ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: EPA issued a proposed rule in the Federal Register issue of March 19, 2014, concerning protections from pesticides for agricultural workers. This document extends the comment period for 60 days, from June 17, 2014, to August 18, 2014. The comment period is being extended to provide additional time for commenters to prepare their responses.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2011–0184, must be received on or before August 18, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Follow the detailed instructions as provided under ADDRESSES in the Federal Register document of March 19, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Davis, Field and External Affairs Division (7506P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (703) 308–7002; email address: davis.kathy@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document extends the public comment period established in the Federal Register issue of March 19, 2014 (79 FR 15444) (FRL–9395–8). In that document, public comments were required to be submitted on or before June 17, 2014. EPA is hereby extending that comment period to August 18, 2014.

To submit comments, or access the docket, please follow the detailed instructions as provided under ADDRESSES in the March 19, 2014 Federal Register document. If you have questions, consult the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 170

Environmental protection, Agricultural worker, Farms, Pesticides and pests, Worker protection standards.

Dated: May 6, 2014.

Louise P. Wise,
Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2014–10990 Filed 5–13–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17


RIN 1018–AZ30

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designating Critical Habitat for the Neosho Mucket and Rabbitsfoot

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the reopening of the public comment period on our October 16, 2012, proposed designation of critical habitat for the Neosho mucket (Lampsilis rafinesqueana) and rabbitsfoot (Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica) mussels under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. In response to requests we received, we are reopening the comment period to allow all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed designation of critical habitat, draft environmental assessment, and draft economic analysis. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in our determinations on this rulemaking action.

DATES: We will consider all comments received or postmarked on or before July 14, 2014. Comments submitted electronically using the Federal eRulemaking Portal (see ADDRESSES, below) must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date.


Comment submission: You may submit written comments by one of the following methods:


(2) By hard copy: Submit comments by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS–R4–ES–2013–0007; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042–PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

We request that you send comments only by the methods described above. We will post all comments on http://www.regulations.gov. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Public Comments section below for more information).


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 16, 2012, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (77 FR 63440) to list the Neosho mucket (Lampsilis rafinesqueana) as an endangered species and the rabbitsfoot (Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica) as a threatened species and to designate critical habitat for these two mussels under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (Act). We proposed to designate approximately 779.1 river kilometers (rkm) (484.1 river miles (rmi)) of critical habitat for the Neosho mucket in the Cottonwood, Elk, Fall, Illinois, Neosho, Shoal, Spring, North Fork Spring, and Verdigris Rivers in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

We proposed to designate 2,664 rkm (1,655 rmi) of critical habitat for the rabbitsfoot in the Neosho, Spring (Arkansas River system), Verdigris, Black, Buffalo, Little, Ouachita, Saline, Middle Fork Little Red, Spring (White River system), South Fork Spring, Strawberry, White, St. Francis, Big Sunflower, Big Black, Paint Rock, Duck, Tennessee, Red, Ohio, Allegheny, Green, Tippecanoe, Walhonding, Middle Branch North Fork Vermilion, and North Fork Vermilion Rivers and Bear, French, Muddy, Little Darby and Fish Creeks in Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. That proposal had a 60-day comment period, ending December 17, 2012.

On May 9, 2013, we announced the reopening of the comment period for the proposed listing of Neosho mucket and
rabbitsfoot and the availability of our draft environmental assessment (DNEPA–EA) and draft economic analysis (DEA) of the proposed critical habitat (78 FR 27171). The comment period was reopened for 30 days, ending on June 10, 2013.

Subsequently, we received two requests for the reopened comment period to be extended so the public could have additional time to review the DNEPA–EA and DEA. The requests were from Senator Mark Pryor of Arkansas and the Kansas Farm Bureau. In response to these requests, we reopened the comment period for an additional 60 days from August 27, 2013, to October 28, 2013 (78 FR 52894).

There has been significant interest in Arkansas about this proposed critical habitat designation. We received an additional request from Senator Pryor for the reopened comment period to be extended again so that the public could have more time to review the draft environmental assessment and draft economic analysis. We concurred with this request.

Therefore, with this notice we are reopening the comment period on the proposed designation of critical habitat and on the DEA and DNEPA–EA for an additional 60 days. Further, in order to facilitate a better understanding of the proposed designation and the potential effects on stakeholders, the Service intends to hold public information meetings in Arkansas. The date, time, and locations of these meetings will be coordinated with interested stakeholders and noticed in newspapers and other media outlets.

Additional information may be found in the October 16, 2012, proposed rule (77 FR 63440) and the May 9, 2013, and August 27, 2013, documents to reopen the comment period and announce the availability of the DNEPA–EA and DEA (78 FR 27171 and 78 FR 52894).

Public Comments
We are again seeking written comments and information during this reopened comment period on our proposed designation of critical habitat for Neosho mucket and rabbitsfoot that published in the Federal Register on October 16, 2012 (77 FR 63440), and on our DEA and DNEPA–EA of the proposed critical habitat designation that were made available for review on May 9, 2013, and August 27, 2013 (78 FR 27171 and 78 FR 52894).

With regard to the proposed critical habitat determination, we are particularly interested in comments concerning:

(1) The reasons why we should or should not designate habitat as “critical habitat” under section 4 of the Act, including whether there are threats to the species from human activity, the degree of which can be expected to increase due to the designation, and whether that increase in threat outweighs the benefit of designation such that the designation of critical habitat is not prudent.

(2) Specific information on:
(a) The amount and distribution of the species’ habitat;
(b) What areas occupied by the species at the time of listing that contain features essential to the conservation of the species we should include in the designation and why;
(c) Special management considerations or protection that may be needed in critical habitat areas we are proposing, including managing for the potential effects of climate change; and
(d) What areas not occupied at the time of listing are essential for the conservation of the species and why.

(3) Land use designations and current or planned activities in the subject areas and their possible impacts on proposed critical habitat.

(4) Any foreseeable economic, national security, or other relevant impacts that may result from designating any area that may be included in the final designation. We are particularly interested in any impacts on small entities and the benefits of including or excluding areas from the proposed designation that are subject to these impacts.

(5) Whether our approach to designating critical habitat could be improved or modified in any way to provide for greater public participation and understanding, or to assist us in accommodating public concerns and comments.

If you submitted comments or information on the proposed rule (77 FR 63440) during the initial comment period from October 16, 2012, to December 17, 2012, or the reopened comment periods from May 9, 2013, to June 10, 2013 (78 FR 27171), or August 27, 2013, to October 28, 2013 (78 FR 52894), please do not resubmit them. We have incorporated them into the public record as part of the original comment period, and we will fully consider them in our final determination.

You may submit your comments and materials concerning the proposed rule by one of the methods listed in ADDRESSES. We request that you send comments only by the methods described in ADDRESSES. If you submit a comment via http://www.regulations.gov, your entire comment—including any personal identifying information—will be posted on the Web site. We will post all hardcopy comments on http://www.regulations.gov as well. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we used in preparing the proposed rule, are available for public inspection on http://www.regulations.gov at Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2013–0007, or by appointment, during normal business hours, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Authority
The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Dated: May 7, 2014.

Michael J. Bean,
Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 2014–10944 Filed 5–13–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17


RIN 1018–AY17

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Threatened Status for the Rufa Red Knot (Calidris canutus rufa)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period; public hearing announcement.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the extension of the public comment period on our September 30, 2013, proposal to list the rufa red knot (Calidris canutus rufa) as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). In accordance with section 4(b)(5) of the Act, we are holding a second public hearing in North Carolina. A public informational session will be held immediately.