

2007 through 2012, through annual evaluation of information collected by three states, other partners, and the Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Monitoring Plan are available by request from the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4101 E. 80th St., Bloomington, MN (telephone 612-725-3548; fax; 612-725-3609). This Monitoring Plan is also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/pdm/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Phil Delphey, at the above Bloomington, MN address, or at [phil\\_delphey@fws.gov](mailto:phil_delphey@fws.gov), or at 612-725-3548, extension 206.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Section 4(g) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) instructs the Secretary to implement a system in cooperation with the states to monitor effectively for not less than five years the status of any species that is delisted due to recovery. The intent of this monitoring is to determine whether the species should be proposed for relisting under the normal listing procedures, relisted under the emergency listing authority of the Act, or kept off of the list because it remains neither threatened nor endangered. For the Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment of the Gray Wolf [71 FR15266; (March 27, 2006)], the Monitoring Plan focuses on reviewing and evaluating (1) Population characteristics of the DPS, (2) threats to the DPS, and (3) implementation of legal and management commitments that are important in reducing threats to the DPS or maintaining threats at sufficiently low levels.

For the delisted DPS, focusing the Monitoring Plan on these three aspects is necessary and sufficient to ensure that the DPS does not decrease to the point of again meeting the definition of threatened or endangered without an appropriate and timely response from the Service. Winter and late-winter estimates of wolf populations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan have demonstrated that wolves in the DPS have surpassed their numerical recovery criteria for a sufficient period due to a reduction in threats over the last 25 years. The protection and management of wolves by states, tribes, and federal land management agencies will be critical in conserving the DPS. Since delisting, state and tribal laws and regulations have become the primary mechanism to protect wolves from their primary former threat—excessive human-caused mortality.

The Monitoring Plan for the DPS will be focused within the borders of

Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Upper Peninsula (UP) of Michigan, where wolf populations have attained the numerical recovery criteria specified in the Recovery Plan for the Eastern Timber Wolf. The delisting of the DPS was based on wolf recovery in those states. Therefore, it is not necessary to conduct intensive monitoring in other parts of the DPS. The Service is interested, however, in reviewing any data regarding the existence of individual wolves or wolf populations outside of the core recovery areas, especially in the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Additionally, the Service is interested in obtaining disease and parasite data from wolves found in other portions of the DPS that may suggest a new or increasing threat that may impact wolves in the core recovery areas.

On June 4, 2007, the Service announced the availability of its draft plan to monitor the WGLDPS of the Gray Wolf for public review and comment (72 FR 30819). After the comment period closed on July 5, 2007, the Service reviewed each comment received and prepared responses to substantive comments. The Service posted those comments and its responses on the internet—see <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/pdm/>.

**Author**

The primary author of this notice of document availability is Phil Delphey (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section).

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

Dated: February 26, 2008.

**Charlie Wooley,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Midwest Region.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[AA-6709-B, AA-6709-E, AA-6709-G, AA-6709-A2, AA-6709-B2; AK-964-1410-KC-P]

**Alaska Native Claims Selection**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Ounalashka Corporation. The

lands are in the vicinity of Unalaska, Alaska, and are located in:

U.S. Survey No. 8426, Alaska.

Containing 109.95 acres.

**Seward Meridian, Alaska**

T. 74 S., R. 116 W.,

Secs. 4, 5, and 8;

Secs. 9, 16, and 17;

Secs. 20, 28 and 29.

Containing approximately 2,470 acres.

T. 72 S., R. 118 W.,

Sec. 19.

Containing approximately 637 acres.

T. 72 S., R. 119 W.,

Secs. 3, 4, and 9;

Secs. 10, 15, and 16;

Secs. 22, 23, and 24.

Containing approximately 5,464 acres.

T. 73 S., R. 120 W.,

Secs. 4 to 7, inclusive;

Secs. 9, 16, 21, and 28;

Secs. 31, 32, and 33.

Containing approximately 6,955 acres.

T. 74 S., R. 120 W.,

Sec. 6, 7, and 18.

Containing approximately 1,855 acres.

Aggregating approximately 17,491 acres.

The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to The Aleut Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to Ounalashka Corporation. Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Dutch Harbor Fisherman.

