

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS–R8–R–2009–N236; 80230–1265–0000–S3]

Upper Klamath, Lower Klamath, Tule Lake, Bear Valley, and Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuges, Klamath County, OR, Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental impact statement; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Upper Klamath, Lower Klamath, Tule Lake, Bear Valley, and Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuges (Refuges) located in Klamath County, Oregon, and Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, California. The Refuges are part of the Klamath Basin Complex. We provide this notice in compliance with our CCP policy to advise other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by June 28, 2010. We will hold public meetings to begin the CCP planning process; see Public Meetings under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information by any of the following methods.

E-mail: R8KlamathCCP@fws.gov. Include "Klamath Basin CCP" in the subject line of the message.

Fax: Attn: Michelle Barry, (530) 667–8337.

U.S. Mail: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 4009 Hill Road, Tulelake, CA 96134.

In-Person Drop off: You may drop off comments during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges, 4009 Hill Road, Tulelake, CA 96134. Additional information about the CCP planning process is available on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Barry, Refuge Planner at (530) 667–2231.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Introduction**

With this notice, we initiate our process for developing a CCP for Upper Klamath, Lower Klamath, Tule Lake, Bear Valley, and Clear Lake Refuges located in Klamath County, Oregon, and Siskiyou and Modoc Counties, California. This notice complies with our CCP policy to: (1) Advise other Federal and State agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intention to conduct detailed planning on this refuge and (2) obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider in the environmental document and during development of the CCP.

Background*The CCP Process*

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee) (Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Administration Act.

Each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System is established for specific purposes. We use these purposes as the foundation for developing and prioritizing the management goals and objectives for each refuge within the National Wildlife Refuge System, and to determine how the public can use each refuge. The planning process is a way for us and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives that will ensure the best possible approach to wildlife, plant, and habitat conservation, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with each refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Our CCP process provides participation opportunities for Tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public. At this time we encourage input in the form of issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of Klamath Refuges.

We will conduct the environmental review of this project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those laws and regulations.

Klamath Refuges

Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge was established by President Calvin Coolidge in 1928 as a "refuge and breeding ground for birds and wild animals" (Executive Order 4851). The Refuge comprises 15,000 acres, mostly freshwater hardstem-cattail marsh and open water, along with 30 acres of forested uplands. These habitats serve as excellent nesting and brood rearing areas for waterfowl and colonial nesting birds, including American white pelican and several heron species. Bald eagle and osprey nest nearby and can sometimes be seen fishing in refuge waters.

The Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge was established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 as a "preserve and breeding ground for native birds" (Executive Order 924). Located in rural northeastern California and southern Oregon, Lower Klamath NWR was the nation's first waterfowl refuge. The Refuge, with a backdrop of 14,000-foot Mount Shasta to the southwest, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as both a National Historic Landmark and a National Natural Landmark. The 50,092-acre refuge is a varied mix of intensively managed shallow marshes, open water, grassy uplands, and croplands that provide feeding, resting, nesting, and brood-rearing habitat for waterfowl and other water birds. This refuge is one of the most biologically productive refuges within the Pacific Flyway.

Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge is located in the fertile and intensively farmed Tule Lake Basin of northeast California. It was established in 1928 by President Calvin Coolidge "as a preserve and breeding ground for wild birds and animals" (Executive Order 4975). This 39,116-acre refuge contains about 14,000 acres of open water and marsh surrounded by 8,000 acres of uplands and 17,000 acres of croplands.

Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1978 under the authority of the Endangered Species Act to protect a major night roost site for wintering bald eagles in Southern Oregon. The refuge consists of 4,200 acres, primarily of old growth ponderosa pine, incense cedar, and white and Douglas fir. Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuge also provides nesting habitat for several bald eagle pairs.

Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge was established by President William Taft in 1911 as a "preserve and breeding ground for native birds" (Executive Order 1332). Located in northeastern California, the Refuge consists of approximately 20,000 acres of open water surrounded by over 26,000 acres of upland bunchgrass, low sagebrush, and juniper habitat. Small, rocky islands in the lake provide nesting sites for American white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and other colonial nesting birds.

The Klamath Basin Refuges consist of a variety of habitats, including freshwater marshes, open water, grassy meadows, coniferous forests, sagebrush and juniper grasslands, agricultural lands, and rocky cliffs and slopes. These habitats support diverse and abundant populations of resident and migratory wildlife, with 433 species having been observed on or near the Refuges. In addition, each year the Refuges serve as a migratory stopover for about three-quarters of the Pacific Flyway waterfowl, with peak fall concentrations of over 1 million birds.

Public Meetings

We will give the public an opportunity to provide input on the scope of issues to consider in this planning process at public meetings. We will announce the dates, times, and locations of these meetings in local news media and on our Web site. You may also submit comments anytime during the planning process by mail, e-mail, or fax (*see ADDRESSES*). There will be additional opportunities to provide input once we have prepared a draft CCP.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: April 21, 2010.

Ken McDermond,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

**[LLORE00000-
L58820000.PE0000.LXRSEE990000;
HAG10-0135]**

Notice of Intent To Solicit Nominations, Western Oregon Resource Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Call for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior is requesting 64 nominations for representatives to serve on the Coos Bay, Eugene, Medford, Roseburg, and Salem District Resource Advisory Committees (RACs). The Committees will advise the Secretary, through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), on the selection and prioritization of projects funded under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Terms will begin on the date of appointment and will expire on September 30, 2013.

DATES: Submit nomination packages to one or more of the addresses listed below, on or before June 1, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Advisory Council nomination forms are available at the District Offices in western Oregon, and completed nominations should be submitted to the office of the specific RAC where the applicant would serve:

Coos Bay District Resource Advisory Committee: Glenn Harkleroad, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, Oregon 97459, (541) 756-0100.

Eugene District Resource Advisory Committee: Pat Johnston, 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite E, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 683-6600.

Medford District Resource Advisory Committee: Tim Reuwsaat, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504, (541) 618-2200.

Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee: Jake Winn, 777 NW. Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon 97470, (541) 440-4930.

Salem District Resource Advisory Committee: Trish Hogervorst, 1717 Fabry Road, SE., Salem, Oregon 97306, (503) 375-5657.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Robbins, Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208, (503) 808-6306; *pam_robbins@blm.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act was extended to provide stability for local counties by compensating them, in part, for the decrease in funds formerly derived from the harvest of timber on Federal lands. Pursuant to the Act, the five Committees serve western Oregon BLM districts that contain Oregon and California grant lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands. Committees consist of 15 local citizens representing a wide array of interests.

The RACs provide a mechanism for local community collaboration with Federal land managers as they select projects to be conducted on Federal lands or that will benefit resources on Federal lands using funds under Title II of the Act.

Committee membership must be balanced in terms of the categories of interest represented. Prospective members are advised that membership on a Resource Advisory Committee calls for a substantial commitment of time and energy.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Committees. Individuals may also nominate themselves or others. Nominees must reside within one of the counties that are (in whole or in part) within the BLM District boundaries of the Committee(s) on which membership is sought. A person may apply for more than one Committee. Nominees will be evaluated based on their education, training, and experience relating to land use issues and knowledge of the geographical area of the Committee. Nominees must also demonstrate a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. The Obama Administration prohibits individuals who are currently Federally registered lobbyists from serving on all Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and non-FACA boards, committees or councils.

You may make nominations for the following categories of interest:

- Category One—5 persons who:
1. Represent organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups;
 2. Represent developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
 3. Represent energy and mineral development interests; or commercial or recreational fishing interests;
 4. Represent the commercial timber industry; or