

(3) The quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please send comments to the addresses listed under **ADDRESSES**. Please refer to OMB control number 1004-0185 in your correspondence. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Jean Sonneman,

Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

White-tailed Deer Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Valley Forge National Historical Park, PA

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the White-tailed Deer Management Plan, Valley Forge National Historical Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the White-tailed Deer Management Plan for Valley Forge National Historical Park, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the FEIS is to evaluate a range of alternatives for establishing a white-tailed deer management plan that supports forest regeneration and provides for long-term protection, preservation, and restoration of native vegetation and other natural and cultural resources. The FEIS evaluates four alternatives for managing white-tailed deer in the park. Alternatives for response to chronic wasting disease (CWD) have been integrated into each deer management alternative to address

the elevated risk of disease in proximity to the park and because of the efficiencies and cost savings associated with incorporating CWD response into the deer management plan. The FEIS describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of three action alternatives and the no-action alternative. The FEIS responds to, and incorporates, agency and public comments received on the Draft White-tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, which was available for public review from December 19, 2008 through February 17, 2009. Agency and public comments with NPS responses are provided as Appendix F of the FEIS. When approved, the plan will guide deer management actions over the next 15 years.

DATES: No sooner than 30 days following publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability of the FEIS in the **Federal Register**, the Northeast Regional Director will sign a Record of Decision that will document NPS approval of the FEIS and identify the alternative selected for implementation.

ADDRESSES: The White-tailed Deer Management Plan/FEIS will be available online through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/vafo>. A limited number of hard copies will be available at the Valley Forge National Historical Park Visitor Center located at the intersection of North Gulph Road and Route 23 and at the Lower Providence Community Library (50 Parklane Drive, Eagleville, PA 19403-1171), Tredyffrin Public Library (582 Upper Gulph Road, Strafford-Wayne, PA 19087-2052), Phoenixville Public Library (183 Second Avenue, Phoenixville, PA 19460), Upper Merion Township Library (175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406) and Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library (1001 Powell Street, Norristown, PA 19401). You may request a hardcopy or CD by contacting Kristina M. Heister, Valley Forge National Historical Park, at the phone or address provided below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristina M. Heister, Natural Resource Manager, Valley Forge National Historical Park, 1400 North Outer Line Drive, King of Prussia, PA 19406, (610) 783-0252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the White-tailed Deer Management Plan for Valley Forge National Historical Park was initiated in 2006, pursuant to the 2006 House

Appropriations Report (HR 109-465): "The public has been patient as the NPS has worked through its process in regard to management of the over-abundance of white-tailed deer at the park. Within existing funds, NPS is directed to begin the environmental impact statement for deer management. The Committee expects that the plan will be funded fully so that it can be completed in fiscal year 2008. The Committee further expects that implementation of the selected action will begin immediately upon signing of the Record of Decision."

A Notice of Intent to prepare a deer management plan and environmental impact statement was published in the **Federal Register** on September 7, 2006. Extensive agency and public scoping was conducted and the Draft White-Tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was released on December 19, 2008 for a 60-day public review period that ended on February 17, 2009. Two public meetings were held in January, 2009. During the comment period, 1,168 pieces of correspondence were received, from which 3,884 comments were derived. Agency and public comments received on the DEIS were carefully reviewed and incorporated into the FEIS.

The FEIS evaluates four alternatives for managing white-tailed deer in the park. The document describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of three action alternatives and the no-action alternative.

Alternatives: Alternative A (no action) would continue the existing deer management activities of monitoring deer population size and vegetation, small scale fencing of selected vegetation, removal of deer killed on roadways, public education, coordination with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and continuation of limited CWD surveillance; no new deer management actions would be implemented.

Alternative B would combine several non-lethal actions, including large-scale rotational fencing of 10% to 15% of the park's forested area and reproductive control of does to gradually reduce deer population in the park. Chronic wasting disease surveillance would include live testing (via tonsillar biopsy) and removal of CWD-positive individuals.

Under Alternative C, qualified federal employees or contractors would directly reduce the deer population in the park through sharpshooting and through capture and euthanasia, where appropriate. CWD response would include rapid reduction of the deer population to the target deer density and the potential for a one-time

reduction action to not less than 10 deer per square mile through sharpshooting and through capture and euthanasia. These actions would be taken for the purposes of assessing disease presence, prevalence, and distribution. These actions may also minimize the likelihood of CWD becoming established, minimize the likelihood of amplification and spread if the disease is introduced, and promote elimination of CWD, if possible.

