

withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

Dated: September 25, 2013.

**Tina A. Campbell,**

*Chief, Division of Policy and Directives Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2013-23810 Filed 9-30-13; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R3-R-2012-N120; FXRS1265030000-134-FF03R06000]

#### **Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, Authorized Within the Twenty Counties That Lie Along the Missouri River From Kansas City to St. Louis, MO; Draft Environmental Assessment and Comprehensive Conservation Plan**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of a draft environmental assessment (EA) and comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) for Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (Refuge, NFWR) for public review and comment. In this draft EA/CCP we describe how we propose to manage the refuge for the next 15 years.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by October 31, 2013. We will hold several open house-style meetings during the comment period to receive comments and provide information on the draft plan. In addition, we will use special mailings, newspaper articles, internet postings, and other media announcements to inform people of opportunities for input.

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

- *Email:* [r3planning@fws.gov](mailto:r3planning@fws.gov). Include "Big Muddy Draft EA/CCP" in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* Attention: Refuge Manager, 573-876-1839.

- *U.S. Mail:* Attention: Refuge Manager Tom Bell, Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, 4200 New Haven Road, Columbia, MO 65201.

- *In-Person Drop Off:* You may drop off comments during regular business hours at the above address.

You will find the draft EA/CCP, as well as information about the planning process and a summary of the CCP, on

the planning Web site: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/bigmuddyccp/index.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Bell, 573-876-1826.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Introduction**

With this notice, we continue the CCP process for Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, which we began by publishing a notice of intent in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 27587) on May 16, 2007. For more about the initial process and the history of this refuge, see that notice.

##### **Background**

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Administration Act), requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service 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 NWRS was 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 NWRS mission, 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 NWRS.

##### **Additional Information**

The draft EA/CCP, which includes detailed information about the planning process, refuge, issues, and management alternatives considered and proposed,

may be found at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/bigmuddyccp/index.html>.

#### **Public Involvement**

We will give the public an opportunity to provide input at a public meeting. You can obtain the schedule from the address or Web site listed in this notice (see **ADDRESSES**). You may also submit comments anytime during the comment period.

#### **Public Availability of Comments**

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

**Thomas O. Melius,**

*Regional Director, Midwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-FAC-2013-N220; FXFR133609ANS09-FF09F14000-134]

#### **Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce a public meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force. The ANS Task Force's purpose is to develop and implement a program for U.S. waters to prevent introduction and dispersal of aquatic invasive species (AIS); to monitor, control, and study such species; and to disseminate related information.

**DATES:** The ANS Task Force will meet from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6, through Thursday, November 7, 2013. For security purposes, registration for the meeting is required. For deadlines to register for this meeting, please see "Public Input" under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The ANS Task Force meeting will take place at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, Building 3 (SSMC3), Room 4527, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-713-0174).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Susan Mangin, Executive Secretary, ANS Task Force, at (703) 358-2466, or by email at [Susan\\_Mangin@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Mangin@fws.gov). If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), please call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., we announce that the ANS Task Force will hold a meeting.

**Background**

The ANS Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (Act) (Pub. L. 106-580, as amended) and is composed of 13 Federal and 13 ex-officio members and co-chaired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The ANS Task Force provides advice on AIS infesting waters of the United States and other nations, among other duties as specified in the Act.

**Meeting Agenda**

- Federally managed water bodies and AIS issues.
- Asian Carp Surveillance Plan Outside of the Great Lakes.
- Draft Snakehead and Lionfish Management Plans.
- Biocontrol Programs.
- National Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Environmental DNA.
- Arkansas ANS Management Plan.
- Technical Center for Aquatic Nuisance Species.
- Harvesting AIS.

The final agenda and other related meeting information will be posted on the ANS Task Force Web site at: <http://anstaskforce.gov>.

**Public Input**

If you wish to:	You must contact the ANS Task Force Executive Secretary (see <b>FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT</b> ) no later than:
Register for the meeting.	October 31, 2013.

**Meeting Minutes**

Summary minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). The minutes will be available

for public inspection within 60 days after the meeting and will be posted on the ANS Task Force Web site at <http://anstaskforce.gov>.

Dated: September 15, 2013.

**David Hoskins,**

*Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Assistant Director—Fish and Aquatic Conservation.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R4-ES-2013-N205;  
FXES1115040000F4-123-FF04E00000]

**Spring Pygmy Sunfish Candidate Conservation Agreement With Assurances; Receipt of Applications for Enhancement of Survival Permits; Beaverdam Springs, Limestone County, AL**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received applications from Mr. Albert C. McDonald of Greenbrier Enterprises LLC (applicant McDonald Farm) and Ms. Katherine H. Garrett of Greenbrier Enterprises LLC (applicant Horton Farm) (collectively, applicants) for enhancement of survival permits (permit or permits) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). Each permit application includes a proposed candidate conservation agreement with assurances (CCAA) between the applicant and the Service as parties and the Land Trust of North Alabama as a cooperator for the conservation of the spring pygmy sunfish. Each Applicant is a limited liability company, created and existing under the laws of the State of Alabama. The CCAs would be implemented at the Beaverdam Spring Complex within Limestone County, Alabama.

We have made a preliminary determination that each permit application, including the proposed CCAA, is eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The basis for this preliminary determination is contained in the draft environmental action statement (EAS) prepared by the Service on each application. We are accepting comments on each permit application and the associated proposed CCAA, as well as on the draft EAS.

**DATES:** We must receive comments no later than October 31, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review either or both applications, including the draft CCAA, and the draft EAS may obtain copies upon request to Daniel Drennen, Mississippi Field Office, by phone at 601-321-1127, or via mail or email (see below). The applications and related documents will also be available for public inspection, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the Jackson, Mississippi, Field Office (address listed below) or on our Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/mississippiES/endsp.html>.

Comments concerning either or both applications, proposed CCAs, and draft EASs should be submitted in writing, by one of the following methods:

*Email:* [daniel\\_drennen@fws.gov](mailto:daniel_drennen@fws.gov).

*Fax:* 601-965-4340.

*U.S. mail:* Daniel Drennen, Mississippi Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Jackson, MS 39213.

When submitting comments, please specify the application or applications on which you are commenting. Please refer to Permit number TE-155500B-0 when commenting on the McDonald Farm application, and to Permit number TE-15501B-0 for comments on the Horton Farm application.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Daniel Drennen, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Mississippi Field Office, 601-321-1127. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We furnish this notice to provide the public, other State and Federal agencies, and interested Tribes an opportunity to review and comment on the permit applications, including the draft CCAs, and the associated EASs. We specifically request information, views, and opinions from the public on the proposed Federal actions of issuing each permit. Further, we solicit information regarding the adequacy of each permit application, including the proposed CCAA, as measured against our permit issuance criteria found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.22(d) and 17.32(d).

**Background**

Private and other non-Federal property owners are encouraged to enter into CCAs, in which they voluntarily undertake management activities and conservation efforts on their properties to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat