SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HUD announces its intention to sell in SFLS 2010 certain unsubsidized non-performing mortgage loans (Mortgage Loans) secured by single family properties located throughout the United States. A listing of the Mortgage Loans will be included in the due diligence materials made available to bidders. The Mortgage Loans will be sold without FHA insurance and with servicing released. HUD will offer qualified bidders an opportunity to bid competitively on the Mortgage Loans.

The Mortgage Loans may be stratified for bidding purposes into several mortgage loan pools based on the geographic location of the underlying properties. Qualified bidders may submit bids on one or more pools of Mortgage Loans.

The Bidding Process

The BIP describes in detail the procedure for bidding in SFLS 2010. The BIP also includes a standardized non-negotiable Conveyance, Assignment and Assumption Agreement (CAA Agreement). Bidders will be required to submit a deposit with their bid. Deposits are calculated based upon each bidder's aggregate bid price.

HUD will evaluate the bids submitted and determine the successful bid or bids, in terms of the best value to HUD, in its sole and absolute discretion. If a bidder is successful, the bidder's deposit will be non-refundable and will be applied toward the purchase price. Deposits will be returned to unsuccessful bidders. Closings are expected to take place on September 22, 2010 and October 27, 2010.

This notice provides a summary of some of the essential terms of sale. The CAA Agreement, which is included in the BIP, contains additional terms and details. To ensure a competitive bidding process, the terms of the bidding process and the CAA Agreement are not subject to negotiation.

Due Diligence Review

The BIP describes how bidders may access the due diligence materials remotely via a high-speed internet connection.

Mortgage Loan Sale Policy

HUD reserves the right to remove Mortgage Loans from SFLS 2010 at any time prior to the Award Date. HUD also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, without prejudice to HUD's right to include any Mortgage Loans in a later sale. Mortgage Loans will not be withdrawn after the Award Date except as is specifically provided in the CAA Agreement.

This is a sale of unsubsidized mortgage loans, which are to be assigned to HUD pursuant to section 204(a)(1)(A) of the National Housing Act (the NHA), amended under Title VI of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999. The sale of the loans is pursuant to section 204(g) of the NHA.

Mortgage Loan Sale Procedure

HUD selected a competitive sale process as the method to sell the Mortgage Loans. This method of sale optimizes HUD's return on the sale of these Mortgage Loans, affords the greatest opportunity for all qualified bidders to bid on the Mortgage Loans, and provides the quickest and most efficient vehicle for HUD to dispose of the Mortgage Loans.

Bidder Eligibility

In order to bid in the sale, a prospective bidder must complete, execute and submit both a Confidentiality Agreement and a Qualification Statement acceptable to HUD. After receiving the BIP, bidders will also complete a Bid Terms Acknowledgement Form which will provide them access to HUD online bidding site. The following individuals and entities are ineligible to bid on any of the Mortgage Loans included in SFLS 2010:

1. Any employee of HUD, a member of such employee's household, or an entity owned or controlled by any such employee or member of such employee's household;
2. any individual or entity that is debarred, suspended, or excluded from doing business with HUD pursuant to Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 24, and Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 2424;
3. any contractor, subcontractor and/or consultant or advisor (including any agent, employee, partner, director, principal or affiliate of any of the foregoing) who performed services for or on behalf of HUD in connection with SFLS 2010;
4. any individual or entity that uses the services, directly or indirectly, of any person or entity ineligible under subparagraphs 1 through 3 above to assist in preparing any of its bids on the Mortgage Loans;
5. any individual or entity which employs or uses the services of an employee of HUD (other than in such employee's official capacity) who is involved in SFLS 2010;
6. any entity or individual that services or held any Mortgage Loan at any time during the 2-year period prior to the bid is ineligible to bid on such Mortgage Loan or on the pool containing such Mortgage Loan, and
7. also ineligible to bid on any Mortgage Loan are: (a) Any affiliate or principal of any entity or individual described in the preceding sentence (subparagraph 6); (b) any employee or subcontractor of such entity or individual during that 2-year period; or (c) any entity or individual that employs or uses the services of any other entity or individual described in this subparagraph in preparing its bid on such Mortgage Loan.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

HUD reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to disclose information regarding SFLS 2010, including, but not limited to, the identity of any successful bidder and its bid price or bid percentage for any pool of loans or individual loan, upon the closing of the sale of all the Mortgage Loans. Even if HUD elects not to publicly disclose any information relating to SFLS 2010, HUD will have the right to disclose any information that HUD is obligated to disclose pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and all regulations promulgated thereunder.

Scope of Notice

This notice applies to SFLS 2010 and does not establish HUD's policy for the sale of other mortgage loans.


David H. Stevens,
Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 2010–23182 Filed 9–16–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service


Camas National Wildlife Refuge, Jefferson County, ID; Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) for Camas National Wildlife Refuge (refuge) in Hamer, ID. We will also prepare an environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate the
potential effects of various CCP alternatives. We are providing this notice in compliance with our CCP policy to advise the public, Federal and State agencies, and Tribes of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider during the CCP planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by October 18, 2010. We will announce opportunities for public input in local news media throughout the CCP planning process.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information by any of the following methods:
- E-mail: brian_whausen@fws.gov
- In-Person Drop-off: You may drop off comments during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at 370 Webster St., Montpelier, ID 83254.
- U.S. Mail: Camas National Wildlife Refuge, 2150 East 2350 North, Hamer, ID 83425.
- Fax: Attn: Brian Wehausen, (208) 662–5525.
- Federal Register: Distinctive names and symbols (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those laws and regulations.

Introduction

With this notice, we initiate our process for developing a CCP for the Camas Refuge. 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 was established for specific purposes. We use these purposes as the foundation for developing and prioritizing the management of goals and objectives for each refuge within the National Wildlife Refuge System 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 insure the best possible approach to wildlife, plant, and habitat conservation, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreational 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 Camas Refuge.

We will conduct the environmental review of this project and develop an EA 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.

Camas National Wildlife Refuge

The Camas Refuge was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937 for the purpose of serving as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge is located 36 miles north of Idaho Falls, near the community of Hamer, Idaho. The refuge lies in the upper Snake River plain at approximately 4,800 feet in elevation.

The refuge was historically comprised of a diverse mosaic of wetland and wet meadow habitats, surrounded by an expansive sea of sagebrush, termed the “high desert.” The wetlands and wet meadows were once fed by surface water from the flow of Camas Creek, and natural artesian wells which discharged groundwater and continually flooded the wetlands during the drier summer and fall months.

The upper Snake River climate and soils are favorable to agricultural uses, principally ranching and farming. In the late 1800s, large livestock and ranching operations were established in the area. The grazing lands were later divided into smaller units, and crops were cultivated for livestock feed. Agriculture further developed in the area to support the thousands of people working in mines. By the time mining diminished, railroads had begun connecting farmers and ranchers to markets far beyond rural southeast Idaho.

About half of the refuge’s 10,578 acres are lakes, ponds, and marshlands, with the remainder consisting of grass/sagebrush uplands and meadows. There are 292 known species of wildlife that utilize the refuge during various periods of the year. Approximately 100 species of migratory birds nest at the refuge, and it is especially important to migrating land birds. A large number of songbirds use the refuge’s cottonwood groves, which are also a significant winter roost site for bald eagles. Greater sandhill cranes gather on the refuge prior to fall migration. Sage grouse use the refuge during brood rearing. During migration, which peaks during March and April, and again in October, up to 50,000 ducks, 3,000 geese, and several hundred tundra and trumpeter swans may be present on the refuge. The refuge also hosts elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, pronghorn, and moose.

