

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service** [74-93]**Availability of the Agency Draft Recovery Plan for Cooley's Meadowrue for Review and Comment**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability and public comment period.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of an agency draft recovery plan for Cooley's meadowrue (*Thalictrum cooleyi*). This perennial herb historically occurred from North Carolina to Florida. Presently, Cooley's meadowrue is known from 11 locations in the coastal plain of North Carolina and 1 location in the Florida panhandle. The Service solicits review and comments from the public on this draft plan.

DATES: Comments on the agency draft recovery plan must be received on or before (October 12, 1993.) to receive consideration by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the agency draft recovery plan may obtain a copy of contacting the Asheville Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 330 Ridgefield Court, Asheville, North Carolina 28806 (Telephone 704/665-1195). Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Nora Murdock at the address and telephone number shown above (Ext. 231).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans described actions considered necessary for conservation of the species, establish criteria for recognizing the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (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, as amended in 1988, requires that a public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The primary species considered in this draft recovery plan is Cooley's meadowrue (*Thalictrum cooleyi*). The areas of emphasis for recovery actions are the coastal plain of North Carolina and the panhandle of Florida. Habitat protection, reintroduction, and preservation of genetic material are major objectives of this recovery plan.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the plan.

Authority

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

Dated: July 29, 1993.

Brian P. Cole,
Field Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 93-19193 Filed 8-10-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Environmental Impact Statement for the Reintroduction of Gray Wolves in Yellowstone National Park and Central Idaho

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public hearings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces its intention to conduct public hearings in the States of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming and in several major cities nationwide (Seattle, Denver, Salt Lake City, and Washington, DC) to solicit comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the reintroduction of gray wolves in Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho.

DATES: Public hearings will be held in the following cities and States:

Bozeman, Missoula, and Dillon, Montana, on August 25; Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, and Idaho Falls, Idaho, on August 31, 1993; Jackson Hole, Riverton, and Cody, Wyoming, on September 1.

Additional public hearings will be held nationwide: Cheyenne, Wyoming; Boise, Idaho; and Helena, Montana, on September 27; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Denver, Colorado, on September 28; and Washington, DC, on September 30. The times and locations of the hearings will be announced in the local media and in mailings to the interested public.

ADDRESSES: Questions and comments concerning these public meetings should be sent to Ed Bangs, Project Leader, Yellowstone National Park and Central Idaho Gray Wolf Environmental Impact Statement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 8017, Helena, Montana 59601.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Bangs, Project Leader (see addresses above), at telephone (406) 449-5202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (Statement) for the reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho.

On March 9, 1978, the gray wolf was listed as an endangered species throughout the 48 conterminous States, except for Minnesota where the species was listed as threatened. The Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan (originally approved on May 28, 1980, and revised on August 3, 1987) identified the need for reintroduction of the gray wolf into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho.

In November 1991, Congress directed the Service, in consultation with the National Park Service and the Forest Service, to prepare a Statement concerning recovery of wolves in Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho and to have a draft completed by May 13, 1993.

In 1992, a series of public open houses and hearings were held to identify issues and alternatives to be considered in the Statement. Eighteen issues were addressed as part of one or more wolf management alternatives. Six issues were analyzed in detail in the draft Statement because they are potentially impacted by wolves or wolf recovery strategies: Big game, hunting harvest, domestic animal depredation, land-use restrictions, visitor use, and local economies. The final five

alternatives in the draft Statement are: (1) Reintroduction of experimental populations, (2) natural recovery, (3) no wolf, (4) wolf management committee alternative (congressionally designated experimental population with State management), and (5) reintroduction of nonexperimental wolves.

People who previously requested wolf recovery information will receive copies of the summary draft Statement. Other interested people can obtain copies by writing to Ed Bangs, Project Leader (see ADDRESSES above).

Dated: August 5, 1993.

John L. Spinks, Jr.,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 93-19212 Filed 8-10-93; 8:45 am]

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Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-92-4333-04]

Temporary Closures of Public Lands: Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior Department.

ACTION: Temporary closure of certain public lands in Carson City, Lyon and Douglas Counties on and adjacent to two Off Highway Vehicle race courses: September 5, 1993, Valley Off-Road Racing Association, Yerington 250—Permit Number NV-03516-93-10 and October 2, 1993—High Sierra Motorcycle Club, Carson Valley Qualifier—Permit Number NV-03516-93-05.

