# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

**news release**

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PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE HELD ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM

Public meetings will be held in July to elicit opinion on the issues that should be addressed in a proposed environmental impact statement on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's endangered species program, Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of the Interior Department agency, announced today.

The meetings will begin at 9 a.m., on Tuesday, July 17, 1979, and will continue as needed on Wednesday and Thursday, July 18 and 19, until completed. They will be held in rooms 7000 A and B, U.S. Department of the Interior, on C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, Washington, D.C.

Notice of the public meetings was published in the June 13, 1979, Federal Register.

The proposed impact statement will discuss various aspects of the present endangered species program, including environmental, economic, and other effects. Alternatives to the present program will also be considered. The public meetings on the scope of the environmental impact statement are required under new regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Persons wishing to participate in the public meetings are asked to notify Mr. Harold J. O'Connor, Acting Associate Director for Federal Assistance, U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240 (202/343-4646) by July 10.

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