Persons interested in reviewing environmental documents for the proposals listed above or obtaining information about SEAs and FONSIs prepared by the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region are encouraged to contact MMS at the address or telephone listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section.


Lars Herbst,
Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
[FWS–R1–2009–N146; 1265–0000–10137–S3]

Kaua’i National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Kaua’i County, HI

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment and announcement of public open house meetings; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) for the Kilauea Point, Hanalei, and Hule‘ia National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs). We will also prepare an environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential effects of various CCP alternatives. We provide this notice in compliance with our CCP policy to advise the public, other Federal and State agencies, and Native Hawaiian organizations of our intentions and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process. We are also announcing public open house meetings and requesting public comments; see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for details.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by November 27, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information by any of the following methods:

E-mail: FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov.
Include “Kaua‘i NWR Complex CCP Scoping Comments” in the subject line of the message.

Fax: Attn: Shannon Smith, (808) 828–1413.

U.S. Mail: Kaua‘i National Wildlife Refuge Complex, P.O Box 1128, Kilauea, HI 96754.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannon Smith, (808) 828–1413, or Shannon_Smith@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee) (Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose of developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year direction for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

The Service will prepare a CCP/EA in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et
The Refuges

Hanalei, Hulēʻia, and Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) are part of the Kauaʻi National Wildlife Refuge Complex (NWRC or Complex). Hanalei NWR, located along the lower reach and floodplain of the Hanalei River along the northern shore of Kauaʻi, was established in 1972 for the purpose of providing habitat for Hawaiʻiʻs endangered water birds and the Hawaiian goose. Hulēʻia NWR, located along the Hulēʻia River on Kauaʻi’s eastern shore, was established in 1973 for the purpose of providing habitat for Hawaiʻi’s endangered water birds. Kīlauea Point NWR, located at the northern most point of Kauaʻi, was established in 1985 for the purpose of providing habitat for seabirds, nēnē, and native plants, to preserve the historic light station, and provide environmental education to the public. Kīlauea Point NWR’s purpose was expanded in 2004 to include conserving and managing the biological diversity of native coastal strand, riparian, and aquatic habitats, and continue the protection and recovery of endangered Hawaiian water birds and other endangered birds, including the Hawaiian goose.

Scoping: Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

We have identified preliminary issues, concerns, and opportunities to be addressed in the CCP; additional issues may be identified through public scoping. During the CCP planning process, the Service will analyze methods for protecting the resources of the Hanalei, Hulēʻia, and Kīlauea Point NWRs while providing quality opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation. The Service will evaluate public use programs and facilities, cultural and historic resources, cooperative farming, alternative transportation opportunities, wetland management, land acquisition, and endangered species interactions with humans.

Public Meetings

“Talk Story” Sessions

To begin the public scoping phase of the planning process, we will hold a number of facilitated “Talk Story” Sessions for the public, Refuge neighbors, and others. These facilitated sessions are designed to gather information about local knowledge and cultural ties for each of the refuges, including stories passed down through generations of living on, working on, and enjoying the Refuges’ lands, waters, and natural and cultural resources. These sessions will be open to the public and held in communities near the Refuges to encourage local participation.

Public Open House Meetings

We will also hold Public Open House Meetings as part of public scoping to answer questions, obtain comments on Refuge management issues, and learn about natural resource issues important to the public, the State, and other agencies and organizations. In order to incorporate the information we gain from the Talk Story Sessions into the Public Open House Meetings, the meetings will be held several weeks after the Talk Story Sessions. We will provide additional opportunities for public involvement throughout our CCP planning process. Public involvement opportunities will be announced in local news media, on our websites, and through our mailing list.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.


David J. Wesley,
Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Meeting of the Compact Council for the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact

AGENCY: Federal Bureau of Investigation

ACTION: Meeting notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce a meeting of the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council (Council) created by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Act of 1998 (Compact) Thus far, the Federal Government and 28 states are parties to the Compact which governs the exchange of criminal history records for licensing, employment, and similar purposes. The Compact also provides a legal framework for the establishment of a cooperative federal-state system to exchange such records.

The United States Attorney General appointed 15 persons from state and federal agencies to serve on the Council. The Council will prescribe system rules and procedures for the effective and proper operation of the Interstate Identification Index system.

Matters for discussion are expected to include:

(1) Update on the Rap Back Task Force,
(2) Proposal to Establish a Process for Initiating Noncriminal Justice Record Checks During Emergencies and Disasters,
(3) Access to Department of Homeland Security Information by Local, State, and Federal Criminal Justice, Intelligence, and Authorized Noncriminal Justice Agencies: Update on the Progress to Date with Interoperability.

The meeting will be open to the public on a first-come, first-seated basis. Any member of the public wishing to file a written statement with the Council or wishing to address this session of the