**DATES:** The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until May 12, 2008 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Bureau of Land Management by phone at 907-271-5960, or by e-mail at [ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov](mailto:ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunication device (TTD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a

week, to contact the Bureau of Land Management.

**Hillary Woods,**

*Land Law Examiner, Land Transfer Adjudication I.*

[FR Doc. E8-7584 Filed 4-9-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--SS-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[AK-012-08-1220-DA-WSDL]

**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Amendment to the East Alaska Resource Management Plan (EARMP) for the Delta River Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA)**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management; Glennallen Field Office.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Glennallen Field Office, Alaska, intends to prepare a land use plan amendment for the East Alaska Resource Management Plan (EARMP). This amendment will address recreation management decisions in the Delta River Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA), as defined in the EARMP. The Delta River SRMA includes all portions of the Delta National Wild and Scenic River corridor managed by the BLM. This planning activity encompasses approximately 45,000 acres of unencumbered BLM-administered public lands. The plan amendment will fulfill the needs and obligations set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and BLM management policies. The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns. The public scoping process will identify planning issues and develop planning criteria.

**DATES:** A 30-day public comment period will be announced through local news media outlets, mailings to interested individuals, and on the BLM-Alaska Web site at <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/gdo.html>. Comments may be submitted in writing to the address listed below. Associated planning documents can be viewed on the BLM-Alaska Web site, or they can be requested in a paper or electronic copy format by contacting the Glennallen Field Office at the address and phone number listed below.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to: Delta River Special Recreation Management Area Planning, Bureau of Land Management, Glennallen Field Office, P.O. Box 147, Glennallen, AK 99588; phone 907-822-3217, Fax 907-822-3120. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. The BLM will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Heath Emmons, phone 907-822-3217 or [hemmons@blm.gov](mailto:hemmons@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 7, 2007, the BLM published a Record of Decision (ROD) for the East Alaska Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. Among other decisions, this document created the Delta River SRMA, which encompasses all BLM-managed portions of the Delta National Wild and Scenic River corridor. Subsequent to the development of the EARMP, the BLM developed new recreation planning requirements (see BLM Manual H-1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook) that were not included in the EARMP. The new planning policy requires recreation-related land use allocations and development of recreation management zones (RMZ). Although the EARMP did identify RMZs within the Delta River SRMA, some boundaries require minor changes. For public lands within the Delta River SRMA, the proposed land use plan amendment will:

- Identify the corresponding recreation niche within each RMZ to be served,
- develop explicit recreation management objectives for the specific recreation opportunities to be produced and the outcomes to be attained (activities, experiences and benefits),
- prescribe recreation-setting character conditions required to produce recreation opportunities and facilitate the attainment of both recreation experiences and beneficial outcomes, as targeted above, and
- briefly describe an activity planning framework that addresses recreation

management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative support actions (e.g., visitor services, permits and fees, recreation concessions, and appropriate use restrictions) necessary to achieve explicitly stated recreation management objectives and setting prescriptions.

Preliminary issues and management concerns have been identified by BLM personnel, other agencies, and in focus group meetings with stakeholder groups. The major issue themes that will be addressed in the planning effort include: managing human uses and activities to preserve prescribed recreation-setting character conditions, protecting and conserving lands having special or unique features and resource values, and managing and conserving natural resources of the Delta River. The public is encouraged to help identify other questions, concerns, and issues during the scoping phase. An interdisciplinary team of specialists with expertise in outdoor recreation, minerals and geology, forestry, archaeology, paleontology, wildlife and fisheries, lands and realty, hydrology, soils, vegetation, sociology and economics will develop the plan with full consideration of the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. The BLM has identified the following preliminary planning criteria to guide the planning process:

1. The plan amendment will be consistent with the standards and guidance set forth in the FLPMA, the NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), and other Federal laws, regulations, and policies as required;
2. the plan amendment will conform to Section 810 of ANILCA, Subsistence and Land Use Decisions;
3. the plan amendment will recognize the existence of valid existing rights;
4. the lands covered in the plan amendment will be public lands managed by the BLM and decisions will be made only on lands managed by the BLM;
5. the BLM will work cooperatively with the State and Federal agencies, Native corporations, Tribes, and Municipal governments. Agencies (including federally recognized tribal governments) with jurisdiction by law or special expertise will be consulted during the planning process;
6. public participation by interested groups and individuals will be encouraged throughout the planning process;