Alternative D, the NPS Preferred Alternative, would combine actions of Alternative C to directly reduce the deer population with reproductive control of does as under Alternative B to maintain population levels. CWD response actions would be the same as described for Alternative C.

Changes to the FEIS as a result of public comment on the DEIS consist of factual updates to baseline data and clarifications added to the text. No changes were made to the preferred alternative or other alternatives evaluated nor was the outcome of the impact analysis changed. Agency and public comments received on the DEIS with NPS responses are provided as Appendix F of the FEIS.

Dennis R. Reidenbach,

Regional Director, Northeast Region, National Park Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLWO350000.L14300000]

Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period for Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement To Develop and Implement Agency-Specific Programs for Solar Energy Development

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (the Agencies) are extending the public comment period for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to Develop and Implement Agency-Specific Programs for Solar Energy Development (Solar PEIS). The Solar PEIS includes BLM-administered lands in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah. A notice published in the **Federal Register** on June 30, 2009 [74 FR 31307] provided for a public

comment period ending on July 30, 2009.

DATES: Several individuals and organizations have requested an extension of the comment period. The Agencies have decided to act in accordance with these requests; therefore, comments on the solar energy study areas will now be accepted through September 14, 2009. Comments received or postmarked after September 14, 2009 will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by the following methods:

- *Electronically, using the online comment form available on the project Web site: <http://solareis.anl.gov>. This is the preferred method of commenting.*
- *In writing, addressed to: Solar Energy PEIS, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 S. Cass Avenue—EVS/900, Argonne, IL 60439.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact: Linda Resseguie, BLM Washington Office, linda_reseguie@blm.gov, 202-452-7774; or Lisa Jorgensen, Department of Energy, Golden Field Office, lisa.jorgensen@go.doe.gov, 303-275-4906. You may also visit the Solar PEIS Web site at <http://solareis.anl.gov>.

Mike Pool,

Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Madera Irrigation District Water Supply Enhancement Project

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and notice of public meeting for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS).

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has made available for public review and comment the Draft EIS for the Madera Irrigation District Water Supply Enhancement Project (MID WSEP). Reclamation proposes to approve the banking of up to 55,000 acre-feet per year of Central Valley Project (CVP) water outside the MID service area and the alteration of Reclamation-owned facilities. The total banking capacity of the MID WSEP is 250,000 acre-feet.

The draft EIS evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed MID WSEP on the property known as

Madera Ranch (west of the City of Madera, Madera County, CA), and the improvements to associated facilities needed to operate the MID WSEP. Portions of the 24.2 Canal, Section 8 Canal, Main Number 1 Canal, Cottonwood Creek, and Gravelly Ford Canal would be enlarged, extended, or improved.

The MID WSEP would be completed in two phases. Phase 1 would involve recharge-related facilities only. Phase 2 would involve supplemental recharge facilities and facilities for recovery of banked water. The draft EIS addresses both phases.

DATES: Submit written comments on the draft environmental document on or before September 25, 2009.

A public meeting will be held on August 27, 2009 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Madera, CA to discuss the purpose and content of the draft environmental document and to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the draft environmental document. Written comments will also be accepted at the public meeting.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at Madera Irrigation District Office, 2152 Road 28¹/₄, Madera, CA 93637.

Written comments on the Draft EIS should be addressed to Ms. Patricia Clinton, Bureau of Reclamation, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721-1831.

Copies of the draft document may be requested from Ms. Patricia Clinton at the above address, by calling 559-487-5127, TDD 559-487-5933, or at pclinton@usbr.gov. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for locations where copies of the Draft EIS are available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Patricia Clinton, Bureau of Reclamation at the phone numbers or e-mail address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Groundwater levels in the Madera subbasin have experienced steep declines. These conditions have made it increasingly expensive for farmers to pump groundwater. In addition, in many years, MID has been unable to deliver sufficient surface water to farmers either because surface water is available primarily during the early months of the year when irrigation demand is low, or surface water is available only for short periods of time during the growing season.

To increase water storage, enhance water supply reliability and flexibility for current and future water demand and reduce local overdraft, MID proposes to implement the WSEP. MID would bank CVP water and other imported water in the aquifer underlying Madera Ranch. In wet years,