

(1) To assist States in the implementation of their mental health block grant plans and the enhancement of their comprehensive coordinated systems of care to better serve adults with severe mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance;

(2) To promote the development of the Mental Health Planning Councils so they can assist the States in implementing mental health block grant plans and enhance their systems of care;

(3) To collaborate with stakeholders in the mental health system in the expansion and dissemination of knowledge and practices that will result in long-lasting improvements in the design, delivery, and evaluation of public mental health services;

(4) To assist States in developing mental health systems that are consumer oriented, sensitive to family member needs, and culturally competent;

(5) To be able to determine the "unmet need" and assist States in developing strategies to ensure that the gap is bridged between the need for services and service availability and delivery.

NASMHPD, through its needs assessment surveys, frequent contact in "meet me" telephone conferences, focus groups, semi-annual meetings, and electronic communication channels, can rapidly address information to the specific needs of the States, its members, and evaluate member response, and can communicate technical mental health information from the States to the TA Center and vice versa. Such capability provides a singular benefit to the States in that information that is invaluable to program success but generally unavailable because of Federal process requirements becomes available to States through NASMHPD's close organizational relationship with its members.

Because of its research activities, this organization is also able to identify the prime movers in the mental health field, and to enlist them in the creation of authority-articulated clinical, management, and fiscal model standards. Also through NASMHPD's membership, the TA Center's knowledge base and technical assistance extends to the State mental health planning councils, to block grant sub-recipient programs, and thence to consumers and their families.

Availability of Funds

The project will be for a 3-year period with \$700,000 available for the first year. Future year funding will depend

on the availability of funds and program performance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marie Danforth, M.S.W. or Velva Taylor Spriggs, L.I.S.W., CMHS/SAMHSA, Parklawn Building, Room 15C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. Telephone (301) 443-4257.

Dated: April 21, 1998.

Richard Kopanda,

Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-040-1610-00]

Draft Caliente Management Framework Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for the Management of Desert Tortoise Habitat

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Draft Caliente Management Framework Plan amendment and environmental impact statement for the management of desert tortoise habitat, Lincoln County, NV; and notice of 90 day public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Draft Plan Amendment/Environmental Impact Statement for the Caliente Management Framework Plan would implement management goals and actions for Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered desert tortoise habitat in Lincoln County, Nevada. The Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) was listed as a threatened species in 1990, based on declining numbers in some areas of its range. These goals and actions, recommended in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's approved Desert Tortoise (Mojave Population) Recovery Plan, would assist the recovery and delisting of the desert tortoise in the Northeastern Mojave Recovery Unit. This amendment is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 which mandates that all federal agencies will conserve and recover listed species within their administrative units. The accompanying EIS satisfies the National Environmental Policy Act, which mandates that federal agencies analyze the environmental consequences of major federal action.

The planning area for this amendment consists of approximately 754,600 acres of public land in southern Lincoln County, administered by the Caliente Field Station, within BLM's Ely District.

No private lands would be directly affected by management direction described under the Proposed Action or alternatives. The planning area is located within the Northeastern Mojave Recovery Unit, as defined by the Recovery Plan. The document discusses several alternatives for the protection of desert tortoise habitat and recovery of the species.

DATES: Public Meetings will be held on June 17, 1998 at the Texas Station, 2101 Texas Star Lane in North Las Vegas, NV between 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on June 18, 1998 at the Caliente Youth Center in Caliente, NV between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The Caliente public meeting will be held in conjunction with the Mojave-Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council. Written comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted until August 14, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Public comments may be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Ely Field Office, Gene L. Drais, Project Manager, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 98301-9408.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Write to the above address or call Gene L. Drais, Project Manager at (702) 289-1880.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Proposed Action would assist desert tortoise recovery, while minimizing effects on human activities that occur within Desert Tortoise habitat. It includes recommendations derived from the Recovery Plan and public input, multiple use considerations, as well as management actions designed to be consistent with those proposed by adjacent BLM districts. The Proposed Action would: (1) Designate three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs); (2) implement management prescriptions for desert tortoise habitat outside of the ACECs; (3) ensure BLM participation in a USFWS-developed environmental education program; and (4) implement a USFWS-approved interagency monitoring program. The three ACECs, totaling 212,500 acres, would protect 83 percent of designated critical habitat.

