DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Riverwide Restoration Plan; Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are providing this notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Kalamazoo River restoration pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations. USFWS, NOAA, and the State of Michigan (collectively referred to as the “Trustees”) are also providing notice of their efforts to plan restoration projects authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) to compensate for injuries to natural resources from polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) released at and from the Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site (Superfund Site). The Trustees will prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) to identify and evaluate the environmental impacts associated with restoration actions that may be implemented to compensate for injuries to natural resources and associated services. The public is invited to provide comments to assist the Trustees in the development of a restoration plan (RP). This notice explains the scoping process the Trustees will use to gather input from the public.

DATES: Written comments must be received by March 20, 2014.

AUTHORITY
This document is published under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Dated: January 16, 2014.

Richard Hannan,
Acting Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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damages from potentially responsible parties (PRPs) to restore, rehabilitate, replace, or acquire the equivalent of natural resources and services injured by the release of hazardous substances. The Trustees will prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) to identify and evaluate the environmental impacts associated with restoration actions that may be implemented to compensate for injuries to natural resources and associated services. The public is invited to provide comments to assist the Trustees in the development of a restoration plan (RP). This notice explains the scoping process the Trustees will use to gather input from the public.

The Trustees have engaged the public directly in several ways since initiating the Kalamazoo River Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) with the release of a Preassessment Screen and a Stage I Assessment Plan in 2000, and have also gathered scoping information from other planning processes in which the public has been engaged. Based on these previous interactions, the Trustees do not plan to hold additional scoping meetings during development of the draft RP/PEIS. As part of the Stage I NRDA process, the Trustees met with the public, solicited restoration project ideas, spoke directly with individuals and organizations like the Kalamazoo River Protection Association and the Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, provided findings at a public meeting, and made the report available for public review and comment (MDEQ et al. 2005; see Stage I Assessment Report for the Kalamazoo River Environment, Volume 2, Chapter 4, available at http://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/KalamazooRiver). The Stage I Assessment Report provides an overview of restoration planning, criteria for evaluating potential restoration alternatives, and examples of potential restoration actions for the Kalamazoo River Environment. The Draft RP/PEIS will incorporate and build upon existing restoration planning information developed in the Stage I Assessment Report. In addition, the Trustees have participated in numerous public meetings hosted by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency related to the Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site. Most recently, the Trustees released a Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (RP/EA) for Portage Creek and Operable Unit 1 (OU1), which is available on the USFWS Web site at:

www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/KalamazooRiver


2013.08.OU1.RPEA_fnl_sm.pdf.

The Trustees solicited public comment on the Draft OU1 RP/EA during the spring of 2012 and met with the public on May 1, 2012. In doing so, the Trustees received updated input from individuals, the Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, Calhoun Conservation District, Kalamazoo Nature Center, and the Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition. These interactions have informed the scope of restoration planning and have helped identify significant issues to be evaluated in the RP/PEIS.

Industrial activities in the Kalamazoo area have released PCBs into the environment. Recycling of carbonless copy paper at several area paper mills was the primary source of PCB release. Waste from the recycling of such paper conducted at Kalamazoo area paper mills also contained PCBs, and the waste was disposed of by several methods that resulted in releases of PCBs into the environment. These PCBs have contaminated sediments, the water column, and biota in and adjacent to downstream sections of Portage Creek, the Kalamazoo River, and Lake Michigan.

Based on the risks that PCBs pose to the environment and to human health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) listed the Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site on the National Priorities List on August 30, 1990. PCBs are listed as hazardous substances under CERCLA. EPA and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality currently describe the Site being addressed by the Superfund remedial investigation as including: (1) five disposal areas and six paper mill properties; (2) a 3-mile stretch of Portage Creek from Cork Street in the City of Kalamazoo to where the creek meets the Kalamazoo River; and (3) an approximately 80-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River, from Morrow Dam to Lake Michigan, with adjacent floodplains, wetlands, and in-stream sediments.

As defined in the Stage 1 Assessment Report (MDEQ et al. 2005; available at http://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/KalamazooRiver), the Trustees are using the term Kalamazoo River Environment (KRE) to represent the entire natural resource damage assessment area. The KRE encompasses the area where hazardous substances were released at or from the Superfund site have come to be located, and areas where natural resources or the services they provide may have been affected by the Site-related hazardous substances releases (MDEQ et al. 2005).

As restoration planning proceeds, the Trustees expect to have opportunities to settle natural resource damage claims with willing parties. The RP/PEIS will provide an ecological framework, with public input, to maximize the benefits of specific restoration projects to the affected resources in the KRE that might be included in or funded by settlements. The RP/PEIS will provide criteria and guidance for Trustees to use in selecting feasible restoration projects. In developing the document, the Trustees will also incorporate public input in the development and evaluation of restoration alternatives, including general categories of potential restoration actions as well as a few specific potential projects.

