

Davies County, Illinois. Expansion of the scope of Ms. Ross's permit is proposed for genetic research for the purpose of survival and enhancement of the species in the wild.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Ecological Services Operations, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056, and must be received within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Ecological Services Operations, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056. Telephone: (612/725-3536 x250); FAX: (612/725-3526).

Dated: March 11, 1997.

Matthias A. Kerschbaum,
Acting Assistant Regional Director, IL, IN, MO (Ecological Services), Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

[FR Doc. 97-6657 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act; Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service will hold a joint meeting to discuss coordination of activities that support Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission coastal fisheries management plans under the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act and the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 9, 1997, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 200AB, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Perra, National Marine Fisheries Service, at (301) 427-2014.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held pursuant to Public Law 103-206, as amended, and Public Law 89-304, as amended. Minutes of the meetings will be maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 840, 4401 North Fairfax Drive,

Arlington, Virginia 22203 and the National Marine Fisheries Service, FX2, 8484 Georgia Ave., Suite 425, Silver Spring, MD 20910, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: March 10, 1997.

Gary Edwards,
Co-Chair, Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Coordination Committee, Assistant Director—Fisheries.

[FR Doc. 97-6608 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-910-07-1020-00]

New Mexico Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of council meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), 5 U.S.C. Appendix 1, The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announces a meeting of the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The meeting will be held on April 24 and 25, 1997 at the New Mexico Activities Association building, 6600 Palomas Av NE, Albuquerque, NM. This location is near the Amberley Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, NM.

The agenda for the RAC meeting will include agreement on the meeting agenda, any RAC comments on the draft summary minutes of the last RAC meeting of January 9 and 10, 1997 in Albuquerque, NM., an update and discussion on the status of the Resource Management Plan Amendment/ Environmental Impact Statement for the RAC Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing, and discussions by the RAC on off road vehicle use and access to BLM lands and other items appropriate for RAC discussion. The meeting will begin on April 24, 1997 at 8:00 a.m. The meeting is open to the public. The time for the public to address the RAC is on Thursday, April 24, 1997, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The RAC may reduce or extend the end time of 5:00 p.m. depending on the number of people wishing to address the RAC. The length of time available for each person to address the RAC will be established at the start of the public comment period and will depend on how many people there are that wish to address the RAC.

At the completion of the public comments the RAC may continue discussion on its Agenda items. The meeting on April 25, 1997, will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The end time of 4:00 p.m. for the meeting may be changed depending on the work remaining for the RAC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Armstrong, New Mexico State Office, Planning and Policy Team, Bureau of Land Management, 1474 Rodeo Road, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115, telephone (505) 438-7436.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Resource Advisory Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with the management of public lands. The Council's responsibilities include providing advice on long-range planning, establishing resource management priorities and assisting the BLM to identify State and regional standards for rangeland health and guidelines for grazing management.

Dated: March 10, 1997.

William C. Calkins,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-6538 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

[MT-921-07-1320-01]

Qualification for Category 5 Royalty Rate Reduction in Designated Areas of Fort Union Federal Coal Production Region

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Qualification for Category 5 Royalty Rate Reduction Region; Establishment of Competitive Royalty Rate; and Acceptance of Applications for Consideration for Royalty Relief: McLean, Mercer, and Oliver Counties, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana.

SUMMARY: This notice is issued for the purpose of announcing: (1) The determination that the Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana, within the Fort Union Federal Coal Production Region, continue to meet the criteria to qualify for royalty rate differentials under Category 5 of the Royalty Rate Reduction guidelines published February 27, 1990 (55 FR 6841), and clarified May 2, 1990 (55 FR 18401); (2) Establishment of the Category 5 royalty rate at 2.6 percent for the Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland

County, Montana; and (3) That applications will be accepted by the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, for consideration for royalty relief for these areas effective upon publication of this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Randy D. Heuscher, Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals, telephone 406-255-2816, Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The "Fort Union Region Category 5 Royalty Reduction Study" requested by the State Director, Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, was completed by the Northwest Regional Evaluation Team of the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of the Interior in 1991. The geographic area qualification and the establishment of the competitive royalty rate under Category 5 of the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals" have been reviewed, and are the basis for the following determinations:

A. Geographic Area Qualification

The Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana, continue to meet the established five criteria to qualify under Category 5 for royalty rate differentials as follows: (1) The Federal Government is not market dominant in this area; (2) Federal royalty rates are above the current market royalty rate for non-Federal rates in the area; (3) Based on a mine-by-mine examination, it is apparent that there are instances where Federal coal can be expected to be bypassed in the near future due to the royalty rate differential between Federal and non-Federal coal; (4) All three previous criteria considerations have been found to exist throughout the region; and (5) A plant-by-plant analysis, based on actual shipments, indicates that Powder River Basin coal is competitive in the area. However, it has also been shown that a reduction in the Federal royalty rate would not have a significant impact on this competitiveness.

B. Establishment of Competitive Royalty Rates

The competitive royalty rate of 2.6 percent is established to promote development of Federal coal reserves situated in the Counties of McLean, Mercer, and Oliver, North Dakota, and Richland County, Montana, that may otherwise be bypassed in favor of non-Federal coal having a lower royalty rate.

C. Category 5 Reduction in Royalty Applications

Federal lease-specific applications for Category 5 Reduction in Royalty for coal deposits within the Counties in North Dakota and Montana named above will be accepted by the Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800 effective upon publication of this Notice. Applications will be processed pursuant to the regulations at 43 CFR part 3485 as established by the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals."

The geographic area qualification and the establishment of the competitive royalty rate under Category 5 of the "Royalty Rate Reduction Guidelines for the Solid Leasable Minerals" will be reviewed again and updated 2 years from the effective date hereof.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

John E. Moorhouse,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-6569 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the record of decision for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Development Concept Plan for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor ("frontcountry") of Denali National Park and Preserve.

The emphasis of the plan is to provide visitor facilities and services in the frontcountry to meet a wide range of visitor needs and interests. Frontcountry developments will be limited to actions in which the National Park Service has traditionally specialized, such as interpretive centers, environmental education opportunities, trails, resource protection programs, and campgrounds. Improved resource protection will be integrated with development actions throughout the frontcountry. The National Park Service will encourage the private sector to develop visitor service facilities (accommodations, food service, and other commercial services) outside the park.

A Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS), published in the Federal Register in July 1995 (60 FR 37470), formally initiated the National Park Service planning and EIS effort for the Entrance Area and Road Corridor of the park. A draft and final plan and EIS were prepared. The final plan and abbreviated EIS describe and analyze the environmental impacts of a proposed action and three other action alternatives. A no-action alternative also was evaluated.

The Record of Decision (ROD) documents the decision of the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, regarding the Entrance Area and Road Corridor plan. This ROD briefly discusses the background of the planning effort, states the decision and discusses the basis for it, describes other alternatives considered, specifies the environmentally preferable alternative, identifies measures adopted to minimize potential environmental harm, and summarizes the results of public involvement during the planning process.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD are available on request from: Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve, Post Office Box 9, Denali Park, Alaska 99755.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Tranel, Denali National Park and Preserve. Telephone: (907) 683-9552 FAX: (907) 683-9612.

Dated: March 7, 1997.

Marcia Blaszan,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 97-6566 Filed 3-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the record of decision for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

SUMMARY: The National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.

The plan will provide a comprehensive plan for meeting the park's legislative mandate. The plan in Alaska includes development concept