

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: John R. Lymangrover, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, NIAMS, Natcher Bldg., Room 5As25N, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-594-4952.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: September 28, 2001.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 01-25168 Filed 10-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Approval Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We will submit the collection of information listed below to OMB for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act. We have included a copy of the information collection requirement in this notice. If you wish to obtain copies of the proposed information collection requirement and explanatory material, contact the Service Information Collection Officer at the address listed below.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before January 7, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on the requirement to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 222 ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20204.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory

information, contact Rebecca A. Mullin at (703) 358-2287 or electronically to mullin@fws.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulation at 5 CFR part 1320, which implements provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recording keeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). We plan to submit a request to OMB to renew approval of the collection of information for the Conservation Order for the Reduction of Mid Continent Light Goose populations. We are requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Federal agencies may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The Mid-continent lesser snow goose and Ross' population has nearly quadrupled—goose populations are referred to as Mid-continent light geese (MCLG). Due to high population growth rates, a decline in adult mortality, and an increase in winter survival, MCLG are now seriously injurious to their habitat and habitat important to other migratory birds, which poses a serious threat to the short and long-term health and status of migratory bird populations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service or "we") believes that MCG populations exceed long-term sustainable levels for their arctic and sub-arctic breeding habitats and the populations must be reduced. 50 CFR part 21 provides authority for the management of overabundant MCG populations. Lesser snow and Ross' geese that primarily migrate through North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and Missouri, and winter in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and eastern, central, and southern Texas and other Gulf States are referred to as the Mid-continent population of light geese (M.P.). Lesser snow and Ross' geese that primarily migrate through Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado and winter in New Mexico, northwestern Texas, and

Chihuahua, Mexico are referred to as Western Central Flyway population of light geese (WCFP). Ross' geese are often mistaken for lesser snow geese due to their similar appearance. Ross' geese occur in both M.P. and the WCFP and mix extensively with lesser snow geese on both the breeding and wintering grounds M.P. and WCFP lesser snow and Ross' geese are collectively referred to as Mid-continent light geese (MCLG) because they breed, migrate, and winter in the Mid-continent or central portions of Northern America primarily in the Central and Mississippi Flyways. They are referred to as "light" geese due to their light coloration as opposed to "dark" geese such as the white-fronted or Canada Geese. In addition, we are now adding all Atlantic Flyway states to the conservation order to control greater snow geese (GSG). Similar to MCLG populations, GSG populations have increased exponentially, causing many of the same negative impacts previously outlined.

This collection of information that is required of participating State agencies under the conservation order to control MCLG and GSG populations will be used by the Service to administer this program and, particularly, in monitoring the effectiveness of control strategies. The information requested will be required to participate, and to protect migratory birds. The criteria is a statement that indicates that the State will inform and brief all participants of the requirements of these regulations and conservation order conditions that apply to the implementation of MCLG and GSG control measures. Any participant must keep records of activities carried out under the authority of this conservation order, including the number of MCLG and GSG harvested, the method by which they were harvested, and the date on which they were harvested. The State must submit an annual report summarizing activities conducted, including the date, numbers of birds taken, and methods of take on or before August 1 of each year.

Frequency of Collection: Annually
Description of Respondents: States
Total Annual Burden Hours: (see below)

Type of Report	Number of Reports Annually	Avg. Time Required Per Report (minutes)	Burden Hours
General take or Removal	24	360	720

We invite comments concerning this submission on (1) whether the collection of information is necessary

for the proper performance of our migratory bird management functions, including whether the information will

have practical utility; (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) Ways to

enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents. The information collections in this program are part of a system of record covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 (a))

Dated: October 3, 2001.

Rebecca A. Mullin,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information Collection Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-25234 Filed 10-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Associated Environmental Documents for the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and environmental documents pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations. CCPs will be prepared for the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) located in Suffolk and Chesapeake, Virginia and Gates and Camden Counties, North Carolina and the Nanesmond Refuge Unit located within the City of Suffolk, Virginia. A Wilderness Review of Great Dismal Swamp NWR will also be completed concurrently in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, as amended and Refuge Planning policy 602 FW Chapters 1, 2, and 3. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*): (1) To advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and (2) to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to include in the environmental documents.

DATES: Inquire at the address below for dates of planning activity and due dates for comments. The public scoping meetings will be held in January 2002 in the cities of Suffolk and Chesapeake, Virginia and also in Elizabeth City and Gatesville, North Carolina in the following locations:

January 8, 2002

Hampton Inn, 402 Halstead Boulevard, Elizabeth City, North Carolina

January 10, 2002

Performing Arts Building, Gates County High School, 088 Highway 158 West, Gatesville, North Carolina

January 22, 2002

City Council Chambers, 441 Market Street, Suffolk, Virginia

January 24, 2002

Major Hillard Public Library, Deep Creek, 824 Old George Washington Highway, Chesapeake, Virginia

ADDRESSES: Address comments, questions, and request for more information to the following: Refuge Manager, Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 349, Suffolk, VA 23439-0349, 757-986-3706.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Federal law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. The CCP guides management decisions and identifies refuge goals, long-range objectives, and strategies for achieving refuges purposes. The planning process will consider many elements including habitat and wildlife management, habitat protection and acquisition, public uses, and cultural resources. Public input into this planning process is essential. The CCP will provide other agencies and the public with a clear understanding of the desired conditions for the Refuges and how the Service will impact management strategies.

The Service will solicit public input via, open houses, public meetings, workshops, and written comments. Special mailings, newspaper articles, and announcements will inform people of the time and place of such opportunities for public input to the CCP. The Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge encompasses some 109,000 acres of marshes, wooded wetlands/swamps, and open water. Comments on the protection of threatened and endangered species and migratory birds and the protection and management of their habitat will be solicited as part of the planning process. A Draft CCP and Environmental Assessment are planned for public review by December of 2002.

Review of the 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), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and

procedures for compliance with those regulations.

Mamie A. Parker,

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

[FR Doc. 01-25191 Filed 10-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Draft Implementation Plan for Falconry Take of Nestling American Peregrine Falcons in the Contiguous United States and Alaska

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice is to announce the availability of the Draft Implementation Plan for take for falconry of nestling American peregrine falcons in the contiguous United States and Alaska. The Implementation Plan is intended to assist the States in implementing the selected alternative from our May 2001 Environmental Assessment on take of nestlings. We seek public comment on the Draft Plan.

DATES: Comments on the Draft Implementation Plan are due by November 8, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The Plan is available from, and written comments about it should be submitted to, Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 634, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1610. You can request a copy of the Plan by calling 703/358-1714. The fax number for a request or for comments is 703/358-2272. The Plan also is available on the Division of Migratory Bird Management web pages at <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jon Andrew, Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at 703/358-1714 or the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Implementation Plan provides additional details to be used by the States for implementing the alternative selected. The Plan outlines the procedures we will follow in reviewing and adjusting the allowed take of nestling American peregrine falcons in accordance with the best available information about the population.