

Regulatory Affairs, Attention, Department of the Interior Desk Officer, by fax to 202-395-6566, or by e-mail to [aira\\_docket@omb.eop.gov](mailto:aira_docket@omb.eop.gov). Send a copy of your written comments to Mercedes Flores, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., MS-2607 MIB, Washington, DC 20240, or electronically to [Mercedes\\_Flores@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Mercedes_Flores@ios.doi.gov). Please mention that your comments concern the Applicant Background Survey, OMB control # 1091-0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instrument, please write to the above address, or call Mercedes Flores, (202) 208-6120. The collection instrument is also available on the Internet at: [http://www.doi.gov/diversity/doc/di\\_1935.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/diversity/doc/di_1935.pdf).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

DOI is below parity with the Relevant Civilian Labor Force representation for many mission critical occupations. The Department's Strategic Human Capital Management Plan identifies the job skills that will be needed in its current and future workforce. The job skills it will need are dispersed throughout its eight bureaus and include, among others, making visitors welcome to various facilities, such as parks and refuges, processing permits for a wide variety of uses of the public lands, collecting royalties for minerals extracted from the public lands, rounding-up and adopting-out wild horses and burros found in the west, protecting archeological and cultural resources of the public lands, and enforcing criminal laws of the United States. As a result of this broad spectrum of duties and services, the Department touches the lives of most Americans.

The people who deal with the Department bring with them a wide variety of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. A diverse workforce enables the Department to provide a measure of understanding to its customers by relating to the diverse background of those customers. By including employees of all backgrounds, all DOI employees gain a measure of knowledge, background, experience, and comfort in serving all of the Department's customers.

In order to determine if there are barriers in its recruitment and selection processes, DOI must track the demographic groups that apply for its jobs. There is no other statistically valid method to make these determinations,

and no source of this information other than directly from applicants. The data collected is not provided to selecting officials and plays no part in the merit staffing or the selection processes. The data collected will be used in summary form to determine trends covering the demographic make-up of applicant pools and job selections within a given occupation or organizational group. The records of those applicants not selected are destroyed in accordance with DOI's records management procedures.

**II. Data**

(1) *Title:* Applicant Background Survey.

*OMB Control Number:* 1091-0001.

*Current Expiration Date:* March 31, 2006.

*Type of Review:* Information Collection Renewal.

*Affected Entities:* Applicants for DOI jobs.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 535,160.

*Frequency of response:* Once per job application.

(2) Annual reporting and recordkeeping burden.

*Average reporting burden per application:* 3 minutes.

*Total annual reporting:* 26,758 hours.

(3) *Description of the need and use of the information:* This information is required to obtain the source of recruitment, ethnicity, race, and disability data on job applicants to determine if the recruitment is effectively reaching all aspects of relevant labor pools and to determine if there are proportionate acceptance rates at various stages of the recruitment process. Response is optional. The information is used for evaluating recruitment only, and plays no part in the selection of who is hired.

**III. Request for Comments**

*Request for Comments:* Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a federal

agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: March 16, 2006.

**Sharon Eller,**

*Director, Office of Civil Rights.*

[FR Doc. 06-2846 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-RE-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Notice of Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge, Kirwin, KS**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces that a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is available. This CCP, prepared pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Improvement Act) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, describes how the Service intends to manage this Refuge for the next 15 years.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received at the postal or electronic address listed below on or before April 24, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Please provide written comments to Toni Griffin, Planning Team Leader, Division of Refuge Planning, Branch of Comprehensive Conservation Planning, Mountain-Prairie Region, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225-0486, or electronically to [toni\\_griffin@fws.gov](mailto:toni_griffin@fws.gov). A copy of the Draft CCP/EA may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 134 Union Blvd., Suite 300, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-1807; or download from <http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/planning>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Craig Mowry, Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service, Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge, 702 East Xavier Road, Kirwin, Kansas 67644; telephone: 785-543-6673; fax: 785-543-5464; or e-mail: [craig\\_mowry@fws.gov](mailto:craig_mowry@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Consisting of 10,778 acres, Kirwin NWR was established in 1954 as an overlay Refuge on a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) irrigation and flood control reservoir. Reclamation owns the land and controls reservoir water levels. The Service staff manage all other activities on the land and water. The purpose of the Refuge is for the “\* \* \* conservation, maintenance, and management of wildlife, resources thereof, and its habitat thereon \* \* \*” 16 U.S.C. 715d (Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act), with an emphasis on migratory birds.

