



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Phoenix Area Office
6150 West Thunderbird Road
Glendale, Arizona 85306-4001



PXAO-1500
ENV-7.00

MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies

From: Carol Lynn Erwin
Area Manager

Subject: Notice of Public Scoping Period Regarding Preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) on Native Fish Restoration in O'Donnell Creek, Santa Cruz County, Arizona (Action by December 31, 2007)

Attached is a scoping notice summarizing a joint Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)-Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposal to protect the native fish community in O'Donnell Creek against possible incursion of nonnative fishes from upstream and downstream sources. O'Donnell Creek currently supports a purely native assemblage of four fish species.

The two agencies, working in conjunction with the Forest Service and Arizona Game and Fish Department, are proposing stabilization of two small dams on O'Donnell Creek within the BLM-administered Las Cienegas National Conservation Area and removal of nonnative fish from stock tanks on the Coronado National Forest within the O'Donnell Creek watershed.

An EA will be prepared by Reclamation and BLM to evaluate potential issues and analyze effects of the proposed action and other action alternatives. During the initial scoping phase, Reclamation and BLM are soliciting input from the interested public to aid in the identification of key issues and alternatives related to the proposal that should be addressed in the EA.

In order to encourage public input, Reclamation and BLM are sponsoring an open house at the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District station house between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1, 2007. The station house is located on the east side of Highway 83 just north of the Highway 82 intersection in Sonoita, Arizona.

Comments concerning the proposal should be submitted to Mr. John McGlothlen, Bureau of Reclamation, 6150 West Thunderbird Road, Glendale, Arizona 85306, no later than December 31, 2007. Before including your name, address, email 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.

For further information regarding this project, please contact Mr. McGlothlen at 623-773-6256 (email: jwmcglothlen@lc.usbr.gov).

Attachment