PUBLIC NOTICE OF STATE BOATING ACCESS GRANT PROJECT AND ADOPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE AGUA FRIA CONSERVATION AREA, LAKE PLEASANT REGIONAL PARK, MARICOPA AND YAVAPAI COUNTIES, ARIZONA

We give notice that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Agua Fria Conservation Area Management Plan, Lake Pleasant Regional Park, Maricopa and Yavapai Counties, Arizona, is adopted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service according to rules contained in 40 CFR 1506.3. We sign a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for associated proposed boating access projects. We also recognize our Ecological Services division letter dated June 10, 2009, which discusses related endangered or threatened species considerations. The letter, EA and FONSI are available for viewing via the sources described at the end of this notice.

The EA was finalized in January of 2010 by the Bureau of Reclamation, based in Phoenix, Arizona. Cooperators include the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and three Departments in Arizona (Game and Fish; State Land; Maricopa County Parks and Recreation). The EA evaluates and recognizes an Agua Fria Conservation Area Management Plan amendment to the existing Lake Pleasant Management Plan.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department, in cooperation with partners, proposes boating access improvements in the Agua Fria Conservation Area of Lake Pleasant. These improvements include construction of one primary boat ramp, three primitive boat ramps, parking lots, an access road, and associated small structures. These improvements are part of the larger effort to enhance both recreation and protection of natural and cultural resources under the Agua Fria Conservation Area Management Plan.

These boating access projects are proposed to be partially funded via federal boating access grants from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. If approved, the grants will be awarded to the Arizona Game and Fish Department by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Approximate map coordinates for the primary boat ramp are expressed as 33° 58' 17.47" North and 112° 12' 17.78" West.

The EA, FONSI, and letter, may each be inspected at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Southwest Regional Office, 500 Gold Ave. SW, Suite 9019, Albuquerque, NM 87103. These documents may also be viewed at the Headquarters of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086. To view these documents online, please use the following web addresses.

AGFD: http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor recreation/boating facilities.shtml

USFWS: http://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/index.html