

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council Meeting**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Garrison Diversion Unit Federal Advisory Council (Council) established under the authority of the Garrison Diversion Unit Reformulation Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-294, May 12, 1986). The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements to the council or file written statements for consideration.

DATES: The Council will meet from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, and from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Guest Haus Cafe, 612 Main Avenue, Oakes, North Dakota.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Grady Towns, ND/SD/RW, at (303) 236-8145, extension 644.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will consider and discuss subjects such as the Kraft Slough status, acquisition and opportunities, Garrison Diversion Unit project update and wildlife budget, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District Legislative proposal, Oakes Test Area, Lonetree update, Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Impact Statement, and the Audubon National Wildlife Refuge and Wildlife Management Area Mitigation Plan.

Dated: May 1, 1997.

Ralph O. Morgenwech,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 97-12328 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Geological Survey****Request for Public Comments on Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act**

A request extending the collection of information listed below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the

proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 208 National Center, Reston, VA 20192.

As required by OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The utility, quality, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Mine, Development, and Mineral Exploration Supplement.

OMB Approval Number: 1028-New.

Abstract: Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with domestic production, exploration, and mine development data on nonfuel mineral commodities. This information will be published as an Annual Report for use by Government agencies, industry, and the general public.

Bureau Form Number: 9-3075.

Frequency: Annual.

Description of Respondents: Nonfuel Mineral Producers and Exploration Operations.

Annual Responses: 874.

Annual Burden Hours: 437.

Bureau Clearance Officer: John Cordyack, 703-648-7313.

Keith L. Harris,

Chief, Publications Services Section, Minerals Information Team.

[FR Doc. 97-12323 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Office of Hearings and Appeals****Delegation of Waivers of Erroneous Payments**

AGENCY: Office of Hearings and Appeals, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The General Accounting Office Act of 1996, Public Law 104-316, transferred to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the Comptroller General's authority under 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive debts arising out of the erroneous payment of pay and allowances, travel, transportation, and relocation benefits made to employees of Executive Branch agencies. The OMB Director subsequently delegated the authority to waive collection of erroneous payments from civilian employees to the Executive Branch agency that made the erroneous payment. The Secretary of the Interior is delegating this authority to waive collection of erroneous payments from employees of the Department of the Interior, to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) pursuant to the regulations found at 43 CFR 4.1(b)(4). This notice announces OHA's intent to implement this new authority pursuant to the existing regulations establishing "Special Rules Applicable to Other Appeals and Hearings" in OHA, which are published at 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart G. Pending further notice, OHA will use the General Accounting Office's standards and procedures applicable to waiver of debts before the effective date of the transfer of authority, December 18, 1996, which are published in Title 4, CFR, Chapter I, subchapter G.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 9, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barry E. Hill, Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, (703) 235-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the General Accounting Office Act of 1996, some functions of the Comptroller General were transferred to the Director of OMB. See section 101, Public Law 104-316, 110 Stat. 3826. Subsequently, in a determination order dated December 17, 1996, the Director delegated to each Executive Branch agency the authority under 5 U.S.C. 5584, to approve the waiver of debts arising from the erroneous payment of pay and allowances, or travel, transportation or relocation expenses, to employees of that agency. The effect of this order is that the Department of the Interior now has the authority to waive collection of these erroneous payments. Before the effective date of the transfer, these claims were subject to the procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General at 4 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter G (1996). Until OHA announces otherwise, OHA's policy will be to apply these procedures to applications for waiver, with the exception that the Director of OHA will consider all waiver applications for amounts over \$1,500 and all appeals of

agency determinations on waiver requests of \$1,500 or less, in place of the General Accounting Office. The Director of OHA will exercise this authority in compliance with 43 CFR Part 4, and pursuant to the rules enunciated in Subpart G.

Waiver applications for amounts of \$1,500 or less should be sent to the agency out of which the erroneous payment arose. For each application for waiver of a debt exceeding \$1,500, and for an appeal of an Agency's decision on a waiver involving less than \$1,500, the claimant should submit the application directly to OHA in accordance with the procedures published at 43 CFR Part 4. Waiver applications for amounts over \$1,500, as well as requests for review of agency determinations on waivers involving less than \$1,500, may be sent to: Barry E. Hill, Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1111, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

Dated: May 5, 1997.

Barry E. Hill,

Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals.
[FR Doc. 97-12291 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-79-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-990-1020-01]

Upper Snake River Districts Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Resource Advisory Council meeting location and time.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), 5 U.S.C., the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) council meeting of the Upper Snake River Districts Resource Advisory Council will be held as indicated below. The agenda includes the review of public comments of the Healthy Rangeland Standard and Guidelines and an update on the Supplemental Draft Bennett Hills Resource Management Plan. All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the council. Each formal council meeting will have a time allocated for hearing public comments. The public comment period for the council meeting is listed below. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment, and time available,

the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need further information about the meetings, or need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Debra Kovar at the Shoshone Resource Area Office, P.O. Box 2-B, Shoshone, ID, 83352, (208) 886-7201.

DATE AND TIME: Date is May 29th, starts at 8:00 a.m. in Federal Building Room B-23, 250 South 4th Ave, Pocatello, Idaho. Public comments from 10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. on May 29, 1997.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the 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 the public lands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Debra Kovar, Shoshone Resource Area Office, P.O. Box 2-B, Shoshone, ID 83352, (208) 886-7201.

Dated: May 2, 1997.

Gary Bliss,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-12319 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Meeting

SUMMARY: The Lower Snake River District Resource Advisory Council will meet in Boise to discuss a variety of district and regional issues, including the grazing allotment Analysis, Interpretation and Evaluation process, the Upper Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statement, and the Draft Owyhee Resource Management Plan.

DATES: June 5, 1997. The meeting will begin at 9:00 AM. A public comment period will begin at 9:30 AM.

ADDRESSES: The Lower Snake River District Office is located at 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barry Rose, Lower Snake River District Office (208-384-3393).

Dated: May 6, 1997.

Barry Rose,

Public Affairs Specialist.

[FR Doc. 97-12333 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-74977]

Utah; Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

In accordance with Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (Pub. L. 97-451), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease UTU-74977 for lands in San Juan County, Utah, was timely filed and required rentals accruing from January 1, 1997, the date of termination, have been paid.

The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The \$500 administrative fee has been paid and the lessee has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of publishing this notice.

Having met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease UTU-74977, effective January 1, 1997, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Robert Lopez,

Group Leader, Minerals Adjudication Group.

[FR Doc. 97-12330 Filed 5-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-70835]

Utah; Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

In accordance with Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (Pub. L. 97-451), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease UTU-70835 for lands in Emery County, Utah, was timely filed and required rentals accruing from January 1, 1997, the date of termination, have been paid.

The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The \$500 administrative fee has been paid and the lessee has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of publishing this notice.

Having met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral