

on the burden of disease, disability and death in various populations.

Contact Person for More Information: Linda Mitchell or Timothy G. Baker, Office of Genetics and Disease Prevention, NCEH, CDC, 2858 Woodcock Boulevard, M/S K-28, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, e-mail address: genetics@cdc.gov, telephone 770/488-3235, fax 770/488-3236.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Carolyn J. Russell,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 98-8906 Filed 4-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Office of the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Announces the Following Meeting

Name: Guide to Community Preventive Services (GCPS) Task Force Meeting.

Times and Dates: 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m., April 14, 1998; 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., April 15, 1998.

Place: The Georgian Terrace, 659 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30308, telephone 404/897-1991.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available. The meeting room accommodates approximately 40 people.

Purpose: The mission of the Task Force is to develop and publish a Guide to Community Preventive Services, which is based on the best available scientific evidence and current expertise regarding essential public health services and what works in the delivery of those services.

Matters to be Discussed: Agenda items include: Setting priorities for the assessment of topics to be included in the Guide; report by the Methods Work Group; review and discussion of the draft chapter on Vaccine Preventable Diseases; discussions on cost effectiveness and plans for field testing; updates by the Tobacco Chapter Development Team, the Physical Activity Chapter Development Team, and the Violence and Abusive Behavior Chapter Development Team; evaluating the effectiveness of compound interventions; and plans for dissemination of the Guide.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Contact Person for Additional Information: Marguerite Pappaioanou,

Chief, GCPS Development Activity, Division of Prevention Research and Analytic Methods, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, M/S D-01, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone 404/639-4301.

Persons interested in reserving a space for this meeting should call 404/639-4301 by close of business on April 7, 1998.

Dated: March 25, 1998.

Carolyn J. Russell,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 98-8905 Filed 4-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Reduction of the Mid-Continent Lesser Snow Goose Population

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (hereinafter Service) intent to review aspects of the migratory bird regulations pertaining to the mid-continent lesser snow goose (MCLSG) population. The Service intends for this review to lead to proposed changes in the migratory bird regulations that would result in reducing the MCLSG population from over 3 million birds to a more sustainable population of approximately 1.5 million birds over the next few years. The reduction appears necessary to reverse the damage by these geese on the Arctic ecosystem which also provides important nesting habitat for many other species of migratory birds, some of which are species of management concern. Population reduction will also decrease the likelihood of avian disease outbreaks, such as avian cholera, that sometimes are associated with extremely high concentrations of waterfowl. The Service has attempted to curb the population growth of MCLSG through habitat management, expansion and liberalization of existing seasons, and increases in bag and possession limits. However, the population continues to grow and the geese continue to rapidly degrade their breeding habitats. Proposed regulatory measures, along with possible changes in the Service's habitat management strategies for MCLSG, may be the first of several phases needed to reduce the MCLSG population. Any subsequent proposals

will be noticed in the **Federal Register** and will be subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, as appropriate. As part of the first phase, the Service will prepare an Environmental Assessment for public review to evaluate migratory bird regulatory alternatives for reducing the MCLSG population. The Service invites public comment and suggestions on possible options.

DATES: Written comments are requested by June 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The public may submit written comments to the Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, ms 634 _ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Paul R. Schmidt, Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, (703) 358-1714.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

"Migratory Birds" are defined in 50 CFR 10.12 as meaning any bird, irrespective of its origin in the wild or in captivity, which belongs to the species listed in 10.13, for the purposes of protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 703-712). Snow geese (*Anser caerulescens*) are among the species listed.

Mid-continent lesser snow geese (MCLSG) breed in the arctic and subarctic regions of Canada, specifically along the west coast of Hudson and James Bays and the southern portions of Baffin and South Hampton Islands. Beginning in late August, they migrate southward over the Canadian boreal forests and along the Central and western Mississippi flyways to their wintering grounds spanning across Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and New Mexico and into the northern States of Mexico. During migration, these geese stage at sites along the Central and Mississippi flyways such as the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District in Nebraska and De Soto National Wildlife Refuge on the Iowa-Nebraska border.

The MCLSG population has increased in the last 30 years from an estimated 900,000 birds in 1969 to over 3 million birds in 1996 and the population continues to grow at an annual rate of 5 percent (Abraham et al. 1996). Due to this high growth rate, virtually unlimited food resources in the lower 48 United States and prairie Canada, and a decline in overall mortality in the last 30 years, the MCLSG population has become a threat to itself and to other migratory bird species. MCLSG are destroying arctic and subarctic breeding

habitats used by many other species to the point of desertification, soil salinization, and depletion of vegetative communities (Abraham and Jefferies 1997). The Service believes that the MCLSG population exceeds sustainable levels for their arctic and subarctic breeding habitats, and the population must be reduced to approximately 1.5 million birds to bring the population to within long-term management objective levels (Central/Mississippi Flyway Councils 1982). The Service is also concerned that avian cholera, a highly contagious and deadly disease, could be transmitted to other migratory birds that stage with large concentrations of MCLSG during spring and fall migration.

The Service has attempted to curb the population growth of MCLSG through habitat management, expansion and liberalization of existing seasons, and increases in bag and possession limits, however, the population continues to grow and the geese continue to rapidly degrade their breeding habitats. Over the last year, the Service has consulted with various scientific and conservation organizations in the United States and Canada and has worked in coordination with the Canadian Wildlife Service to bring all available scientific information regarding MCLSG to decision makers.

Under the Act, the Secretary of the Interior has the responsibility for setting appropriate regulations for the take of migratory birds, with due regard for maintaining such populations in a healthy state and at satisfactory levels. As a first step in determining whether and how to reduce the MCLSG population to healthy and sustainable levels, the Service will examine various migratory bird regulatory alternatives and their impacts in an Environmental Assessment, a draft of which will be made available for public review.

Along with the Service's review of regulatory alternatives, the Service will develop habitat management strategies to contribute to a reduction in the MCLSG population. When developed, any proposals will be subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, as appropriate.

Literature Cited

Abraham, K.F., and R.L. Jefferies. 1997. High goose populations: causes, impacts, and implications. Pages 7-72 in B.D.J. Batt (editor). Arctic Ecosystems in Peril: Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

Abraham, K.F., R.L. Jefferies, R.F. Rockwell, and C.D. MacInnes. 1996. Why are there so many white geese in North America? Pages 79-92 in J. Ratti (editor). Proceedings of the 7th International Waterfowl Symposium. Ducks Unlimited, Memphis, Tennessee.

Central and Mississippi Flyway Councils. 1982. Management guidelines for mid-continent snow geese in Wildfowl Management Guidelines. 22 pages.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Donald J. Barry,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 98-8553 Filed 4-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-1430-01; N-62050]

Intent To Prepare a Planning Amendment to the Sonoma-Gerlach Resource Area Management Framework Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a plan amendment.

SUMMARY: The following described land has been proposed for direct sale under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719) to the Pershing County Fair and Recreation Board:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 27 N., R. 31 E.,

Sec. 7: E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,

S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 8: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 18: N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The land has not been specifically identified for disposal under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and the proposed plan amendment/environmental assessment would identify the subject lands for disposal under the authority of the subject Act.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lands are currently under lease to the Pershing County Fair and Recreation Board under the auspices of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*), for a golf course.

The Fair and Recreation Board desires to purchase the lands in order to provide more flexibility in procuring financing and in management of the proposed golf course.

DATES AND ADDRESS: For a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested persons may submit written comments regarding the proposed plan amendment to: Ron Wenker, District Manager, Winnemucca Field Office, 5100 E. Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV 89445.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Detweiler, Realty Specialist, at the above Winnemucca Field Office address or telephone (702) 623-1500.

Dated: March 26, 1998.

Colin P. Christensen,

Acting District Manager, Winnemucca, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 98-8861 Filed 4-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-020-1430-10]

Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District, intends to develop an Activity Plan/Land Use Plan amendment for the Back Rock Desert located in the northwest portion of the district. The purpose of the plan and amendment is to better manage the resources and increasing level of activities occurring on the desert. Currently the Black Rock region reflects very few man-made developments and contains pristine sections of the Applegate/Lassen National Historic Trail. Plan goals include [1] Managing the varied resources while providing for a wide range of dispersed recreational activities and opportunities in a prudent manner; [2] Providing economic opportunities and other human values within a sustainable, healthy ecosystem. Competitive events and commercial uses of the desert have increased tremendously since the original Management Framework Plan was completed in 1982.

During July, 1997, five public scoping meetings were held to gather public input as to their concerns and suggestions for the Black Rock Desert. Input gathered from these meetings will be used to develop the objectives for the plan and to formulate the alternatives for the Environmental Impact Statement leading to the amendment of the Land Use Plan.