

Place: Chevy Chase Holiday Inn, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Contact Person: Anthony C. Chung, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4138, MSC 7802, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1213.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 1, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-27046 Filed 10-7-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Periodically, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will publish a list of information collection requests under OMB review, in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C.

Chapter 35). To request a copy of these documents, call the SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer on (301)443-7978.

Evaluation of the Cooperative Agreement for Mental Health Care Provider Education in HIV/AIDS Program II—New—The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) intends to conduct a multi-site evaluation of its Cooperative Agreement for Mental Health Care Provider Education in HIV/AIDS Program II. The education programs funded under this cooperative agreement are designed to disseminate knowledge of the psychological and neuropsychiatric sequelae of HIV/AIDS to both traditional (e.g., psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, primary care physicians, medical students, and social workers) and non-traditional (e.g., clergy, and alternative health care workers) first-line providers of mental health services. The multi-site evaluation is designed to assess the effectiveness of particular training curricula, document the integrity of training delivery formats, and assess the effectiveness of the various training delivery formats.

Analyses will assist CMHS in documenting the numbers and types of traditional and non-traditional mental health providers accessing training; the

content, nature and types of training participants receive; and the extent to which trainees experience knowledge, skill and attitude gains/changes as a result of training attendance. The multi-site evaluation design uses a two-tiered data collection and analytic strategy to collect information on (1) the organization and delivery of training, and (2) the impact of training on participants' knowledge, skills and abilities.

Information about the organization and delivery of training will be collected from trainers and staff who are funded by these cooperative agreements hence there is no respondent burden. All training participants attending sessions lasting less than 6 hours will be asked to complete a brief evaluation form at the end of the training session. Trainees attending sessions lasting 6 hours or longer will be asked to complete brief pre-and post-session evaluation questionnaires. A sample of trainees attending sessions lasting 6 hours or longer will also be asked to complete a brief follow-up telephone interview three months after the training session. CMHS has funded seven education sites under the Cooperative Agreement for Mental Health Care Provider Education in HIV/AIDS Program II. The annual burden estimates for this activity are shown below:

Form	Responses per respondent	Estimated number of respondents (× 7 sites)	Hours per response	Total hours
All Sessions				
Session Report Form	1	60 × 7 = 420080	34
Sessions Less than 6 Hours				
Participant Evaluation Form	1	600 × 7 = 4200	0.167	701
Neuropsychiatric Participant Evaluation Form	1	75 × 7 = 525	0.167	88
Ethics Participant Evaluation Form	1	75 × 7 = 525	0.167	88
Sessions 6 hours or Longer				
Pre-Training Participant Inventory	1	200 × 7 = 1400	0.167	234
Post-Training Participant Inventory	1	200 × 7 = 1400	0.250	350
Neuropsychiatric Pre-Training Participant Inventory	1	50 × 7 = 350	0.167	58
Neuropsychiatric Post-Training Participant Inventory	1	50 × 7 = 350	0.25	88
Participant Follow-up Form	1	45 × 7 = 315250	79
Total	7,420	1719

Written comments and recommendations concerning the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of this notice to: Daniel Chenok, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: October 2, 1998.

Richard Kopanda,

Executive Officer, SMHSA.

[FR Doc. 98-26990 Filed 10-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Termination of the Red Wolf Reintroduction Project in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of termination of reintroduction project.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), in conjunction with the National Park Service, has decided to terminate attempts to restore a wild population of red wolves in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Park) in North Carolina and Tennessee. Extremely low pup survival and the inability of the red wolves to establish home ranges within the Park are the reasons for the decision. Establishing a reintroduced population of red wolves depends upon the released animals producing wild offspring that survive to replace natural mortality and increase the population. Our goal for the recovery of this species includes establishing at least three self-sustaining wild populations that total a minimum of 220 animals; without surviving wild offspring, there is no basis for us to expect to contribute to this recovery goal in the Park.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: V. Gary Henry, Red Wolf Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28801 (828/258-3939, ext. 226).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Park was selected as a potential restoration site due to the large federal land base provided by the Park and surrounding national forests. The project in the Park began in late 1991, with an experimental release of one family group of red wolves. The objective of the experimental release was to evaluate the interactions between red wolves and people, livestock, and coyotes. Initial indications were that restoration was feasible. Subsequent releases of 37 red wolves took place from late 1992 through 1996.

