



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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2 August 2010

Mr. Gregory Giddens
Executive Director
Facilities Management and Engineering
Office of Administration
Customs and Border Protection

RE: *Northern Border Programmatic EIS Scoping Comments*
Via e-mail to comments@NorthernBorderPEIS.com

Dear Mr. Giddens:

The Wildlife Society respectfully requests that U.S. Customs and Border Protection extend for an additional 60-90 days the public comment period for the Notice of Intent to Prepare Four Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements published in the 6 July 2010 *Federal Register*.

The Wildlife Society was founded in 1937 and is a non-profit scientific and educational association of over 9,000 professional wildlife biologists and managers, dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. Our mission is to represent and serve wildlife professionals – the scientists, technicians, and practitioners actively working to study, manage, and conserve native and desired non-native wildlife and their habitats worldwide.

The Northern Border Project, for which these four impact statements would be prepared, includes activities that have the potential for significant impact on the New England, Great Lakes, and Rocky Mountain ecosystems. Unfortunately, the availability of information regarding the scoping meetings held 6-22 July 2010 has been extremely limited. Time and location were not provided in the original notice, and meeting times were not initially available on the Project website. Because of the lack of clarity regarding the meetings, processes, and intent of this action, we are requesting an extension of the comment period to allow for public input.

An extension of the public comment period would allow TWS and other interested parties to offer more thoughtful, concise, and beneficial comments on the scope of the proposed EISs. Thank you for considering the views of wildlife professionals. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact Laura Bies (laura@wildlife.org; 301-897-9770 x308).

Sincerely,

Michael Hutchins, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO