

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**
40 CFR Parts 141 and 142

[WH-FRL-6112-9]

**National Primary Drinking Water
Regulations: Long Term 1 Enhanced
Surface Water Treatment Rule and
Filter Backwash Recycling Rule Public
Meeting**
AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule; announcement of
public meeting.

SUMMARY: EPA is in the nascent stages of development for both the Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT1ESWTR) and the Filter Backwash Recycling Rule (FBRR). The Agency is holding these public meetings to share information with interested parties and to solicit feedback from them. The LT1ESWTR rule will primarily address microbial risks at systems serving under 10,000 people. Development of the rule's requirements will begin by considering the appropriateness of the Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR) regulatory template. The rule is to be promulgated by November 2000.

The FBRR rule will provide, for the first time, federal regulatory requirements governing the recycle of filter backwash within the treatment process of public utilities. The rule will apply to utilities of all sizes that backwash filters. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that the final regulation be promulgated by August of 2000.

In keeping with its open door policy for meetings with the public, EPA is inviting all interested members of the public to attend these meetings, with seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

DATES: The LT1ESWTR public meeting will be held on July 22, 1998, and will begin at 8:30 a.m. local time. The FBRR public meeting will begin at the same time on July 23, 1998. Both public meetings will conclude at approximately 4:30 p.m. local time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at U.S. EPA, Region 8 Office, 999 18th Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80202-2466.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the LT1ESWTR public meeting, please contact Steve Potts at (202) 260-5015. For the FBRR public meeting, please contact Bill Hamele at (202) 260-2584.

Dated: June 17, 1998

Cynthia C. Dougherty,
*Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking
Water, Office of Water.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
50 CFR Part 17
RIN 1018-AC13
**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife
and Plants**
AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; availability of
draft San Xavier talussnail conservation
agreement.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides notice that a draft conservation agreement for the San Xavier talussnail (*Snorella eremita*) is available for review and comment. Comments will be accepted during the current public comment period on the proposal to list species as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which closes July 21, 1998. This Conservation Agreement will provide guidance for the conservation and management of the species and its habitat.

DATES: All comments on the draft Conservation Agreement and information on the proposal to list the San Xavier talussnail will be accepted through July 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and materials should be sent to the Field Supervisor, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 2321 W. Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, Arizona 85021. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection during normal business hours, by appointment, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Debra Bills, Fish and Wildlife Biologist,

or Jerry Brabander, Acting Field Supervisor, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, at the above address (602) 640-2720.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Background

The San Xavier talussnail was first proposed as endangered on March 23, 1994 (59 FR 13691). At that time, a 60-day public comment period was opened until May 23, 1994, and all interested parties were requested to submit factual reports or information that might contribute to the development of a final rule. Public hearing requests were invited through May 9, 1994.

Considering the length of time that has elapsed since that initial proposal and a recent re-examination of property boundaries to clarify ownership of the talussnail habitat, the Service reopened the public comment period on May 22, 1998 (63 FR 28343). With the availability of the draft Conservation Agreement, the Service is seeking comments or suggestions from the public, concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, industry, or any other interested parties concerning the proposed rule and the draft Conservation Agreement.

The draft Conservation Agreement calls for restricting activities that would alter sediment runoff, vegetation, or moisture conditions. The draft Conservation Agreement was prepared by representatives from Federal and State agencies and is intended to be used as the basis for guiding the long-term protection of the species and its habitat.

Author

The primary author of this document is Debra Bills, Arizona Ecological Services Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1532 *et seq.*).

Dated: June 17, 1998.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,
*Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service,
Region 2.*

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