

registering to attend, submitting written material, and giving an oral presentation, please see Public Input under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in Room 5160 at the Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street NW., Washington DC 20240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joshua Winchell, Council Designated Federal Officer, by U.S. mail at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; by telephone at (703) 358-2639; or by email at [joshua\\_winchell@fws.gov](mailto:joshua_winchell@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., we announce that the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council will hold a meeting.

**Background**

Formed in February 2010, the Council provides advice about wildlife and habitat conservation endeavors that:

1. Benefit wildlife resources;
2. Encourage partnership among the public, sporting conservation organizations, States, Native American tribes, and the Federal Government; and
3. Benefit recreational hunting.

The Council advises the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, reporting through the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), in consultation with the Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Director, National Park Service (NPS); Chief, Forest Service (USFS); Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and Administrator, Farm Services Agency (FSA). The Council's duties are strictly advisory and consist of, but are not limited to, providing recommendations for:

1. Implementing the Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Resource Conservation Plan—A Ten-Year Plan for Implementation;
2. Increasing public awareness of and support for the Wildlife Restoration Program;
3. Fostering wildlife and habitat conservation and ethics in hunting and shooting sports recreation;
4. Stimulating sportsmen and women's participation in conservation and management of wildlife and habitat resources through outreach and education;
5. Fostering communication and coordination among State, tribal, and Federal governments; industry; hunting and shooting sportsmen and women; wildlife and habitat conservation and

management organizations; and the public;

6. Providing appropriate access to Federal lands for recreational shooting and hunting;

7. Providing recommendations to improve implementation of Federal conservation programs that benefit wildlife, hunting, and outdoor recreation on private lands; and

8. When requested by the Designated Federal Officer in consultation with the Council Chairperson, performing a variety of assessments or reviews of policies, programs, and efforts through the Council's designated subcommittees or workgroups.

Background information on the Council is available at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

**Meeting Agenda**

The Council will convene to consider issues including:

1. Wildlife habitat and health;
2. Funding for public lands and wildlife management;
3. Endangered Species Act; and
4. Other Council business.

The final agenda will be posted on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

**Attendance**

To attend this meeting, register by close of business on the dates listed in Public Input. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address, and phone number to the Council Designated Federal Officer (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

**Public Input**

If you wish to	You must contact the Council Designated Federal Officer (see <b>FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT</b> ) no later than
Attend the meeting .....	January 26, 2017.
Submit written information or questions before the meeting for the council to consider during the meeting.	January 26, 2017.
Give an oral presentation during the meeting.	January 26, 2017.

*Submitting Written Information or Questions*

Interested members of the public may submit relevant information or questions for the Council to consider during the public meeting. Written statements must be received by the date in Public Input, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this

meeting. Written statements must be supplied to the Council Designated Federal Officer in both of the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via email (acceptable file formats are Adobe Acrobat PDF, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or rich text file).

*Giving an Oral Presentation*

Individuals or groups requesting to make an oral presentation at the meeting will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker, with no more than a total of 30 minutes for all speakers. Interested parties should contact the Council Designated Federal Officer, in writing (preferably via email; see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), to be placed on the public speaker list for this meeting. Nonregistered public speakers will not be considered during the meeting. Registered speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, or those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, may submit written statements to the Council Designated Federal Officer up to 30 days subsequent to the meeting.

**Meeting Minutes**

Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Council Designated Federal Officer (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). They will be available for public inspection within 90 days of the meeting, and will be posted on the Council's Web site at <http://www.fws.gov/whhcc>.

**Joshua Winchell,**

*Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2016-30749 Filed 12-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Geological Survey**

[GX.17.MR00.G74E4.00]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of revision of a currently approved information collection, (1028-0098).

**SUMMARY:** We (the U.S. Geological Survey) are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the information collection request (ICR) described below. To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and as part of our continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent

burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this ICR. This collection is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2017.

**DATES:** To ensure that your comments on this ICR are considered, OMB must receive them on or before January 20, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit written comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, via email: (*OIRA\_SUBMISSION@omb.eop.gov*); or by fax (202) 395-5806; and identify your submission with 'OMB Control Number 1028-0098 Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Sighting Reporting Form and Alert Registration Form'. Please also forward a copy of your comments and suggestions on this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); (703) 648-7195 (fax); or *gs-info\_collections@usgs.gov* (email). Please reference 'OMB Information Collection 1028-0098: Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Sighting Reporting Form and Alert Registration Form' in all correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pam Fuller at (352) 264-3481 (telephone); *pfuller@usgs.gov* (email); or by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 7920 NW., 71st Street, Gainesville, Florida 32653. You may also find information about this ICR at *www.reginfo.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

America is under siege by many harmful non-native species of plants, animals, and microorganisms. More than 6,500 nonindigenous species are now established in the United States, posing risks to native species, valued ecosystems, and human and wildlife health. These invaders extract a huge cost, an estimated \$120 billion per year, to mitigate their harmful impacts. The current annual environmental, economic, and health-related costs of invasive species exceed those of all other natural disasters combined.

Through its Invasive Species Program (*http://www.usgs.gov/ecosystems/invasive\_species/*), the USGS plays an important role in federal efforts to combat invasive species in natural and semi-natural areas through early detection and assessment of newly established invaders; monitoring of invading populations; and improving

understanding of the ecology of invaders and factors in the resistance of habitats to invasion. The USGS provides the tools, technology, and information supporting efforts to prevent, contain, control, and manage invasive species nationwide. To meet user needs, the USGS also develops methods for compiling and synthesizing accurate and reliable data and information on invasive species for inclusion in a distributed and integrated web-based information system.

As part of the USGS Invasive Species Program, the Nonindigenous Aquatic Species (NAS) database (*http://nas.er.usgs.gov/*) functions as a repository and clearinghouse for occurrence information on nonindigenous aquatic species from across the United States. It contains locality information on more than 1,900 species of vertebrates, invertebrates, and vascular plants introduced since 1765. Taxa include foreign species as well as those native to North America that have been transported outside of their natural range. The NAS Web site provides immediate access to new occurrence records through a real-time interface with the NAS database. Visitors to the Web site can use a set of predefined queries to obtain lists of species according to state or hydrologic basin of interest. Fact sheets, distribution maps, and information on new occurrences are continually posted and updated. Dynamically generated species distribution maps show the spatial accuracy of the locations reported, population status, and links to more information about each report.

Information is collected from the public regarding the local occurrences of nonindigenous aquatic species, primarily fish, in open waters of the United States. This is vital information for early detection and rapid response for the possible eradication of organisms that may be considered invasive in a natural environment such as a lake, river, stream, or pond. Because it is not possible for USGS scientists to monitor all open waters for harmful nonindigenous organisms, the public can help by serving as the "eyes and ears" for the USGS's Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Program.

Members of the public who wish to report the occurrence of a suspected nonindigenous aquatic species, usually encountered through fishing or some other outdoor recreational activity, may fill out and submit a form (*http://nas.er.usgs.gov/SightingReport.aspx*) posted on our Web site. The information requested includes type of organism, date and location of sighting, photograph(s) if available, and basic

observer contact information (to allow the USGS to contact the observer in the event additional information, such as Photos or more specific location details are needed).

NAS program staff maintains an alert system that contacts individuals via email when species occurrences are new to a county, drainage (HUC 8), or state. The alerts contain information on the specimen occurrence, such as the date and location of the occurrence, where the species is newly introduced, and any comments included by the reporter. In order for individuals (private or public citizens) to receive these alerts, they must register their first and last name (fictitious or real), email address, and a password on our alert registration form (*https://nas.er.usgs.gov/AlertSystem/Register.aspx*). Custom alerts are sent via email to individuals based on the alert types they chose in the alert sign-up page, and these custom alerts can be altered by the registered individual by logging in to the alert login page (*https://nas.er.usgs.gov/AlertSystem/AlertLogin.aspx*).

The USGS does not actively solicit or require observation or contact information from the public. Participation in the reporting process and the alert system is completely voluntary. The personally identifiable information given by individuals in these forms is stored internally in our sighting report and alert system databases, with all passwords encrypted to protect users' security.

**II. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 1028-0098.

*Form Number:* Various (12 forms).

*Title:* Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Sighting Reporting Form and Alert Registration Form.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Respondent Obligation:* Participation is voluntary.

*Frequency of Collection:* Occasional.

*Description of Respondents:* General public, State and Local governments, Tribal nations.

*Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses:* We estimate 600 users (400 individuals and 200 state/local/tribal governments) per year for the sighting report form, and 80 users (50 individuals and 30 state/local/tribal governments) per year for the alert registration form.

*Estimated Time per Response:* We estimate that it will take 3 minutes per person to complete the sighting report form and 1 minute per person to complete the alert registration form.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* We estimate 30 hours for the sighting report form, and 2 hours for the alert registration form; a total of 32 hours for the two forms.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping “Non-Hour Cost”*

*Burden:* There are no “non-hour cost” burdens associated with this collection of information.

*Public Disclosure Statement:* The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until the OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obliged to respond.

*Comments:* On October 5, 2016, we published a **Federal Register** notice (81 FR 69074) announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval and soliciting comments. The comment period closed on December 5, 2016. We received one comment. The commenter asked how the Department of the Interior (DOI) is coordinating with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to halt importation of invasive species that are currently represented in our NAS database. Our response indicated that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the DOI, and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) under the USDA are both authorized to regulate plant and animal species imported into and within the U.S. We provided Web site URLs for further reference to the agencies’ policies and prohibited species lists.

### III. Request for Comments

We again invite comments concerning this ICR as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) how to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your personal mailing address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personally identifiable information, may be made publicly

available at any time. While you can ask us and the OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

**Kenneth Rice,**

*Center Director, Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, U.S. Geological Survey.*

[FR Doc. 2016–30697 Filed 12–20–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4338–11–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

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#### **Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and the Approved Resource Management Plans for the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas; and Approved Amendment to the St. George Field Office Resource Management Plan in Washington County, Utah**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Records of Decision (RODs) and the Approved Resource Management Plans (RMPs) for the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas (NCA RMPs); and Approved Amendment to the St. George Field Office RMP (RMP Amendment) located in Washington County, Utah. The Utah State Director signed the RODs on December 21, 2016, which constitutes the final decision of the BLM and makes the Approved NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment effective.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the RODs and Approved NCA RMPs/RMP Amendment are available upon request from Interagency Public Information Center, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, UT 84790, or via the Internet at <http://bit.ly/2fhtN3P>. Copies of the RODs and Approved NCA RMPs/RMP Amendment are available for public inspection at the BLM Utah State Office Public Room, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Keith Rigrup, RMP Planner, telephone 435–865–3000; address 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, UT 84790; email [krigrup@blm.gov](mailto:krigrup@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service

(FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Approved NCA RMPs provide comprehensive management plans for the long-term conservation and management of the Beaver Dam Wash NCA (63,480 acres of public land) and the Red Cliffs NCA (44,859 acres of public land). The NCA RMPs prescribe appropriate uses and conservation measures and are consistent with the planning process and other provisions directed by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11, at Title 1, Subtitle O, hereinafter OPLMA). The need to amend the St. George Field Office RMP (approved in 1999) is also derived from OPLMA. Section 1977(b)(1) of OPLMA, directed the BLM to develop a comprehensive travel management plan for public lands in Washington County. The 1999 St. George Field Office RMP needed to be amended to modify certain existing off-highway vehicle (OHV) area designations (open, limited or closed) before this comprehensive travel management plan could be developed. The decisions contained in the Approved NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment do not apply to private and State lands within the boundaries of the NCAs or the St. George Field Office planning area.

The Approved NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment were developed from the Proposed NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment that were released, along with the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), on September 2, 2016. The Proposed RMPs and RMP Amendment combined components of the four alternatives that were presented in the Draft NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment, and associated Draft EIS, released for public review on July 17, 2015. The NCA RMPs address the long-term management of public land resources and land uses, while fulfilling the conservation purpose of the NCAs for which the public lands received Congressional designation through OPLMA.

There were 41 protests of the Proposed NCA RMPs and RMP Amendment. All valid protests were resolved during the BLM Director’s Plan Protest Resolution Process, prior to the signing of the RODs. The Governor’s Consistency Review, which also took place after the release of the proposed plans, identified three concerns. The