

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (we) announces the availability of the Revised Recovery Plan for the Paiute Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki seleniris*). This recovery plan includes specific recovery criteria and measures to be taken in order to recover and delist the Paiute cutthroat trout.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of this revised recovery plan are available by request from: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234, Reno, Nevada (telephone: 775-861-6300). An electronic copy of the revised recovery plan is also available at: <http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/index.html#plans>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chad Mellison, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Reno address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Background

Recovery of endangered or threatened animals and plants is a primary goal of our endangered species program and the Endangered Species Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Recovery means improvement of the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer appropriate under the criteria set out in section 4(a)(1) of the Act. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

The Act requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Draft Revised Recovery Plan for the Paiute Cutthroat Trout was available for public comment from January 26, 2004, through March 26, 2004 (69 FR 3598). Information presented during the public comment period has been considered in the preparation of this final revised recovery plan, and is summarized in an appendix to the recovery plan. We will forward substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions.

The Paiute cutthroat trout is native to the Silver King Creek in the East Fork Carson River drainage of Humboldt-

Toiyabe National Forest, Alpine County, California. Hybridization with non-native salmonids is the primary threat to the species.

The original recovery plan for the Paiute cutthroat trout was published in 1985. This revised recovery plan incorporates recent research data and addresses the species' current status, threats, distribution, and recovery needs. It also addresses the effects of recovery actions on the mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana muscosa*) and the Yosemite toad (*Bufo canorus*), which occur within the Silver King Creek drainage as well as in the vicinity of the out-of-basin population sites. This plan identifies actions to maintain ecosystem integrity as well as recover the Paiute cutthroat trout.

The revised recovery plan includes conservation measures designed to ensure that self-sustaining populations of Paiute cutthroat trout will once again occupy its historic range. Specific recovery actions focus on removing non-native salmonids and establishing a viable population in its historic range. The plan also identifies the need to protect pure populations which exist outside of the historic range. The ultimate goal of this revised recovery plan is to delist the Paiute cutthroat trout by implementing a variety of measures to attain the following criteria: (1) All non-native salmonids are removed from Silver King Creek and its tributaries downstream of Llewellyn Falls to fish barriers in Silver King Canyon; (2) a viable population of Paiute cutthroat trout occupies all historic habitat in Silver King Creek and its tributaries downstream of Llewellyn Falls to fish barriers in Silver King Canyon; (3) Paiute cutthroat trout habitat is maintained in all occupied streams; (4) the refuge populations in Corral and Coyote Creeks, Silver King Creek and tributaries above Llewellyn Falls, as well as out-of-basin populations are maintained as refugia and are secured from the introduction of other salmonid species; and (5) a long-term conservation plan and conservation agreement are developed, which will be the guiding management documents once Paiute cutthroat trout are delisted.

**Authority:** The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: August 10, 2004.

**Steve Thompson,**

Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-350-1430-PN]

#### Notice of Availability of Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) on Wind Energy Development on BLM-Administered Lands in the Western United States, Announcement of Public Review Period

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of DPEIS, announcement of public review period.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) on Wind Energy Development on BLM-Administered Lands in the Western United States. The BLM has prepared this DPEIS to (1) assess the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with wind energy development on public lands in 11 western states (excluding Alaska) and (2) evaluate a number of alternatives to determine the best management approach to mitigating potential impacts and facilitating wind energy development.

**DPEIS AVAILABILITY:** The DPEIS will be available on the Internet in a searchable and downloadable format (<http://www.windeis.anl.gov>). The DPEIS also will be available for review during normal business hours at BLM State Offices located in Arizona, 222 N. Central Ave., Phoenix; California, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834, Sacramento; Colorado, 2850 Youngfield St., Lakewood; Idaho, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise; Montana, 5001 Southgate Dr., Billings; Nevada, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno; New Mexico, 1474 Rodeo Rd., Santa Fe; Oregon, 333 SW 1st Ave., Portland; Utah, 324 South State St., Salt Lake City; and Wyoming, 5353 Yellowstone Rd., Cheyenne.

In addition, the DPEIS will be available for review at Argonne National Laboratory, 1200 Internationale Parkway, Woodridge, IL 60517, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., except holidays. To ensure easy access to the document at Argonne's offices, we ask that you contact the Document Retrieval Center at (630) 252-4587 prior to your visit. Visitors to Argonne will be escorted at all times and will be issued a temporary badge; specific arrangements must be made for visitors who are not U.S. citizens.

