organized to enhance partnerships among industry, constituency groups, and government. The 18-member Council, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, includes the Director of the Service and the president of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, who both serve in ex officio capacities. Other Council members are Directors from State agencies responsible for managing recreational fish and wildlife resources and individuals who represent the interests of saltwater and freshwater recreational fishing, recreational boating, the recreational fishing and boating industries, recreational fisheries resource conservation, Native American tribes, aquatic resource outreach and education, and tourism. Background information on the Council is available at http://www.fws.gov/sfbpc.

The Council will convene to consider:

1. The Council’s continuing role in providing input to the Fish and Wildlife Service on the Service’s strategic plan for its Fisheries Program;
2. The Council’s work in addressing the issue of boating and fishing access;
3. The Council’s work to assess the Sport Fish Restoration Boating Access Program;
4. Information pertaining to Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund;
5. The Council’s role in providing support to the Secretary with information about the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the National Outreach and Communications Program, authorized by the 1998 Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act, that is now being implemented by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, a private, nonprofit organization; and
6. Other Council business.

The final agenda will be posted on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/sfbpc.

Written statements must be received by Thursday, February 26, 2009, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this meeting. Written statements must be supplied to the Council Coordinator in both of the following formats: One hard copy with original signature and one electronic copy via e-mail (acceptable file format: Adobe Acrobat PDF, WordPerfect, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or Rich Text files in IBM-PC/Windows 98/2000/XP format).

In order to attend this meeting, you must register by close of business Monday, February 23, 2009. Because entry to Federal buildings is restricted, all visitors are required to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, e-mail address and phone number to Douglas Hobbs. Mr. Hobbs’ e-mail address is doug_hobbs@fws.gov, and his phone number is (703) 358–2336.

Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Council Coordinator at 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS–3103–AEA, Arlington, VA 22203, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours within 30 days following the meeting. Personal copies may be purchased for the cost of duplication.


Rowan W. Gould,
Acting Director.

[FR Doc. E9–2992 Filed 2–12–09; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. E9–2992 Filed 2–12–09; 8:45 am]

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rowan W. Gould,
Acting Director.

[FR Doc. E9–2992 Filed 2–12–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FR Doc. E9–2992 Filed 2–12–09; 8:45 am]

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will host a Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting via webcast and teleconference, on March 6, 2009. This meeting is open to the public but will be limited to 75 public participants. The meeting agenda will include a briefing and discussion of the Information, Planning, and Consultation System (IPaC) to inform the Committee in its development of recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior.

DATES: Meeting: The meeting will take place on March 6, 2009, from 1 to 3 p.m. Eastern Time.

Pre-meeting Public Registration: If you are a member of the public wishing to participate in the March meeting, you must register online by February 27, 2009 (see “Meeting Participation Information” in SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 13, 2007, the Department of the Interior (Interior) published a notice of establishment of the Committee and call for nominations in the Federal Register (72 FR 11373). The Committee’s purpose is to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) on developing effective measures to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife and their habitats related to land-based wind energy facilities. Committee is expected to exist for 2 years. Its continuation is subject to biennial renewal. The Committee meets approximately four times per year, and all Committee members serve without compensation.

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), a copy of the Committee’s charter has been filed with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration; Committee on Environment and Public Works, U.S. Senate; Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives; and the Library of Congress. The Secretary appointed 22 individuals to the Committee on October 24, 2007, representing the varied interests associated with wind energy development and its potential impacts to wildlife species and their habitats. We held five Committee meetings in 2008, and held a sixth meeting January 27–29, 2009. All Committee meetings are open to the public. The public has an opportunity to comment at all Committee meetings.

Meeting Participation Information

This meeting is open to the public and is limited to 75 registrants. Members of the public planning to participate must register at http://www.fws.gov/conservation/ windpower/wind_turbine_advisory_committee.html by close of business, February 27, 2009. Registrants will be provided with
instructions for participation via e-mail. We will give preference to registrants based on date and time of registration.


Rachel London,
Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee Alternate Designated Federal Officer.

[FR Doc. E9–3158 Filed 2–12–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Bureau of Reclamation

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration


Bay Delta Conservation Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, CA


ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) and notice of public scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will serve as co-lead agencies in the preparation of a joint EIS/EIR for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will serve as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which requires the preparation of the EIR component of the EIS/EIR. FWS will serve as the administrative lead for all actions related to this Federal Register Notice (Notice). The Federal co-lead agencies have requested that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) participate in the EIS/EIR as cooperating agencies for the purposes of their regulatory programs. The Corps and EPA have indicated that they will participate in such a role.

This Notice revises and updates the Notice of April 15, 2008 and January 24, 2008. In these previous Notices the description of the proposed action and possible alternatives were preliminary in nature and relied upon initial BDCP planning documents which describe the overall intent and direction of potential actions. Following publication of these previous Notices, preliminary scoping comments were submitted in writing and provided at preliminary scoping meetings. Some of the scoping comments indicated that more detailed descriptions of the proposed actions and alternatives are needed to allow specific comments on the range of alternatives and issues and levels of detail to be considered in the analyses of environmental consequences. Public comments received during this scoping period plus the previous two preliminary scoping periods will be considered during the preparation of the EIS/EIR. Comments submitted in response to the previous notices will be considered and do not need to be resubmitted.

The BDCP is a conservation plan being prepared to meet the requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and the State of California’s Natural Communities Conservation Planning Act (NCCPAs). DWR (and potentially State and Federal water contractors) intends to apply for ESA and CESA incidental take permits (ITPs) for water operations and management activities in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. These incidental take authorizations would allow the incidental take of threatened and endangered species resulting from covered activities and conservation measures that will be identified through the planning process, including those associated with water operations of the Federal Central Valley Project (CVP), as operated by Reclamation, the California State Water Project (SWP), as operated by DWR, as well as operations of certain Mirant Delta LLC (Mirant Delta) power plants. Additionally, if feasible, the BDCP will be used as the basis for ESA compliance by Reclamation, including compliance with Section 7 of ESA in coordination with FWS and NMFS. Ultimately, the BDCP is intended to secure authorizations that would allow projects that restore and protect water supplies, water quality, and ecosystem health to proceed within a stable regulatory framework.

DATES: Ten public scoping meetings, open house format, will be held at various times and locations throughout California. See SupplemENDARY INFORMATION section for public scoping meeting dates.

Written comments on the scope of the BDCP or issues to be addressed in the EIS/EIR must be received no later than May 14, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Lori Rinek, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, W–2605, Sacramento, CA 95825, e-mail to lori_rinek@fws.gov, or fax to (916) 414–6713. See Supplementary Information section for public scoping meeting addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori Rinek, FWS, 916–414–6600; Patti Idlof, Reclamation, 916–978–5056; or Rosalie del Rosario, NMFS, 916–930–3600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Scoping Meeting Dates

Public scoping meetings will be held on the following dates and times:

• Monday, March 9, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Chico, CA.
• Tuesday, March 10, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., San Jose, CA.
• Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Bakersfield, CA.
• Thursday, March 12, 2009, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Los Angeles, CA.
• Monday, March 16, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., San Diego, CA.
• Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Merced, CA.
• Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Davis, CA.
• Thursday, March 19, 2009, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sacramento, CA.
• Monday, March 23, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Brentwood, CA.
• Tuesday, March 24, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Stockton, CA.
• Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Fairfield, CA.
• Thursday, March 26, 2009, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Clarksburg, CA.

Public Scoping Meeting Addresses

Public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

• Chico—Masonic Family Center, 1110 West East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926.
• San Jose—San Jose Marriott, 301 South Market Street, Blossom Hill and Almaden Rooms, San Jose, CA 95113.
• Bakersfield—Bakersfield Marriott at the Convention Center, 801 Truxtun Avenue, Salon A and Hammons Rooms, Bakersfield, CA 93301.
• Los Angeles—Junipero Serra State Building, 320 West Fourth, Los Angeles, CA 90013.
• San Diego—Marina Village Conference Center, 1936 Quivera Way, Captains Room and Room C8, San Diego, CA 92109.
• Merced—Merced High School, 205 West Olive Avenue, Merced, CA 95344.
• Davis—Veterans Center, 203 East 14th Street, Davis, CA 95616.