

environmental documents for the Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge. We furnish this notice in compliance with our comprehensive conservation planning policy to advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by April 11, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments or requests for more information to Ms. Susan Silander, Refuge Manager, Caribbean Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex, P.O. Box 510, Boquerón, PR 00622; *Telephone:* 787/851-7258; *or electronically to:* [susan\\_silander@fws.gov](mailto:susan_silander@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** With this notice, we initiate the comprehensive conservation plan for Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge with headquarters in Boquerón, Puerto Rico.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), requires the Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a comprehensive conservation plan is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, plans identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

We establish each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System with specific purposes. We use these purposes to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses will occur on this refuge. The planning process is a way for us and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

We will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. We request input for issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the management of the Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge in Boquerón, Puerto Rico. We invite anyone interested to respond to the following two questions:

1. What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the comprehensive conservation plan?
2. What improvements would you recommend for the Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge?

We have provided the above questions for your optional use; you are not required to provide information to us. Our Planning Team developed these questions to gather information about individual issues and ideas concerning this refuge. Our Planning Team will use comments it receives as part of the planning process; however, we will not reference individual comments in our reports or directly respond to them.

We will also give the public an opportunity to provide input at an open house and public scoping meetings during 2007, to identify issues to be addressed in the plan. These events will be advertised through local media outlets. You may also submit comments anytime during the planning process by writing to the address in the **ADDRESSES** section. All information provided voluntarily by mail, phone, or at the public meeting becomes part of our official record (i.e., names, addresses, letters of comment, input recorded during meeting).

We will conduct the environmental review of this project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. All comments we receive on our environmental assessment become part of the official public record. We will handle requests for such comments in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA [40 CFR 1506.6(f)], and other Departmental and Service policies and procedures. When we receive a request, we generally will provide comment letters with the names and addresses of the individuals who wrote the comments.

The Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1974 when 587 acres of land were transferred from the Foreign Broadcast Information

Service of the Central Intelligence Agency to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The 1,249-acre Cabo Rojo Salt Flats, previously under private ownership, were purchased and added to the refuge in 1999 for a total of 1,836 acres.

The refuge land was used for cattle ranching, agriculture, and salt production for almost two centuries prior to Service ownership. During that time, much of the native vegetation was replaced by exotic and invasive plants from other regions.

Management of the refuge focuses on restoring native forest vegetation, managing hydrologic conditions in the salt flats, controlling exotic and invasive species, and providing suitable habitat for neotropical migratory birds and native species, such as the endangered yellow-shouldered blackbird.

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

Dated: February 8, 2007.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. E7-4371 Filed 3-9-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson County, Alabama.

**SUMMARY:** The Fish and Wildlife Service intends to gather information necessary to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment for Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge. This notice is furnished in compliance with the Service's comprehensive conservation planning policy to advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments must be received by April 26, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments, questions, and requests for more information to Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box

5087, Fort McClellan, AL 36205; Telephone 256-848-6833.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), requires the Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose in developing a comprehensive conservation plan is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year strategy for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, plans identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

Each unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System is established with specific purposes. These purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses will occur on the refuge. The planning process is a means for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

A comprehensive conservation planning process will be conducted that will provide opportunities for tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. The Service invites anyone interested to respond to the following questions:

1. What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the comprehensive conservation plan?
2. What improvements would you recommend for the Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge?

The above questions have been provided for your optional use. You are not required to provide any information. The Planning Team developed these questions to gather information about individual issues and ideas concerning the refuge. The Planning Team will use

comments it receives as part of the planning process; however, it will not reference individual comments or directly respond to them.

Open house style meeting(s) will be held throughout the scoping phase of the comprehensive conservation plan development process. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will be used to inform the public and State and local government agencies of the opportunities for input throughout the planning process.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508); and other appropriate Federal laws and regulations. All comments received become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and Service and Departmental policies and procedures.

Watercress Darter National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1980 to protect the endangered watercress darter and its habitat. Refuge objectives are to: Protect the watercress darter and its habitat; provide habitat for a natural diversity of wildlife and plants; and provide opportunity for compatible outdoor recreation, environmental education, and interpretation.

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

Dated: February 8, 2007.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. E7-4372 Filed 3-9-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Amendment to Their Liquor Ordinance

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes an amendment to the Liquor Ordinance of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation of North Dakota (Tribe). This amendment brings the existing Liquor Ordinance of the Tribe which regulates and controls the possession, sale and consumption of

liquor within the Tribe's reservation into conformance with a change in state law. The Liquor Ordinance allows for possession and sale of alcoholic beverages within the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, and increases the ability of the tribal government to control the Tribe's liquor distribution and possession. At the same time it will provide an important source of revenue for the continued operation and strengthening of the tribal government and the delivery of tribal services.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* This Ordinance is effective on March 19, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Steele, Regional Tribal Government Officer, Great Plains Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 115 4th Avenue, SE., MC100, Aberdeen, SD 57401, *Telephone:* (605) 226-7343, *Telefax:* (605) 226-7446; or Ralph Gonzales, Office of Indian Services, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 4513-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; *Telephone:* (202) 513-7629.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953, Public Law 83-277, 67 Stat. 586, 18 U.S.C. 1161, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in *Rice v. Rehner*, 463 U.S. 713 (1983), the Secretary of the Interior shall certify and publish in the **Federal Register** notice of adopted liquor ordinances for the purpose of regulating liquor transactions in Indian country. The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indians Tribal Council adopted this amendment to their Liquor Ordinance by Resolution No. 06-131-NH on October 12, 2006. The purpose of this amendment is to bring their current Liquor Control Ordinance into conformance with a recent change to state law.

This notice is published in accordance with the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs. I certify that this amendment to the Liquor Ordinance of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indians was duly adopted by the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indians Tribal Council on October 12, 2006.

Dated: March 2, 2007.

**Michael D. Olsen,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indians of North Dakota Amendment reads as follows: