

Date: April 28, 2003.

Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: %Mary Clare Walker, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5104, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1165.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel Signaling.

Date: May 5, 2003.

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Marcia Litwack, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 6206, MSC 7804, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1719.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 23, 2003.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,
Director, Office of Federal Advisory
Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-10666 Filed 4-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an upcoming meeting of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463).

DATES: Friday, May 9, 2003; time, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: James A. Michener Art Museum, 138 South Pine Street, Doylestown PA 18901.

The agenda for the meeting will focus on implementation of the Management Action Plan for the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and State Heritage Park. The Commission was established to assist the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its political subdivisions in planning and implementing an integrated strategy for protecting and promoting cultural, historic and natural resources. The Commission reports to the Secretary of the Interior and to Congress.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: C. Allen Sachse, Executive Director, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission, 1 South Third Street, 8th Floor, Easton PA 18042. (610) 923-3548).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission was established by Pub. L. 100-692, November 18, 1988 and extended through Pub. L. 105-355, November 13, 1998.

Dated: April 23, 2003.

C. Allen Sachse,

Executive Director, Delaware & Lehigh
National Heritage Corridor Commission.

[FR Doc. 03-10637 Filed 4-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Draft Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl Recovery Plan

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; reopening of public comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announce the reopening of the comment period for the Draft Recovery Plan for the Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*) (Draft Plan). The species is currently known to occur on Federal, state, tribal, and private lands in Pima and Pinal Counties in southern Arizona. We solicit review and comment from the public on this Draft Plan. Since the prior comment period, additional information from the administrative record concerning the locations of pygmy-owls has become available to the public, in part as a result of a court ruling in *National Association of Home Builders v. Norton*, 309 F.3d 26 (D.C. Cir. 2002). Thus, we are reopening the comment period on the Draft Plan to allow all interested parties additional time to provide comments. Comments previously

submitted need not be resubmitted, because they will be incorporated into the public record as part of this reopening of the comment period, and will be fully considered in the Final Plan.

DATES: Submit comments on or before June 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona, 85021-4951 or faxed to 602/242-2513, or emailed to cfpo_recovery@fws.gov. The additional materials from the administrative record, as well as comments and materials received, are available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address. You may also write the Field Supervisor at the address above, or call 602/242-0210 to have a copy mailed to you or made available for you to pick up at the address above. Persons wishing to review the Draft Recovery Plan may also obtain a copy by accessing the Service's Arizona Ecological Service Field Office internet web page at Arizonaes.fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Richardson, Arizona Ecological Services Tucson Suboffice, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 110 South Church Avenue, Suite 3450, Tucson, Arizona, 85701 (520/670-4643).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant species to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of our endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, we are working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for conservation of species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed. The current comment period for the Draft Plan closed on April 9, 2003.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and

comment be provided during recovery plan development. We will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. We, along with other Federal agencies, will take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The Draft Plan describes the status, current management, recovery objectives and criteria, and actions needed to reclassify the pygmy-owl from endangered to threatened. The Draft Plan was developed in coordination with the Service and by an appointed Recovery Team which includes a group of scientists with expertise in the ecology of the pygmy-owl and other raptors (Technical Group) together with a team of stakeholders (the Implementation Group), which includes members of affected parties (*i.e.*, tribes, state agencies, counties, towns, developers, environmental groups, ranchers, mining, and private property rights groups). The Draft Plan has undergone peer review by scientists, conservation biologists, range experts, and others experienced in reviewing recovery plans. This Draft Plan incorporates their comments where applicable. Additional peer review will be conducted during the current public comment period.

The pygmy-owl occurs in a variety of scrub and woodland communities, including riverbottom woodlands, woody thickets, Sonoran desertscrub, and semidesert grasslands. The pygmy-owl occurs in areas with fairly dense woody thickets or woodlands with trees and/or cacti large enough to support nesting cavities. They are found below 1,200 meters (4,000 feet). We determined in 1997 that the distinct population segment in Arizona of the pygmy-owl was endangered (62 FR 10730) primarily because of habitat destruction. Factors identified included (1) present or threatened destruction of their habitat and range, (2) inadequate existing regulatory mechanisms, and (3) other natural or manmade factors affecting their continued existence. The Draft Plan contains actions to address these factors.

Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the Draft Plan. In particular, we are soliciting specific comments on:

1. Any information on the numbers and distribution of the pygmy-owl not considered in the Draft Plan and their relation to proposed recovery actions;
2. Whether we have looked at the right biological factors and other relevant data related to the quantity and

quality of available pygmy-owl habitat and what habitat is necessary to the recovery of the species;

3. Land use practices and current or planned activities within Recovery Areas and their possible impacts on proposed recovery actions.

All comments received by us on or before the date specified in the **DATES** section above will be considered prior to approval of the plan.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: April 16, 2003.

H. Dale Hall,

Regional Director, Region 2.

[FR Doc. 03-10635 Filed 4-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-029-03-1310-DT CBMP]

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Montana Statewide Oil and Gas Final Environmental Impact Statement and Plan Amendments of the Powder River and Billings Resource Management Plans (RMPs); Montana

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision for the Montana Statewide Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment of the Powder River and Billings RMPs. The BLM planning area included oil and gas estate administered by BLM in the Powder River and Billings RMP areas. The FEIS and Plan Amendments were available for protest from January 17, 2003, through February 18, 2003. All protests and comments received were considered during the preparation of the ROD.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD have been sent to affected Federal, State, and local government agencies and to interested parties. The document will be available electronically on the following Web site: <http://www.mt.blm.gov/mcfo/>. Copies of the ROD are available for public inspection at the following BLM office locations: Office of External

Affairs, Main Interior Building, Room 6214, 18th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20240; External Affairs Office; Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101; Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Bloom, Coal Bed Methane Program Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 233-3649.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Powder River RMP area encompasses the southeastern portion of Montana consisting of Treasure and Powder River counties, and portions of Rosebud, Big Horn, Carter, and Custer counties. There are approximately 2,522,950 BLM-administered oil and gas acres in the Powder River RMP area. The Billings RMP area encompasses the south-central portion of Montana consisting of Wheatland, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Yellowstone, and Carbon counties, and the remaining portion of Big Horn County. There are approximately 662,066 BLM-administered oil and gas acres in the Billings RMP area. The BLM-administered oil and gas acreage in Blaine, Park, and Gallatin counties is not part of this BLM planning effort.

The State of Montana was a co-lead in preparation of the EIS. Four Designated Cooperating Agencies helped the BLM and the State prepare the EIS: the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the United States Department of Energy, the Crow Tribe, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Northern Cheyenne Tribe declined to become a cooperating agency, but was invited by the BLM to participate in all Cooperating Agency activities.

Dated: April 11, 2003.

Martin C. Ott,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 03-10719 Filed 4-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-040-06-1610-DU]

Notice of Availability of Record of Decision for Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan Amendments

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Record of Decision (ROD) for the Wyoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Powder River Basin Oil and Gas