Of 30 wild-born pups from seven litters born in past years, only 2 that were removed from the wild at 6 months of age are known to have survived. Obtaining information on the fate of pups is difficult as they are too small to wear telemetry collars, the usual means of monitoring free-ranging adult red wolves. Pathologists found parvovirus in one of a litter of four pups that all died during midsummer 1993. Later that same summer, coyotes attacked and killed a pup from a separate litter of three. In addition, we have documented malnutrition and heavy infestation of internal and external parasites in pups and adults that have been captured. Therefore, we suspect several factors are contributing to the lack of pup survival including (1) parvovirus and other common canine

diseases; (2) internal and external parasites; (3) poor nutrition; and (4) predation by black bears, coyotes, and other predators.

Of the 37 red wolves released in the Park, 26 were recaptured from or died outside Park boundaries. We suspect low availability of prey in the steep, heavily forested slopes that comprise the majority of the Park's 500,000 acres is the likely reason the red wolves stray from the Park. Low food availability can cause wolves to wander widely and/or expand their range. The fact that this was the typical response of the red wolves when released in the Park suggests that it is less preferred habitat when compared to the lower-elevation agricultural land of the surrounding area.

How Many Red Wolves Currently Exist in the Park?

We are presently monitoring two adult red wolves and two pups in the wild. There are six captive red wolves held in pens in the Park. In addition to the four red wolves currently being monitored, there are 32 fate unknown wild red wolves. Contact was lost with four of these as adult animals when their radio transmitters ceased to function. Contact was lost with the remainder while they were pups—before they were old enough to be instrumented with radio telemetry collars. Fate unknown pups include 25 from past years and three from this year. The fate unknown animals are likely dead. The monitored adult male has been observed consorting with a coyote and the monitored adult female has been frequenting campgrounds.

What Will Happen to the Red Wolves Now in the Park?

We are in the process of relocating the six captive red wolves currently being held in the Park. We plan to recapture the remaining known four free-ranging red wolves by the end of the calendar year 1998. These animals will be incorporated into the captive population by placement in one of 36 captive breeding facilities. Exact location will be determined by available space. These animals will also be evaluated for possible release into the wild and one or more may be released into the experimental population in northeastern North Carolina when and if the opportunity becomes available.

Current regulations regarding the Park population (50 CFR 17.84(c)) justify removing the animals for the following reasons:

(1) moving an animal for genetic purposes,

(2) taking an animal that constitutes a demonstrable but non-immediate threat to human safety or that is responsible for depredations to lawfully present domestic animals or other personal property, and

(3) aiding a sick, injured, or orphaned specimen.

Our experiences indicate that leaving the few animals now present would result in one of two things in the future—death or interbreeding with coyotes. Since all red wolves are managed as one population for genetic purposes, the loss of these animals would be a loss to the gene pool.

Activities have already been implemented to capture the adult male for genetic reasons. Removing the female is justified for several reasons. Left alone without other adult red wolves, the female would likely eventually consort and mate with coyotes. Therefore, she will also be removed for genetic purposes. In addition, the frequenting of campgrounds presents another problem of a behaviorally unsuitable animal with a tolerance of humans. This represents a demonstrable but non-immediate threat to human safety and could be responsible for depredation of personal property in the future. For example, there have been three other red wolves that started frequenting campgrounds, gradually progressed to becoming active in daylight hours in the campgrounds, and finally destroyed personal property. Removing the adults then leaves two orphaned pups. The orphaning of the pups by removal of the adults and our past experience of no survival of pups beyond one year indicates that the pups will likely die. In the unlikely event that they survive, the pups would likely consort and breed with coyotes because other red wolves are not available for mates. Therefore, they need to be removed for humanitarian and genetic reasons.

What Regulations Will Apply to the Park Population of Red Wolves?

We will retain the experimental population designation (defined as Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Madison and Swain counties, North Carolina and Blount, Cocke, Monroe, and Sevier counties, Tennessee) and the applicable regulations for this population (50 CFR 17.84(c)), for the immediate future. These regulations provide that any person may take red wolves found on lands owned or managed by Federal, State, or local government agencies, provided that such taking is incidental to lawful activities, is unavoidable, unintentional, and not exhibiting a lack of reasonable due care, or is in defense

of that person's life or the lives of others. On private lands, the following regulations apply:

(1) Any person may take red wolves on private land provided that such taking is not intentional or willful, or is in defense of that person's life or the lives of others.

(2) Any private landowner, or any other individual having his or her permission, may take red wolves found on his or her property when the wolves are in the act of killing livestock or pets, provided that freshly wounded or killed livestock or pets are evident.

(3) Any private landowner may take red wolves found on his or her property after efforts by project personnel to capture such animals have been abandoned, provided that the Service project leader or biologist has approved such actions in writing.