**DATES:** The public will have 90 days to review and comment on the DPEIS

following publication of the required EPA Notice of Availability.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments in writing by the following methods: Via an electronic comment form on the project Web site: <http://www.windeis.anl.gov>.

By mail to: BLM Wind Energy Programmatic EIS, Argonne National Laboratory EAD/900, 9700 S. Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish BLM to withhold your name or street address, except for the city or town, from public view or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. We will honor requests 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 available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information, including information on how to comment, you may contact Lee Otteni, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, 1235 La Plata Highway, Suite A, Farmington, NM 87401, (505) 599-8911 or visit the Wind Energy Development Programmatic EIS Web site at <http://www.windeis.anl.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Wind energy development on BLM-administered lands currently is managed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Interim Wind Energy Development Policy (Instruction Memorandum 2003-020), issued October 16, 2002. To further support wind energy development on public lands and minimize potential environmental and sociocultural impacts, the BLM is seeking to build upon the existing interim policy to establish a Wind Energy Development Program. Three alternatives were considered in the DPEIS: (1) The proposed action, which would implement a Wind Energy Development Program, establish Best Management Practices for wind energy authorizations, and amend a number of BLM land use plans; (2) the no action alternative, which would allow wind energy development under the existing terms and conditions of the interim policy; and (3) a limited wind energy development alternative, which would allow wind energy development only in selected locations. The DPEIS was prepared in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701), as amended; the

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321), as amended; and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508).

The BLM published a Notice of Intent to Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to Evaluate Wind Energy Development on Western Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management, on October 17, 2003 (**Federal Register**, Vol. 68, No. 201). This initiated a 60-day public scoping period that ended on December 19, 2003. Public scoping meetings were conducted in five locations (Sacramento, Salt Lake City, Cheyenne, Las Vegas, and Boise) in November 2003. Written scoping comments were accepted by comment card, mail, fax, and the project Web site (<http://www.windeis.anl.gov>). The BLM published a scoping summary report and made copies of the individual letters, facsimiles, and electronic comments received during scoping available on the project Web site.

The BLM seeks information and comments on the analysis of potential impacts of wind energy development on public lands discussed in the DPEIS and on the assessment of the management alternatives, in terms of their effectiveness at mitigating potential impacts and facilitating wind energy development. In particular, the BLM seeks comments on the conclusion that the proposed action appears to provide the best approach for managing wind energy development on BLM-administered lands. The BLM also seeks additional data or information that would improve the analysis in the DPEIS.

**Ray Brady,**

*Group Manager, Lands and Realty.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

[INT-DES-04-40]

#### Flaming Gorge Dam, Colorado River Storage Project, Utah

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and notice of public hearings for the operation of Flaming Gorge Dam draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the federal agency responsible for operation of Flaming

Gorge Dam, in cooperation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, State of Utah Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, and Western Area Power Administration, has prepared and made available to the public a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 4332.

**DATES:** A 60-day public review period commences with the publication of this notice. Written comments on the draft EIS are due by *November 15, 2004*, and should be submitted to Peter Crookston at the address given below. Public hearings will be held during the month of October in Utah and Wyoming. The public hearings schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, October 12, 2004, 6 p.m.—Ramada Inn, 182 South Main Street, Moab, Utah.
- Wednesday, October 13, 2004, 6 p.m.—Marriott Hotel, 75 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Tuesday, October 19, 2004, 6 p.m.—Holiday Inn, 1675 Sunset Drive, Rock Springs, Wyoming.
- Wednesday, October 20, 2004, 6 p.m.—Dutch John Conference Hall, South Blvd., Dutch John, Utah.
- Thursday, October 21, 2004, 6 p.m.—Western Park Convention Center, 300 East 200 South, Vernal, Utah.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the draft EIS and requests for copies should be addressed to Mr. Peter Crookston, Flaming Gorge EIS Manager, PRO-774, Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Area Office, 302 East 1860 South, Provo, Utah 84606-7317, email: [fgeis@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:fgeis@uc.usbr.gov). The draft EIS is also available on Reclamation's Web site at <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/> (click on Environmental Programs and then click on the Flaming Gorge Dam Environmental Impact Statement).

Copies of the draft EIS are available for public review and inspection at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Regional Office, 125 South State Street, Room 6107, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1102.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Area Office, 302 East 1860 South, Provo, Utah 84606-7317.
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Attention: Russell George, Executive Director, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, Colorado 80203.
- Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Attention: Eric Bergman, 1313