Scoping: Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

We have identified preliminary issues, concerns, and opportunities that we may address in the CCP. We have briefly summarized the issues below. During public scoping, we may identify additional issues:

• Are the refuge’s water quantity management and groundwater pumping capabilities adequate for maintaining nesting and migratory waterbird habitats?
• Are we protecting the refuge’s water rights adequately, and how can we improve water quality for fish and wildlife?
• What actions should we take to minimize disturbance to waterbirds nesting and migrating on the refuge, as well as other wildlife?
• How the refuge can meet increasing demands for recreational opportunities and conduct quality visitor services programs in a manner that protects wildlife from disturbance?
• What is the refuge’s role in managing the established nonnative
cottonwood gallery forest for migratory landbirds?

- What are our options for preventing the introduction and dispersal of invasive plants and animals?
- What is the refuge’s role in supporting native fish and restoring riparian habitat in Camas Creek?
- How can we maintain, manage, and restore the refuge’s sagebrush, wet meadow, and upland habitats to support the long-term viability of native wildlife populations, and maximize habitat values for key wildlife species?
- How can the refuge adaptively manage habitat in response to climate change issues?
- How can we protect the refuge’s cultural and historical resources?
- What is the most appropriate refuge land management strategy for providing contiguous and quality habitats for focal wildlife resources?

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.

Theresa E. Rabot,
Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–R6–ES–2008–N188; 60120–1113–0000; C2]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Draft Revised Recovery Plan for Utah Prairie Dog

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability for review and comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability of a draft revised recovery plan for the Utah prairie dog (Cynomys parvidens). This species is federally listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft revised plan.

DATES: Comments on the draft revised recovery plan must be received on or before November 16, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft revised recovery plan are available by request from the Utah Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2360 West Orton Circle, Suite 50, West Valley City, UT 84119; telephone 801–975–3330. Submit comments on the draft recovery plan to the Field Supervisor at this same address. An electronic copy of the draft recovery plan is available at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/species/recovery-plans.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Field Supervisor, at the above address, or telephone 801–975–3330.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring an endangered or threatened animal or plant to the point where it is again a secure, self-sustaining member of its ecosystem is a primary goal of the Service’s endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service prepares recovery plans for the federally listed species native to the United States where a plan will promote the conservation of the species. Recovery plans describe site-specific actions necessary for the conservation of the species, establish objective, measurable criteria which, when met, would result in a determination that the species no longer needs the protection of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and provide estimates of the time and cost for implementing the needed recovery measures.

The Act requires 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 opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information received during a public comment period when preparing each new or revised recovery plan for approval. The Service and other Federal agencies also will take these comments into consideration in the course of implementing approved recovery plans. It is our policy to request peer review of recovery plans. We will summarize and respond to the issues raised by the public and peer reviewers in an appendix to the approved recovery plan.

Recent Utah prairie dog population trends appear to be relatively stable, although the species remains vulnerable to several serious threats. These include habitat loss, plague, changing climatic conditions, unauthorized take, and disturbance from recreational and economic land uses.

The recovery of Utah prairie dogs will rely on effective conservation responses to the issues facing the species, which remain varied and complex. These issues include plague, urban expansion, grazing, cultivated agriculture, vegetative community changes, invasive plants, off-highway vehicle and recreation uses, climate change, energy resource exploration and development, fire management, poaching, and predation. Strategically, these issues can be reduced to two overriding concerns: loss of habitat and plague. The recovery strategy for the Utah prairie dog focuses on the need to address colony loss and disease through a program that encompasses threats abatement, population management, research, and monitoring. We emphasize conserving extant colonies, many of which occur on non-Federal lands; establishing additional colonies on Federal and non-Federal lands via habitat improvement or translocations; controlling the transmission of plague; and monitoring habitat conditions.

Request for Public Comments

The Service solicits public comments on the draft recovery plan. All comments received by the date specified in DATES will be considered prior to approval of the plan. Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor (see ADDRESSES section). Comments and materials received will be available, by appointment, for public inspection during normal business hours at the above address.

Authority

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