Management prescriptions, designed to improve desert tortoise habitat, would modify or restrict some multiple uses, including livestock grazing, off-highway vehicle recreation, land use authorizations, and mineral development within the ACECs. Section 7 consultation would continue to be conducted with the USFWS on any federal action that might affect listed species.

Alternative A (Habitat Management Alternative) contains management goals

and actions that are similar to the Proposed Action, with the exception of the management direction proposed for livestock grazing and recreation. Under this alternative, three ACECs would be designated and managed to achieve the recovery of the desert tortoise through modifications to multiple use within those special management areas. Livestock grazing within the ACECs would be managed according to forage production criteria intended to meet the desert tortoise recovery objectives. Recreation management direction would also be modified to minimize conflicts with recovery efforts. Section 7 consultation would continue to be conducted with the USFWS on any federal action that might affect listed species.

Alternative B (DWMA Alternative) contains most of the management goals and prescriptions recommended in the Recovery Plan, with less emphasis on multiple use management of the public lands. Two special management areas, labeled Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMAs), would protect 52 percent of the desert tortoise designated critical habitat. The DWMAs would contain approximately 300,800 acres and would be managed primarily for the recovery of the desert tortoise. Management prescriptions would not authorize livestock grazing, mineral development, many land use authorizations, and some types of recreational activities within the DWMAs. No special management attention, other than required Section 7 consultation on federal actions that might affect listed species, would be directed to the approximately 454,000 acres of desert tortoise habitat outside of the DWMAs, unless the desert tortoise populations occupying that habitat were in jeopardy.

Alternative C (No Action Alternative) would continue management under the approved Caliente MFP. Management recommendations from the Recovery Plan either would not be implemented or would not be systematically or comprehensively implemented. Section 7 consultation with the USFWS would continue to be conducted prior to the authorization of any federal action affecting listed species. Management direction would also be provided through the issuance of Biological Opinions by the USFWS through Section 7 consultation. Current management directions for livestock grazing and off-highway vehicle events were developed as a result of Biological Opinions issued to minimize effects on desert tortoise habitat. The No Action Alternative forms the baseline against which to assess the effects of the

alternatives and is required for a comprehensive NEPA analysis.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Robert V. Abbey,

State Director, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 98-11195 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration on Aging, HHS

[Program Announcement No. AoA-98-6]

Fiscal Year 1998 Program Announcement; Availability of Funds and Notice Regarding Applications

AGENCY: Administration on Aging, HHS.

ACTION: Announcement of availability of funds and request for applications to carry out research on Alzheimer's disease caregiving options.

SUMMARY: The Administration on Aging (AoA) announces that under this program announcement it will hold a competition for a project to conduct research on Alzheimer's disease caregiving options and best practices, including respite care, assisted living, the impact of intervention by social service agencies on victims, and related caregiving options.

The deadline date for the submission of applications is June 29, 1998. Applicant eligibility for this grant competition is limited by the applicable funding provisions of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-78) which, by incorporating both Senate Report 105-58 and House Report 105-390 (Conference Committee) provides \$2 million "for social research into Alzheimer's disease care options * * *" The Senate Report urges that the research "utilize and give discretion to municipalities with aged populations (over the age of 60) of over 1 million * * *" Accordingly, under this AoA program announcement, to be eligible to compete an applicant must be designated by the Mayor as officially representing a municipality with 1 million or more persons 60 years of age and older.

Application kits are available by writing to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Office of Program Development, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4274, Washington, DC 20201, or by calling 202/619-1269.

Dated: April 23, 1998.

Jeanette C. Takamura,

Assistant Secretary for Aging.

[FR Doc. 98-11268 Filed 4-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Submission of Study Package to the Office of Management and Budget; Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of submission to OMB and request for comments for reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

ABSTRACT: The survey is used by NPS for the purpose of collecting public interview data which are used to determine conversion factors used in converting electro-mechanical visitor counts into recreation visits.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR Part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the National Park Service invites public comments on a proposed information collection request (ICR) which has been submitted to OMB for approval. Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the information including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the reporting burden estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A 60 Day Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment was published in the **Federal Register** on February 11, 1997, Volume 62, #28, page 6266. No replies were received from the public as a result of the **Federal Register** Notice. Past NPS interviewer experiences show that park visitors have a positive interest in participating in the surveys and in volunteering information in response to the survey questions. Due to streamlining the scope of the survey, there has been a reduction in 700 burden hours from the previously approved survey and as was indicated in the February 11, 1997 **Federal Register** Notice.