SUMMARY: The Carson City District Manager announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under his administration. This action is being taken to provide for public safety and to protect adjacent resources during the official running of the Yerington 250 Off Road Race and the Carson Valley Qualifier Motorcycle Race.

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 4 and 5, 1993; October 1 and 2, 1993.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fran Hull, Walker Area Recreation Planner, Carson City District, Bureau of Land Management, 1535 Hot Springs Road, suite 300, Carson City, Nevada 89706, Telephone: (702) 885-6000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A map of each closure may be obtained from Fran Hull at the contact address. Each permittee is required to clearly mark and monitor the event route during the closure period. Specific information on each event follows:

Spectators shall remain in safe locations as directed by event officials

and BLM personnel during the conduct of both events.

1. Valley Off-Road Racing Association Yerington 250 Off-Road Race, Permit Number NV-03516-93-10. This event is located on roads and washes near Yerington, Nevada in Douglas and Lyon Counties, within T12N R24E; T13N R24E; T14N R24E T13N R25E.

Bureau Lands to be closed include existing roads and washes identified on the ground as the 1983 Yerington 250 Off-Road Race and Bureau Lands within 100 yards of either side except at designated pit, check point and spectator areas. The closure will be in effect from 6 p.m. September 4 until midnight on September 5, 1993.

Spectator locations will be at the Start/Finish area and near route crossings on Delphi Road, Mason Pass Road and Gallagher Pass Road.

2. High Sierra Motorcycle club Carson Valley Qualifier, Permit Number NV-03516-93-05. This event is located on roads and trails in the Pine Nut Mountains near Gardnerville, Carson City and Dayton, Nevada in Douglas, Carson City and Lyon Counties within T13N R20E; T13N R21E; T14N R20E; T14N R21E; T14N R22E; T15N R20E; T15N R21E; T15N R22E; T16N R21E; T16N R22E. The Bureau Lands to be closed to the public include existing roads and trails identified on the ground as the 1993 Carson Valley Qualifier and Bureau Lands within 100 yards of either side except at designated pit and spectator areas. Brunswick Canyon Road will be closed to through traffic, Sunrise Pass Road will have traffic regulated. This closure will be effective from 6 p.m. October 1 to 6 p.m. October 2, 1993. Spectators are welcome at the Start/Finish area at Minden, Nevada. The above restrictions do not apply to race officials, law enforcement and agency personnel, or BLM personnel monitoring the event.

Authority: 43 CFR 8341; 43 CFR 8364 and 43 CFR 8372. Any person failing to comply with the closure order may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.7.

Dated: July 28, 1993.

James W. Elliott,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 93-19187 Filed 8-10-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

[NV-060-4191-03-7122-8661]

Availability of the Cortez Gold Mines Expansion Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Availability of Final EIS, ROD and comment period.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Interior, has prepared, by a third party contractor, a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) on the Cortez Gold Mines Expansion in Northern Nevada, and has made copies of the document available for public review. Also available is the FEIS's associated Record of Decision (ROD) approving the findings of the EIS and Cortez's Plan of Operations.

DATES: The thirty day comment period begins Friday, August 13, 1993. Comments on the FEIS and its ROD must be postmarked by September 13, 1993.

ADDRESSES: Please address written comments to: District Manager, P.O. Box 1420, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; ATTN: Cortez Project Team Leader.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Davis, Cortez Team Leader at the above address, or telephone (702) 635-4000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the Cortez Gold Mines Expansion FEIS and its associated ROD approving the findings of the EIS and Cortez's Plan of Operations are available for public review and comment.

Any interested public may obtain a copy of these documents by writing the above address or calling the telephone number above and requesting a copy.

Copies of the FEIS and ROD are available for review at the following locations: Nevada State Office BLM, 850 Harvard Way, Reno, Nevada 89520; the Eureka County Library, Monroe Street, Eureka, Nevada 89316; the Elko County Library, 720 Court Street, Elko, Nevada 89801; and the Lander County Library, Highway 8 A, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820.

As provided in CEQ regulation 40 CFR 1506.10(b)(2), the BLM has requested from the Secretary of Interior's Office of Environmental Affairs (SOI-OEA) an exception to the required thirty day delay between the release of the FEIS and its associated ROD. The SOI-OEA has approved this exception. The ROD is part of the FEIS. The ROD approves the findings of the EIS and approves Cortez's Plan of Operations.

Dated: July 28, 1993.

Michael C. Mitchell,
Associate District Manager.

[FR Doc. 93-19280 Filed 8-10-93; 8:45 am]

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Brian P. Cole,

Field Supervisor.

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