SUMMARY: As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92–463, the Department of the Interior, Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program Office gives notice of the second meeting of the Department’s Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will meet at the U.S. Department of the Interior, South Building Auditorium, 1951 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20240 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on March 2, 2006. Members of the public are invited to attend the Committee Meeting to listen to the committee proceedings and to provide public input.

Public Input: Any member of the public interested in providing public input at the Committee Meeting should contact Mr. Steve Glomb, whose contact information is listed under the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice. Each individual providing oral input is requested to limit those comments to three minutes. This time frame may be adjusted to accommodate all those who would like to speak. Requests to be added to the public speaker list must be received in writing (letter, e-mail, or fax) by noon eastern standard time on February 21, 2006. Anyone wishing to submit written comments should provide a copy of those comments to Mr. Glomb in the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via e-mail (acceptable file formats are: Adobe Acrobat, WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files) by noon eastern standard time on February 21, 2006.

Document Availability: Interested individuals may view the draft agenda for the meeting online at http://restoration.doi.gov/faca or may request the draft agenda from Mr. Glomb. In preparation for this meeting of the Advisory Committee, the Committee and the public can find helpful background information at the Restoration Program Web site http://restoration.doi.gov. The site provides a good introduction to the program for those who are relatively new to the damage assessment and restoration arena and a useful reference for seasoned practitioners and policy leaders. Links to the statutory and regulatory framework for the program are found at http://restoration.doi.gov/laws.htm. DOI Program policies are found at http://restoration.doi.gov/policy.htm.

Agenda for Meeting

The agenda will cover the following principal subjects:

—Welcome/Kickoff address by senior Departmental official.
—Potential amendment of committee by-laws.
—Discussion of subcommittee reports.
—Formal public input (if any).
—Finalize subcommittee scopes and workplans.

Meeting Access: Individuals requiring special accommodation at this meeting must contact Mr. Steve Glomb (see contact information below) by noon eastern standard time on February 21, 2006, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

DATES: March 2, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (open to the public).


All individuals attending the Committee Meeting will be required to present photo identification to security officers to gain access to the South Interior Building.


Frank M. DeLuise,
Designated Federal Officer, DOI Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. E6–2089 Filed 2–14–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–RK–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 5-Year Review of Florida Scrub-Jay

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces a 5-year review of the Florida scrub-jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens) under section 4(c)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The purpose of reviews conducted under this section of the Act is to ensure that the classification of species as threatened or endangered on the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants (50 CFR 17.11 and 17.12) is accurate. The 5-year review is an assessment of the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review.

DATES: To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, information submitted for our consideration must be received on or before April 17, 2006. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

ADDRESSES: You may submit data, information, and comments by any of the following methods:

1. You may submit written comments and information to the Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Ecological Services Office, 6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310, Jacksonville, FL 32216.

2. You may hand-deliver written comments to our Office, at the above address.

3. You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to floridascrubjay@fws.gov. Include “Florida Scrub-Jay Five-Year Review” in the subject line of the message.

4. You may fax your comments to 904/232–2404.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dawn Zattau, Jacksonville Field Office at telephone (904) 232–1067.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Act (16 U.S.C. 1533 et seq.), the Service maintains a list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants) (collectively referred to as the List). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Act requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years. Then, on the basis of such reviews, under section 4(c)(2)(B), we determine whether or not any species should be removed from the List (delisted), or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and only considered if such data substantiate that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons: (1) The species is considered extinct; (2) the species is considered to be recovered; and/or (3) the original data available when the species was listed, or the interpretation of such data, were in error. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process. The regulations at 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing those species currently under active review. This notice announces our active review of the Florida scrub-jay that is currently listed as threatened.
The List is found at 50 CFR 17.11 (wildlife) and 17.12 (plants) and is also available on our Internet site at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/wildlife.html#species. Amendments to the List through final rules are published in the Federal Register.

What information is considered in the review?

A 5-year review considers all new information available at the time of the review. A 5-year review will consider the best scientific and commercial data that have become available since the current listing determination or most recent status review of each species, such as:

A. Species biology, including but not limited to population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics;

B. Habitat conditions, including but not limited to amount, distribution, and suitability;

C. Conservation measures that have been implemented to benefit the species;

D. Threat status and trends (see five factors under heading “How do we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened?”); and

E. Other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

Specific Information Requested for the Florida Scrub-Jay

We are especially interested in information on the status of this species throughout its range. We specifically request any recent information regarding its responses to prescribed fire and any other management actions on conservation lands.

Definitions Related to This Notice

The following definitions are provided to assist those persons who contemplate submitting information regarding the species being reviewed:

A. Species includes any species or subspecies of fish, wildlife, or plant, and any distinct population segment of any species of vertebrate which interbreeds when mature.

B. Endangered means any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

C. Threatened means any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

How do we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened?

Section 4(a)(1) of the Act establishes that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the following five factors:

A. The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;

B. Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;

C. Disease or predation;

D. The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or

E. Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

Section 4(a)(1) of the Act requires that our determination be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available.

What could happen as a result of this review?

If we find that there is new information concerning this species indicating that a change in classification may be warranted, we may propose a new rule that could do one of the following: (a) Reclassify the species from threatened to endangered (uplist) or (b) delist the species. If we determine that a change in classification is not warranted, then this species will remain on the List under its current status.

Public Solicitation of New Information

We request any new information concerning the status of this species. See “What information is considered in the review?” heading for specific criteria. Information submitted should be supported by documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, methods used to gather and analyze the data, and/or copies of any pertinent publications, reports, or letters by knowledgeable sources. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the supporting record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we may withhold from the supporting record a respondent’s identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will not consider anonymous comments, however. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as members of the following organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Authority

This document is published under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).


Cynthia K. Dohner,
Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.
[FR Doc. E6–2134 Filed 2–14–06; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Acceptance of Retrocession of Jurisdiction for the Santee Sioux Nation, NE

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Executive Order No. 11435 of November 21, 1968 (33 FR 17339), and redelegated to the Associate Deputy Secretary, I hereby accept at 12:01 a.m. CST, February 15, 2006, retrocession to the United States of civil and criminal jurisdiction over the Santee Sioux Nation, which was acquired by the State of Nebraska, pursuant to Public Law 83–280, 67 Stat. 588, 18 U.S.C. 1162, 28 U.S.C. 1360.

The retrocession herein accepted was offered by Legislative Resolution 17 by the legislature of the State of Nebraska on May 31, 2001, and transmitted to the Secretary on November 13, 2001. By Resolution No. 2001–12 dated December 20, 2000, the Santee Sioux Nation requested that the State of Nebraska retrocede civil and criminal jurisdiction to the United States.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Christopher B. Chaney, Deputy Bureau Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Law Enforcement Services, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 2429, Washington, DC 20240, Telephone number (202) 208–5787.

Dated: February 8, 2006.

James E. Cason,
Associate Deputy Secretary.
[FR Doc. 06–1437 Filed 2–10–06; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–G6–P