

current habitat management. Hunting and fishing will continue with greater emphasis on increasing opportunities and enhancing the quality of the experience, including those for youth and disabled hunters/anglers. Education and interpretation will be promoted while providing programs and partnerships with local schools. Wildlife observation and photography opportunities will be expanded. Information guides and signage that highlight management programs, as well as unique wildlife habitats, will also be developed. Efforts will be undertaken to improve road maintenance in order to provide better visitor access.

The Service intends to construct a visitor center and headquarters office on Reelfoot, Chicksaw, and Lower Hatchie Refuges, with space for interpretation, environmental education, and staff.

Research studies will continue to be fostered and partnerships developed with other agencies and universities, with the refuges providing needed resources and study sites. Research will also provide benefits to conservation efforts throughout the Lower Mississippi River Valley to conserve, enhance, restore, and manage bottomland hardwood habitat.

Inventorying and monitoring of birds, freshwater mussels, reptiles, and amphibians will be continued and expanded in order to assess population trends, correlate with environmental pressures, and provide baseline data to be used in development of appropriate management strategies. Providing additional staff (e.g., wildlife biologist, outdoor recreation planner, maintenance workers, and an additional full-time law enforcement officer) will enable the Service to fully develop and manage fish and wildlife resources and habitats, provide opportunities and facilities for wildlife observation and photography, provide environmental educational programs that promote a greater understanding of natural resources, and protect natural and cultural resources.

Under this alternative, the refuges will continue to acquire lands within the present acquisition boundaries for the use of compatible wildlife-dependent public recreation and environmental education opportunities. Tracts that provide better-quality habitat and connectivity to existing refuge lands will receive higher priority for acquisition. The refuges will also use other important acquisition tools, including partnerships with conservation organizations, conservation easements with adjacent landowners, and leases/cooperative agreements.

Public comments were requested, considered, and incorporated throughout the planning process in numerous ways. Public outreach included open houses, public meetings, technical workgroups, planning update mailings, and **Federal Register** notices. During the draft comprehensive conservation plan/environmental assessment comment period for each refuge, the Service received several comments, which were incorporated, when appropriate, and responded to in the final comprehensive conservation plan.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: April 4, 2006.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 06-5534 Filed 6-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Draft Study Plan

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), on behalf of the Department of the Interior (DOI) as a natural resource trustee, announces the release for public review of the Draft Study Plan for a mink injury study for the Hudson River Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). The Draft Study Plan describes the Trustees' proposed approach to conducting this investigation, and seeks public feedback.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the Draft Study Plan may be made in person or by mail to: Ms. Kathryn Jahn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New York Field Office, 3817 Luker Road, Cortland, New York 13045. Written comments or materials regarding the Draft Study Plan should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathryn Jahn, Environmental Contaminants Branch, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New York Field Office, 3817 Luker Road, Cortland, New York 13045.

Interested parties may also call 607-753-9334, send electronic mail to kathryn_jahn@fws.gov, or visit the FWS Hudson River NRDA Web site (<http://www.fws.gov/contaminants/restorationplans/HudsonRiver/HudsonRiver.cfm>) where the Draft Study Plan is posted.

www.fws.gov/contaminants/restorationplans/HudsonRiver/HudsonRiver.cfm) where the Draft Study Plan is posted.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Natural resources of the Hudson River have been contaminated though past and ongoing discharges of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees—New York State, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, are conducting a NRDA to assess those natural resources injured by PCBs. The Draft Study Plan is being released for public review and comment in accordance with the Trustees' NRDA Plan for the Hudson River issued in September 2002. That NRDA Plan was released in accordance with the Natural Resource Damage Assessment regulations found at Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 11.

Pursuant to the Hudson River NRDA plan, the Trustees have developed this Study Plan for a mink injury determination effort. Interested members of the public are invited to review and comment on the Draft Study Plan (see **ADDRESSES, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). All comments received on the Draft Study Plan will be considered and a response provided either through incorporation into the Final Study Plan or by letter to the commenter. The Trustees will also prepare a Responsiveness Summary, responding to public comments, that will be released to the public.

Author: The primary author of this notice is Ms. Kathryn Jahn, New York Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3817 Luker Road, Cortland, NY 13045.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*

Dated: June 14, 2006.

Richard O. Bennett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 5, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. E6-9652 Filed 6-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing or related actions in the National Register were received by the National Park Service before June 3, 2006.

Pursuant to section 60.13 of 36 CFR part 60 written comments concerning the significance of these properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation may be forwarded by United States Postal Service, to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW., 2280, Washington, DC 20240; by all other carriers, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1201 Eye St., NW., 8th floor, Washington DC 20005; or by fax, 202-371-6447. Written or faxed comments should be submitted by July 5, 2006.

John W. Roberts,

Acting Chief, National Register/National Historic Landmarks Program.

