Notice of Competition Advocate Designation Under the HUD Acquisition Regulation

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of competition advocate designation.

SUMMARY: In accordance with HUD's acquisition regulations (HUDAR), this notice announces HUD's designation of a competition advocate. Under the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), each agency designates a competition advocate whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to: Promoting the acquisition of commercial items, promoting full and open competition, challenging requirements that are not stated in terms of functions to be performed, performance required or essential physical characteristics, and challenging barriers to the acquisition of commercial items and full and open competition such as unnecessarily restrictive statements of work, unnecessarily detailed specifications, and unnecessarily burdensome contract clauses.

DATES: Effective Date: January 31, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gloria Sochon, Assistant Chief Procurement Officer for Policy and Systems, Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 5276, Washington, DC 20410–3000, telephone (202) 708–0294. Persons with speech or hearing impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The uniform regulation for the procurement of supplies and services by federal departments and agencies, the FAR, was promulgated on September 19, 1983 (48 FR 42102). The FAR is codified in title 48, chapter 1, of the Code of Federal Regulations. HUD promulgated its regulation to implement the FAR on March 1, 1984 (49 FR 7696). The HUDAR (title 48, chapter 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations) is prescribed by the Chief Procurement Officer under section 7(d) of the Department of HUD Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d)); section 205(c) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 486(c)); the Secretary's delegation of authority effective October 6, 1998 (63 FR 54723) and the general authorization in FAR 1.301.

Under 48 CFR 2401.601–70, the Chief Procurement Officer is HUD's Senior Procurement Executive. In accordance with 48 CFR 2406.501, HUD's Senior Procurement Executive shall designate the Department's competition advocate by notice in the Federal Register. Therefore, the Chief Procurement Officer designates a Special Assistant to the Chief Procurement Officer as HUD's competition advocate.

This designation supersedes the previous designation of competition advocate published in the Federal Register on August 23, 1999 (64 FR 46109).


Joseph A. Neurauter, Chief Procurement Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge in South Louisiana

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service, intend to gather information necessary to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and associated environmental documents for Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge. We furnish this notice in compliance with our comprehensive conservation planning policy to advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by June 15, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information to: Charlotte Parker, Natural Resource Planner, Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 61389 Highway 434, Lacombe, Louisiana 70445; Telephone: 985/882–2000; or electronically to: Charlotte_Parker@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: With this notice, we initiate the process for developing a comprehensive conservation plan for Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee), 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.
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.

We establish each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System with specific purposes. We use these purposes to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses will occur on these refuges. The planning process is a way for us and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation efforts of these important wildlife habitats, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with each refuge’s establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

We will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for Tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. We request input for issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the management of Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge. We invite anyone interested to respond to the following two questions:

1. What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the comprehensive conservation plan?
2. What improvements would you recommend for Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge?

We have provided the above questions for your optional use; you are not required to provide information to us. Our Planning Team developed these questions to gather information about individual issues and ideas concerning this refuge. Our Planning Team will use comments it receives as part of the planning process; however, we will not reference individual comments in our reports or directly respond to them.

We will also give the public an opportunity to provide input at a public scoping meeting to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, during the development phase of the plan. This event will be advertised through local media outlets. You may also submit comments anytime during the planning process by writing to the address in the ADDRESSES section. All information provided voluntarily by mail, phone, or at the public meeting becomes part of our official record (i.e., names, addresses, letters of comment, input recorded during meeting).

We will conduct the environmental review of this project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. All comments we receive on our environmental assessment become part of the official public record. We will handle requests for such comments in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA [40 CFR § 506.6(f)], and other Departmental and Service policies and procedures.

When we receive a request, we generally will provide comment letters with the names and addresses of the individuals who wrote the comments.

Bayou Sauvage Refuge was established in 1990. Consisting of 22,770 acres and situated within the city limits of New Orleans, it is the Nation’s largest urban wildlife refuge. Objectives of the refuge are to: enhance populations of migratory, shore, and wading birds; encourage natural diversity of fish and wildlife species; protect threatened and endangered plants and animals; protect archaeological resources; provide for scientific research and environmental education with emphasis on wetlands; and provide opportunities for fish and wildlife-dependent recreation in an urban setting.

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


Jacquelyn B. Parrish,
Acting Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Bibb and Twiggs Counties, Georgia.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service intends to gather information necessary to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. This notice is furnished in compliance with the Service’s comprehensive conservation planning policy to advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments must be received by July 16, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Address comments, questions, and requests for more information to Carolyn Johnson, Deputy Project Leader, Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, 718 Juliette Road, Roundoak, Georgia 31038; Telephone: 478/986–5441; or you may correspond with Ms. Johnson via the Internet at Carolyn_Johnson@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee), 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. Public input into this planning process is essential.

Each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System is established with specific purposes. These purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses will occur on the refuge. The planning process is a means for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge’s establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.