



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: December 10, 2013

SUBJECT: Sequoia-Kings National Parks Restoration of Native Species in High Elevation Aquatic Ecosystems Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

RECOMMENDATION: Review draft correspondence to the Sequoia-Kings National Park Service regarding the proposed Restoration of Native Species in High Elevation Aquatic Ecosystems Plan (Plan) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and authorize the Chair to sign correspondence in regards thereto.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: The Sequoia-Kings National Park Service has issued an EIS for the Restoration of Native Species in High Elevation Aquatic Ecosystems Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to guide management actions of the National Park Service to restore and conserve native species diversity and ecological function to selected high elevation aquatic ecosystems. Specifically, the plan intends to restore populations of the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog and the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog by removing non-native trout from high elevation lakes in the National Parks through a combination of physical tools and piscicides (fish poison). The plan includes evaluative criteria for lake selection to ensure National Park visitors have continued access to a wide range of angler experiences. The proposed plan may have socioeconomic impacts on Inyo County.

The comment period for the Draft EIR ends on December 17, 2013. Staff has drafted the attached correspondence for the Board's consideration to the Superintendent of Sequoia-Kings National Park based on the review of the Plan and Draft EIS. The correspondence identifies concerns of the County as they relate to socioeconomic impacts that may result from fish removal in popular angler destinations accessed from trailheads originating in Inyo County, specifically the Bishop Pass trailhead, the Kearsarge Pass trailhead, and the John Muir and Pacific Crest trails. The correspondence supports the evaluative criteria proposed by the National Park Service, and requests economic impacts to Inyo County associated with reduced visitor experiences be considered in the EIS.

ALTERNATIVES: The Board could direct changes to the correspondence, or not submit correspondence.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Department of Interior, U.S. National Park Service; other agencies with jurisdiction (U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, etc.); neighboring Counties.

FINANCING: General funds are utilized to monitor federal rule making.

APPROVALS

COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

_____ Date: _____

Attachments

1. Draft Correspondence to the Superintendent of Sequoia-Kings National Park