COLORADO

Denver County

Baur Confectionery Company, (Downtown Denver MPS) 1512-14 Curtis St., Denver, 06000590

Jefferson County

Fort, The, 19192 CO 8, Morrison, 06000585

CONNECTICUT

Fairfield County

Westport Bank and Trust Company, 87 Post Rd. E, Westport, 06000593

Hartford County

Babb's Beach, 435 Babbs Rd., Suffield, 06000591
King, George, House, 12 N. Main St., Sharon, 06000592

ILLINOIS

Champaign County

Chanute Field Historic District, Rantoul National Aviation Center, Rantoul, 06000594

KANSAS

Ellsworth County

Insurance Building, 115 N. Douglas Ave., Ellsworth, 06000595

Harper County

Campbell, I.P., Building, 116 W. Main St., Harper, 06000600

Morris County

Furney Farm, 649 E. KS 56, Council Grove, 06000596

Pratt County

Ellis, Earl H., VFW Post #1362, 701 E. 1st St., Pratt, 06000597

Sedgwick County

Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, 944 S. Topeka, Wichita, 06000599

Sherman County

Ennis, Mary Seaman, House, 202 W. 13th St., Goodland, 06000598

MICHIGAN

Wayne County

Eddystone Hotel,
100-118 Sproat St., Detroit, 06000588
Park Avenue Hotel, 2643 Park Ave., Detroit, 06000586
Rosedale Park Historic District, Roughly bounded by Fenkell, Outer Dr. W, Grand River Ave., Southfield Fwy, Glastonbury, Lyndon, Westwood Dr., Detroit, 06000587

MINNESOTA

Redwood County

Walnut Grove Creamery Association, 521 Main St., Walnut Grove, 06000602

Waseca County

Strangers Refuge Lodge Number 74, IOOF, 119 S. Broadway Ave., New Richland, 06000601

MISSOURI

St. Louis Independent City

Colchester Apartments,
4-10-14-20 N. Kingshighway Blvd., St. Louis (Independent City), 06000603

NEBRASKA

Boyd County

Ponca Agency, Address Restricted, Niobrara, 06000554

Buffalo County

Fort Theater, 2205 Central Ave., Kearney, 06000607

Cass County

Gering, Paul, House, 423 N. 6th St., Plattsmouth, 06000604
Union Jail, 1st and Rock St., Union, 06000605

Cheyenne County

Wild Horse Draw—Leeman's Springs Archeological District, Address Restricted, Sidney, 06000556

Douglas County

Vinton Street Commercial Historic District, Vinton St., bet. Elm St. and S 17th St., Omaha, 06000608

Fillmore County

Warner's Filling Station and House, 737 and 745 "G" St., Geneva, 06000606

Garfield County

Burwell Carnegie Library, (Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska MPS) 110 S. 7th Ave., Burwell, 06000557
Hub Building, 180 Grand Ave., Burwell, 06000558

Knox County

Ponca Agency Archeological District, Address Restricted, Niobrara, 06000555

Lancaster County

Burnett, Edgar A., House, 3256 Holdrede St., Lincoln, 06000609

NEW JERSEY

Atlantic County

Bethlehem Loading Company Mays Landing Plant Archeological Historic District, 109 NJ 50, Estell Manor, 06000559

Middlesex County

Johnson, William H., House, 52 Welton St., New Brunswick, 06000560

NEW YORK

Columbia County

Tilden, Gov. Samuel J., Monument, Cemetery Rd., New Lebanon, 06000573

Dutchess County

Titus, Elias, House, 170 Titusville Rd., Red Oaks Mill, 06000568

Erie County

Diebolt, Edward A., House, 62 Niagara Falls Blvd., Buffalo, 06000565
Packard Motor Car Showroom and Storage Facility, 1325 Main St., Buffalo, 06000561
Villa Maria Motherhouse Complex, 600 Doat St., Cheektowaga, 06000571

Fulton County

Shew, Godfrey, House, 1632 S. Shore Rd., Fish House, 06000574

Nassau County

Jackson, Samuel and Elbert, House, 1542 Wantagh Ave., Wantagh, 06000563
Smith, Almeron and Olive, House, 50 South Dr., Plandome, 06000569

Onondaga County

Strathmore "By the Park" Subdivision, (Historic Designed Landscapes of Syracuse MPS) Glenwood, S. Geddes, Wellesley, Twin Hills, Strathmore, Arden, Alanson, Charmouth, Robineau, Syracuse, 06000564

Orange County

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 47 Old Rte 9W (188 River Rd.), New Windsor, 06000566

Rockland County

McCullers, Carson, House, 131 S. Broadway, South Nyack, 06000562

Schoharie County

Richmondville United Methodist Church, 266 Main St., Richmondville, 06000575
St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 326 Main St., Middleburgh, 06000572

Wayne County

Jackson—Perkins House, 310 High St., Neward, 06000567

Westchester County

Trinity—St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 311 Huguenot St., New Rochelle, 06000576

OREGON

Curry County

Wheeler Ridge Japanese Bombing Site, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Brookings, 06000589

Marion County

Deidrich Building, (Downtown Area of Stayton MPS) 195 N. Third Ave., Stayton, 06000570

RHODE ISLAND**Kent County**

Crompton Mill Historic District, 20
Remington St., 53 and 65 Manchester St.,
West Warwick, 06000577