This Draft CCP/EA identifies and evaluates two alternatives for managing Kirwin NWR for the next 15 years. Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, proposes continuation of current management of the Refuge. The Refuge will continue to be managed in accordance with the current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Reclamation and the Service; the Cooperative Agreement with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP); and the Kirwin Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP), completed in 1996. Alternative B (Proposed Action) emphasizes wildlife, habitat, and wildlife-dependent public use. This alternative fully strives to implement the Improvement Act, which directs that each refuge shall be managed to fulfill both the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the individual purpose of the refuge. Under this alternative, management emphasis will be placed on wildlife and habitat management for migratory birds and species of conservation concern. Wildlife-dependent recreation uses (*i.e.*, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, interpretation, and environmental education) will be promoted and emphasized. Non-wildlife-dependent uses such as water skiing, jet skiing, personal watercrafts, camping, swimming, horseback riding, campfires, volleyball, basketball, power/speed boating, and fishing tournaments would be discontinued.

The Proposed Action was selected because it best meets the purpose and goals of Kirwin NWR, as well as the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Proposed Action will improve Refuge habitat to benefit migrating waterfowl, neotropical migrants, shore birds, and federally

listed species. Habitat improvements will enhance the quality of wildlife-dependent public use programs by attracting more wildlife to the area. Additional wildlife-dependent public use programs will be added where feasible. Environmental education and partnerships will result in greater support of Kirwin NWR and the National Wildlife Refuge System. Cultural and historical resources will be protected.

Dated: August 12, 2006.

**Sharon R. Rose,**

*Regional Director, Region 6, Denver, CO.*

Editorial note: This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register March 21, 2006.

[FR Doc. E6-4265 Filed 3-23-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening and Widening/Expansion of a 5-Year Review of the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the amendment of an ongoing 5-year review of the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) under section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). On April 14, 2005, we initiated a 5-year review only for the Florida manatee subspecies (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*) of this species. We now expand the scope of this 5-year review to include the entire species. We request that the public submit any applicable information on the West Indian manatee that has become available since its original listing. Based on the results of this 5-year review, we will make the requisite determination under section 4(c)(2)(B) of the Act.

**DATES:** To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than June 13, 2006. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit information to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jacksonville Ecological Services Office, 6620 Southpoint Drive South, Suite 310, Jacksonville, FL 32216. Information received in response to this notice and review will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during

normal business hours, at the above address. Information may also be sent via e-mail to [manatee@fws.gov](mailto:manatee@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dawn Jennings at the above address, or at 904-232-2580, ext. 114.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We listed the Florida manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*), a subspecies of the West Indian Manatee, as endangered in 1967 under the Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 926; 16 U.S.C. 668aa(c)). In 1970, we listed the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) in our U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife by amending and adding names to the First List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife (Appendix A under 50 CFR Part 17. (35 FR 8491, June 2, 1970)). The earlier listing of the Florida manatee was incorporated into the listing of the West Indian manatee. The West Indian manatee is currently listed as an endangered species under the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the population is further protected as a depleted stock under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407).

Under the Act, the Service maintains a list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species (List) at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Act requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years to ensure that the listing classification of a species is accurate. On the basis of such reviews under section 4(c)(2)(B), we determine whether or not the species should be removed from the List (delisted), or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. If we determine that a change in classification is not warranted, the West Indian manatee will remain on the List under its current status. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and only considered if such data substantiates that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons: (1) the species is considered extinct; (2) the species is considered to be recovered; and/or (3) the original data available when the species was listed, or the interpretation of such data, were in error. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process. The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species currently under active review.

On April 14, 2005, (70 FR 19780), we initiated a 5-year review for the Florida manatee subspecies only. By this notice,