All takings must be reported within 24 hours to the Park superintendent or State wildlife enforcement officer. The provisions also apply to red wolves found in areas outside the experimental population boundaries, with the exception that reporting of taking or harassment to the Park superintendent, while encouraged, is not required.

These regulations will be retained in case some of the animals that we have lost contact with are still alive and are taken. You should report any wolf-like animal observed with a radio collar around the neck to the Park superintendent. We will examine longevity records for red wolves in the wild and will amend the nonessential experimental population regulation to remove the Park when animals with which we have lost contact would be expected to have lived out their life span.

Are Additional Restoration Efforts Planned for the Future?

We are analyzing information gathered on the restoration of the red wolf over the last 11 years to aid in the selection of future release sites. With the limited resources available to all endangered species programs, it is our responsibility to use the most accurate and current information to make the best choices for recovering the red wolf. This responsibility includes selecting release sites that allow us to establish a population as efficiently as possible for the sake of the species and the interests of the American public.

All large federally owned lands (170,000 acres or more) within the red wolf's historic range are being included in the assessment of potential release sites. However, no site has been selected at this time. We hope to develop a "short list" of potential areas that offer

the greatest biological potential and then further refine the selection process based on the interests, land use, and attitudes of the public surrounding a particular site. The selection of the next release site will be a very complex process. This process must balance biological, logistical, and socio-political factors. All of these factors can contribute to the success or failure of individual red wolves and, ultimately, to the overall recovery of the species.

Once a potential site is selected, we will follow the regulatory process for establishing a nonessential experimental population by publishing a proposed rule in the **Federal Register**. Comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the proposed rule will be solicited from the public, concerned government agencies, the scientific community, industry, and other interested parties. In making the final decision, we will take into consideration any comments or additional information received. The final determination will also be published in the **Federal Register**.

Author. The primary author of this notice is V. Gary Henry (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section).

Authority: The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: September 30, 1998.

H. Dale Hall,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 98-26841 Filed 10-7-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-056-1110-00]

Notice of Vehicle Access Closure

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of seasonal closure of the Bronson Peak Road (BLM Road 5100) and area closure in the Rio Grande County, Colorado to motorized vehicle use during Colorado's combined deer & elk hunting seasons for 1998 and 1999. Closure dates will be October 8, 1998 thru November 8, 1998 and October 7, 1999 thru November 7, 1999.

SUMMARY: Under the authority and requirement of 43 CFR 8364.1 and 43 CFR 8341.1 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, notice is hereby given that effective October 8, 1998, public lands described below are seasonally closed to all motorized vehicle use during Colorado's 1998 and

1999 combined deer & elk hunting seasons. This seasonal closure is in addition to the existing closure (FR Doc. 94-26114, filed 10-20-94), which permanently affects 3600 acres of Public lands east of BLM Road 5100 in T.38N., R7E., Sections 34 & 35 and T.37N., R7E., Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 14, & 15. This seasonal closure will affect approximately an additional 1730 acres of public lands west of BLM Road 5100, and east of Greenie Mountain and will impose a temporary closure of approximately 2½ miles of BLM Road 5100 in the Rio Grande County, south of Monte Vista, Colorado, in T.38N., R.7E., Section 9, and that area SE of an existing OHV trail, extending diagonally from the NE corner to the SW corner of Section 4. Through a cooperative effort with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and BLM, this seasonal closure is intended to help affect movement of elk off the Monte Vista Wildlife Refuge and to minimize animal damage caused by elk to the refuge and adjacent private lands. Elk are often observed attempting to leave the refuge, heading towards the slopes of Greenie Mountain, and being turned back to the safe confines of the refuge by vehicular traffic and by hunters attempting to get near enough for a shot and harvest of animals. This area/road closure will eliminate this extremely dangerous situation where a considerable number of hunters shoot at elk as they leave the wildlife refuge in the early mornings, and will protect fragile vegetation and highly erodible soils from adverse affects of vehicle travel during the wet months of the year. This action does not does not affect hunting use in the area, but is intended to make the area safer for hunters and the general public and to protect the vegetation and soils from damage during the fall/winter months when soils are often wet. These restrictions do not apply to emergency, law enforcement, and Federal, State or other government personnel who are in the area for official or emergency purposes and who are expressly authorized or otherwise officially approved by BLM. Any person who fails to comply with this closure order may be subject to the penalties provided by 43 CFR 8340.0-7 and/or 43 CFR 8360.0-7 which includes fines not to exceed \$1000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months. Notice of this closure will be posted near or within the area, the San Luis Resource Area Office and the Canon City District Office.

DATES: Closure dates will be October 8, 1998 thru November 8, 1998 and October 7, 1999 thru November 7, 1999,