SOUTH CAROLINA**Allendale County**

Allendale County Courthouse, 292 Barnwell
Hwy., Allendale, 06000580

Orangeburg County

Willow Consolidated High School, 2750
Cope Rd., Norway, 06000581

Spartanburg County

Woodruff High School, 239 E. Hayne St.,
Woodruff, 06000578

Williamsburg County

McCullum—Murray House, C.E. Murray
Blvd., Greeleyville, 06000579

TENNESSEE**Loudon County**

Lenoir Collon Mill Warehouse, 150 Bussells
Ferry Rd., Lenoir City, 06000584

Shelby County

Edway Building, 147 Jefferson Ave.,
Memphis, 06000582
Southwestern at Memphis Sorority Row
Historic District, 2000 North Parkway,
Rhodes College, Memphis, 06000583

A request for removal has been made for the following resource:

MINNESOTA**Cass County**

Neils, Julius, House, N. Third St., Cass Lake,
80001991

[FR Doc. E6-9674 Filed 6-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-51-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement****Request for Determination of Valid Existing Rights Within the Daniel Boone National Forest, Kentucky**

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), are providing opportunity for the public to comment on a request for a determination of valid existing rights (VER) to use an existing Forest Service road as a coal mine access and haul road across Federal lands within the boundaries of the Daniel Boone National Forest in Owsley County, Kentucky. The mine would be located on privately owned land.

DATES: We will accept electronic or written comments until 4 p.m. Eastern time on July 20, 2006. Requests for an extension of the comment period must be received by the same time.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Mail/Hand-Delivery/Courier:*

William J. Kovacic, Director, Lexington Field Office, 2675 Regency Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40503.

- *E-mail:* dbeam@osmre.gov.

For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see "V. How Do I Submit Comments on the Request?" in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William J. Kovacic, Director, Lexington Field Office, 2675 Regency Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40503.

Telephone: (859) 260-8402. *Fax:* (859) 260-8410. *E-mail:* bkovacic@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

- I. What is the Nature of the VER Determination Request?
- II. What Legal Requirements Apply to this Request?
- III. What Information is Available Relevant to the Basis for the Request?
- IV. How Will We Process the Request?
- V. How Do I Submit Comments on the Request?

I. What Is the Nature of the VER Determination Request?

On February 23, 2006, QORE Property Sciences (QORE) submitted a request for a determination of VER on behalf of Sturgeon Mining Company, Inc. (Sturgeon). Sturgeon is proposing to conduct surface coal mining operations on approximately 424 acres of privately owned land near Watches Branch of Laurel Fork in the southeast corner of Owsley County, Kentucky. The property to be mined is adjacent to the Daniel Boone National Forest.

QORE is seeking a determination that Sturgeon has VER under paragraph (c)(1) of the definition of VER in 30 CFR 761.5 to use an existing road across Federal lands within the Daniel Boone National Forest as an access and haul road for the proposed mine. No other surface coal mining operations would be conducted on Federal lands within the Daniel Boone National Forest as part of this mine.

II. What Legal Requirements Apply to This Request?

Section 522(e)(2) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA or the Act), 30 U.S.C. 1272(e)(2), prohibits surface coal mining operations on Federal lands within the boundaries of any national forest, with two exceptions. The first exception

pertains to surface operations and impacts incidental to an underground coal mine. The second relates to surface operations on lands within national forests west of the 100th meridian. Neither of those exceptions applies to the request now under consideration.

The introductory paragraph of section 522(e) also provides two general exceptions to the prohibitions on surface coal mining operations in that section. Those exceptions apply to operations in existence on the date of enactment of the Act (August 3, 1977) and to land for which a person has VER. SMCRA does not define VER. We subsequently adopted regulations defining VER and clarifying that, for lands that come under the protection of 30 CFR 761.11 and section 522(e) after the date of enactment of SMCRA, the applicable date is the date that the lands came under protection, not August 3, 1977.

On December 17, 1999 (64 FR 70766-70838), we adopted a revised definition of VER, established a process for submission and review of requests for VER determinations, and otherwise modified the regulations implementing section 522(e). At 30 CFR 761.16(a), we published a table clarifying which agency (OSM or the State regulatory authority) is responsible for making VER determinations and which definition (State or Federal) will apply. That table specifies that OSM is responsible for VER determinations for Federal lands within national forests and that the Federal VER definition in 30 CFR 761.5 applies to those determinations.

Paragraph (c) of the Federal definition of VER contains the standards applicable to VER for roads that lie within the definition of surface coal mining operations. QORE is seeking a VER determination under paragraph (c)(1), which provides that a person who claims VER to use or construct a road across the surface of lands protected by 30 CFR 761.11 or section 522(e) of SMCRA must demonstrate that the "road existed when the land upon which it is located came under the protection of § 761.11 or 30 U.S.C. 1272(e), and the person has a legal right to use the road for surface coal mining operations."

Based on other information available to us, we also are considering whether VER might exist under the standard in paragraph (c)(3), which requires a demonstration that a "valid permit for use or construction of a road in that location for surface coal mining operations existed when the land came under the protection of § 761.11 or 30 U.S.C. 1272(e)."