

constraints, soil types, and climatic conditions. Surrounding (or associated) upland habitat is critical to the proper ecological function of these vernal pool habitats. Most of the vernal pool plants and animals addressed in the draft recovery plan have life histories adapted to the short period for growth and reproduction within inundated or drying pools and meadows interspersed with long dormant periods and extreme year-to-year variation in rainfall.

The recovery actions described in this draft recovery plan include: (1) Protection, management, and restoration of vernal pool and wet meadow habitat; (2) population status surveys and monitoring; (3) research on biology and management of the species; and (4) enhancement of public awareness and participation in species recovery.

The objective of this recovery plan is to recover the two endangered plants and the threatened animal species sufficiently to warrant delisting, and to ensure the long-term conservation of the nine taxa of concern. An interim goal is to downlist *Lomatium cookii* and *Limnanthes floccosa* ssp. *grandiflora* from endangered to threatened status.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the draft recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment, and you must provide a rationale for withholding this information, but you should be aware that we may be required to disclose your name and address pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, 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).

Dated: June 28, 2006.

**David J. Wesley,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-330-06-1610-DQ-082A]

#### Notice of Availability of Lake Havasu Field Office Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability (NOA) of Lake Havasu Field Office (LHFO) Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS).

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) planning regulations, Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1610.2(f)(3) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, Title 40 CFR 1502.9(a), the BLM hereby gives notice that the LHFO PRMP/FEIS is available for public review and comment. The planning area encompasses more than 1.3 million acres of BLM-administered lands.

**DATES:** Written protests on the PRMP/FEIS will be accepted for 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its NOA in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** All protests must be in writing and must be sent to the following address via regular mail or other delivery service. Protests must be postmarked no later than 30 days after the NOA is published in the **Federal Register**. The exact date will be published in local media and on our Web site, [http://www.blm.gov/AZ/LUP/havasu/lhfo\\_plan.htm](http://www.blm.gov/AZ/LUP/havasu/lhfo_plan.htm). Extensions will not be granted.

Protest letters must be sent to:  
U.S. Postal Service, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Brenda Williams (WO-210), P.O. Box 66538, Washington, DC 20035.  
Overnight Express Mail, Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Brenda Williams (WO-210), 1620 L Street, NW., Suite 1075, Washington, DC 20236.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gina Trafton, Bureau of Land Management, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86406. To receive a copy of the document, contact the BLM via e-mail at [Lake\\_Havasu@blm.gov](mailto:Lake_Havasu@blm.gov) or call (928) 505-1200.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A copy of the LHFO PRMP/FEIS is available for review via the Internet from a link at [http://www.blm.gov/AZ/LUP/havasu/lhfo\\_plan.htm](http://www.blm.gov/AZ/LUP/havasu/lhfo_plan.htm), electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper at the BLM, LHFO. Electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper copies may also be obtained by contacting Gina Trafton at the aforementioned address and phone number.

E-mail and faxed protests will not be accepted as valid, unless the protesting party also provides the original letter by regular mail or other delivery service postmarked by the close of the protest period. Under these conditions, the BLM will consider the e-mail or faxed protest as an advance copy and it will receive full consideration. If you wish to provide us with such advance notification, please direct faxed protests to the attention of Brenda Hudgens-Williams, Protest Coordinator, at (202) 452-5112 and e-mails to [bhudgens@blm.gov](mailto:bhudgens@blm.gov).

At a minimum, protest letters must include:

1. The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.
2. A statement of the issue(s) being protested.
3. A statement of the part(s) of the proposed plan being protested. To the extent possible, this should be done by reference to specific pages, paragraphs, sections, tables, or maps included in the document.
4. A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that you submitted during the planning process or a reference to the date the issue(s) were discussed for the record.
5. A concise statement explaining why you believe the proposed plan is wrong. All relevant facts need to be included in this statement of reasons. The facts, reasons, and documentation are important to help us understand your protest, and that you are not merely expressing disagreement with the proposed decision.

The BLM Director will promptly render a decision on the protests. The decision will be in writing and will set forth the reasons for the decision. The protest decision will be sent to the protesting party by certified mail, return receipt requested. The decision of the Director will be the final decision of the Department of the Interior. The State

Director will sign the Record of Decision for the Lake Havasu Plan once the protests are resolved.

Public comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at Bureau of Land Management, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86406, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

The LHFO PRMP/FEIS is being developed by the BLM. The PRMP/FEIS includes strategies for protecting and preserving the biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, scientific, and scenic values that balance multiple uses of the BLM-administered lands throughout the LHFO planning area.

The Proposed Plan attempts to accomplish the above through coordination with the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona State Land Department, Arizona Game and Fish Department, California Department of Fish and Game, the BLM, and other land managing agencies within the boundaries of the planning areas. The range of alternatives in this PRMP/FEIS evaluates planning decisions brought forward from the current BLM planning documents; the *Yuma District Resource Management Plan* (1987), *Kingman Resource Area Resource Management Plan* (1995), *Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan* (1988) and *Lower Gila North Management Framework Plan* (1983).

The Proposed Plan identifies five potential Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs): Beale Slough Riparian and Cultural ACEC (2,395 acres); Bullhead Bajada Natural and Cultural ACEC (7,090 acres); Crossman Peak Scenic ACEC (48,855 acres); Swansea Historic District ACEC (5,973 acres); and Three Rivers Riparian ACEC (2,246 acres). The following types of resource use limitations would generally apply to these ACECs: (1) Design grazing prescriptions to achieve

the desired plant community objectives; (2) Recreation facilities would be limited to projects that protect ACEC values; (3) Camping would be limited to developed or signed sites; and (4) Travel would be permitted only on designated open and signed routes. For detailed information see Chapter 2 Description of Alternatives, Special Area Designations section.

**Teresa A. Raml,**

*Associate State Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-250-1220-PA-24 1A]

#### **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Implementation of Recreation Resource Advisory Committee Provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Public Law 108-447, Div. J, Title VIII)**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of BLM implementation of the Recreation Resource Advisory Committee provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) implementation of the Recreation Resource Advisory Committee provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

Pursuant to the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act and a signed Interagency Agreement between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, the BLM will utilize existing BLM Resource Advisory Councils to make recommendations on BLM and Forest Service recreation fee issues in the following States: Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Utah.

Both the BLM and the FS will use new Recreation RACs, chartered by the FS, for the Pacific Northwest Region (Oregon and Washington), the Pacific Southwest Region (California), the State of Colorado, and for the Eastern and Southern Regions (these represent most States east of the Rockies).

Any of the existing BLM Resource Advisory Councils or the new FS-chartered RRACs may also establish Subcommittees for recreation fee-related matters.

**Note:** Neither the FS nor the BLM will use Recreation RACs where the Secretaries of

Agriculture and the Interior, in consultation with the Governor of individual States, have determined that sufficient interest does not exist in forming a FS-chartered Recreation RAC or using a BLM RAC as allowed in the Recreation Enhancement Act (REA). Those States that are not establishing Recreation RACs are Alaska, Wyoming and Nebraska.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick Wilkinson, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street, MS-LS-250, Washington, DC, 20240; 202-452-7796.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), enacted December 8, 2004, directs the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, or both, to establish Recreation Resource Advisory Committees, or to use existing Resource Advisory Councils or boards to perform the duties of Recreation Resource Advisory Committees, in each State or region for Federal recreation lands and waters managed by the BLM or Forest Service. These committees, councils or boards will make recreation fee program recommendations on:

- Implementing or eliminating standard amenity fees, expanded amenity fees, and non-commercial, individual special recreation permit fees;
- Expanding or limiting the recreation fee program; and
- Changing fee levels.

REA also states that the Secretaries shall not establish a Recreation Resource Advisory Committees in a State if the Secretaries determine, in consultation with the Governor of the State, that sufficient interest does not exist to ensure that participation on the committee is balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed.

To help determine the appropriate configuration of these advisory groups, the BLM and the Forest Service held 11 listening sessions in Idaho, Oregon, California, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Georgia, and Washington DC, during June and July of 2005. Attendees included key partners, organizations with an interest in recreation management on Federal lands, and existing BLM and Forest Service Resource Advisory Council members.

After more than a year of these public meetings, internal agency analysis, and legal review, the agencies established an organizational structure that has been approved by both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. This organization includes using existing BLM Resource Advisory Councils where appropriate. It also