmost point on the refuge is approximately 20 miles north of Monroe, Louisiana. The refuge lies within the Ouachita River Basin, which encompasses much of southwest Arkansas and northeast Louisiana.

The refuge consists of 4,540 acres of pine and pine/hardwood mix, 19,767 acres of bottomland hardwoods, 2,000 acres of shrub-scrub, 1,182 acres of moist soil, 2,540 acres of agricultural fields, 9,236 acres of reforested bottomlands, 474 acres of fallow agricultural fields, and 2,907 acres of open water. Wildlife species found on the refuge are typical of forested wetlands, moist soils, early successional forests, and upland hardwood/pine habitats. The refuge provides habitat for thousands of wintering ducks and geese and year-round habitat for nesting wood ducks. Although no large rookeries are located on the refuge, thousands of wading and water birds, such as white ibis, herons, egrets, wood storks, cormorants, and anhingas, forage in the sloughs, bayous, and Mollicpy Unit.

Many neotropical migratory birds breed on the refuge while other species use the refuge during migration, especially along the Ouachita River. Resident game species include fox and gray squirrels, rabbits, and deer. Furbearers present include muskrat, nutria, mink, river otter, beaver, red and gray fox, and raccoon.

Three threatened and endangered species utilize the refuge. Currently, there is one active group of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker on the refuge. Threatened Louisiana black bear have become more common on the refuge recently. Many threatened bald eagles are seen during the year, mainly winter, on the refuge. Bald eagles have also begun to nest successfully on the refuge within the last three years. Hunting and fishing opportunities are permitted on most areas of the refuge, and is open year-round for wildlife observation, nature photography, and hiking.

The Service will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for State and local governments, agencies, organizations, and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. Comments received by the Planning Team will be used as part of the planning process.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105–57.

Dated: June 17, 2005.

Cynthia K. Dohner,
Acting Regional Director.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Submission of Information Collection to the Office of Management and Budget for Review
AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of submission of information collection to the Office of Management and Budget.
SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting the information collection on Indian Service Population and Labor Force Estimates for review and renewal as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The OMB Control Number is 1076–0147.

DATES: Submit comments on or before August 12, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the information collection to the Desk Officer for Department of the Interior at the Office of Management and Budget, by facsimile to (202) 395–6566 or you may send an e-mail to: OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov.

Please send copy of your comments to Mr. Harry Rainbolt, Assistant to the Deputy Bureau Director, Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Avenue, Mail Stop 320–SIB, NW., Washington, DC 20240; Telephone (202) 513–7640, Facsimile (202) 208–3112.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may request further information or obtain copies of the information collection request submission from Mr. Rainbolt, as identified in the ADDRESSES section.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Information is mandated by Congress through Public Law 102–477, Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act (Act) of 1992, section 17. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is submitting the information collection for renewal. The Act requires the Secretary to develop, maintain and publish, not less than biennially, a report on the population by gender, income level, age, and availability for work. The report will be submitted to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, as required by the Act, other Federal agencies and will be available to tribes and the general public upon request.

A request for comments on this information collection request appeared in the Federal Register on March 9, 2005 (70 FR 11687). No comments were received in response to the announcement.

Request for Comments

The Bureau of Indian Affairs requests you to send your comments on this collection to the two locations listed in the ADDRESSES section. Your comments should address:

(a) The necessity of this information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Ways we could enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or request, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the ADDRESSES section, room 320–SIB, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t., Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays. If you wish to have your name and/or address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request according to the requirements of the