A draft RP/PEIS document is anticipated to be released for public comment by Fall 2014. Specific dates and times for events will be publicized when scheduled.

Public Comments

Please send comments in reference to: (a) developing the draft RP/PEIS; (b) suggestions for additional restoration actions beyond those described in the 2000 Stage I Assessment Report and the Portage Creek/OU1 RP/EA; and (c) considerations for potential impacts of

www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/KalamazooRiver


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A draft RP/PEIS document is anticipated to be released for public comment by Fall 2014. Specific dates and times for events will be publicized when scheduled.

Public Comments

Please send comments in reference to: (a) developing the draft RP/PEIS; (b) suggestions for additional restoration actions beyond those described in the 2000 Stage I Assessment Report and the Portage Creek/OU1 RP/EA; and (c) considerations for potential impacts of
those actions to the human environment. Please see the ADDRESSES section for additional submission information.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

Thomas O. Melius,
Regional Director, Midwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2014–03332 Filed 2–14–14; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management
[LLUTY01000–L12320000.EB0000]

Notice of Intent to Collect Fees on Public Land in Grand County, Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to applicable provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), the Moab Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to begin collecting fees for overnight camping within six developed campgrounds.

DATES: Effective 6 months after the publication of this notice, the BLM-Utah Moab Field Office would initiate fee collection at the camping areas unless BLM publishes a Federal Register notice to the contrary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: J. Rockford Smith, Recreation Division Chief, Moab Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, UT 84532, (435) 259–2100. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Utah Recreation Resource Advisory Council (RRAC), functioning as a Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (RRAC), will review the proposal to charge fees at the sites mentioned below. Future adjustments in the fee amount will be made in accordance with the Moab Field Office’s Business Plan for BLM Moab Campgrounds (Amended 2014) covering the sites. Future fee adjustments will only be made after consideration of comments received on a publicly reviewed business plan amendment and after consultation with the Utah Recreation Resource Advisory Committee and other appropriate advance public notice.

The BLM is proposing to begin collecting fees for overnight camping within the following six developed campgrounds:

Salt Lake Meridian
Swasey’s Rapid
T. 20 S., R. 16 E., Sec. 3, lots 2 and 3.

Fish Ford
T. 22 S., R. 24 E., Sec. 3, lot 2.

Cowskin
T. 23 S., R. 24 E., Sec. 21, SE1/4SE1/4.

Bitter Creek

Westwater
T. 20S., R. 25 E., Sec. 12, tract 37.

Hideout
T. 24 S., R. 25 E., Sec. 29, SE1/4NW1/4.

Swasey’s Rapid campground is located along the Kokopelli’s Trail within the Utah Rims SRMA and offers one toilet, 10 individual sites, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables.

Cowskin campground is located in Grand County, Utah. Under Section 6802(g)(2) of the REA, the campgrounds listed above qualify as a site wherein visitors can be charged an “Expanded Amenity Recreation Fee.” Visitors wishing to use the expanded amenities the BLM has developed at Westwater, Bitter Creek, Fish Ford, Cowskin, Hideout and Swasey’s Rapid campgrounds would purchase a Recreation Use Permit as described at 43 CFR Part 2930. Specific visitor fees will be identified and posted at the developed campgrounds. Fees must be paid at the self-service pay station located at the developed campgrounds upon occupying the site. Depending upon need, reservable group camp sites may be developed, and at that time advanced reservation may be made through the reservations office of the Moab Field Office. People holding the America The Beautiful—The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands—Interagency Senior Pass, or an Interagency Access Pass would be entitled to a 50 percent discount on all expanded amenity fees except those associated with group reservations. Fees charged for use of the group sites would include a non-refundable site reservation fee and a per person use fee.

The Westwater and Fish Ford developed campgrounds were constructed in the middle 1980s and have been in use for more than two decades. Over time, the use has increased and the BLM has added amenities for resource protection and visitor enjoyment. Westwater and Fish Ford are located within the Two Rivers Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Westwater campground offers a public water system, four toilets, two changing rooms, seven individual sites (with 15 more under construction), an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables. Fish Ford campground offers one toilet, ten individual sites, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables.

Bitter Creek campground is located along the Kokopelli’s Trail within the Extensive Recreation Management Area. It offers five individual sites, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables.

Swasey’s Rapid campground is located along the Green River just upstream of the boat ramp and parking area. It is located within the Lower Gray Canyon SRMA. It offers one toilet, 15 individual sites, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables.

The BLM is committed to provide, and receive fair value for, the use of developed recreation facilities and services in a manner that meets public use demands, provides quality experiences and protects important resources. The BLM’s policy is to collect fees at all specialized recreation sites, or where the BLM provides facilities, equipment or services at Federal expense, in connection with outdoor use as authorized by the REA. In an effort to meet increasing demands for services and maintenance of developed facilities, the BLM would implement a fee program for the campgrounds. The BLM’s mission for the campgrounds is to ensure that funding is available to maintain facilities and recreational.