

and Wildlife Service by the following individuals for a permit to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) from Canada for personal use.

Applicant/address	Population	PRT-
Jerome Eckrich, Aberdeen, SD.	Lancaster Sound	828883
Roger L. Baber, Jr., Churchville, VA.	Northern .. Beaufort	829415

On June 5, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 108, Page 28493, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the following individuals for a permit to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) from Canada for personal use.

Applicant/address	Population	PRT-
Daniel Peyer, Shelby Township, MI.	Northern .. Beaufort	829283
Tom Winn, Corpus Christi, TX.	Northern .. Beaufort	829418
Stewart Shaft, Northfield, MN.	McClintock Channel	829932
Greg Bond, Irving, TX.	McClintock Channel	829684
Loubert Suddaby, Orchard Park, NY.	Southern .. Beaufort	829687
Jan Bax, Appleton, WI.	McClintock Channel	829887

Notice is hereby given that between July 7 through 21, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On June 13, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 114, Page 32364, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Alaska Science Center, Anchorage, AK for amendment of the permit (PRT-801652) for the purposes of scientific research of walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*).

Notice is hereby given that on July 17, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: July 25, 1997.

**Karen Anderson,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 97-20135 Filed 7-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Request for Public Comments on Existing Information Collection Submitted to OMB for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The existing information collection described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for emergency approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)). Copies of the proposed collection may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Public comments on the proposal should be made within 15 days directly to: Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503; and the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 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 as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, 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 quality, utility, 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:** North American Reporting Center for Amphibian Malformations.

**Summary:** The collection of information referred herein applies to a World-Wide Web site that permits individuals who observed malformed amphibians or who inspect substantial numbers of normal or malformed amphibians to report those observations and related information. The Web site is termed the North American Reporting Center for Amphibian Malformations. Information will be used by scientists

and federal, state, and local agencies to identify areas where malformed amphibians occur and the rates of occurrence.

**Estimated Completion Time:** 20 minutes.

**Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:** 900.

**Frequency:** Once.

**Estimated Annual Burden Hours:** 300 hours.

**Affected Public:** Primarily U.S. and Canadian residents.

**Emergency Approval Requested by:** Fifteen days from publication of this notice.

For Further Information Contact: To obtain copies of the survey, contact the Bureau's clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192, telephone (703) 648-7313, or go to the Website (<http://www.npsc.nbs.gov./narcam>).

Dated: July 14, 1997.

**Don Minnich,**

*Acting Chief Biologist.*

[FR Doc. 97-20083 Filed 7-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[ID-054-1210-00]

#### Closure of Public Lands to Motorized Vehicles, Shoshone Resource Area

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior

**ACTION:** Closure of public land to motorized vehicles.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is given that a way and surrounding adjacent public land in the Little City of Rocks Wilderness Study Area (WSA) (ID-54-5, Shoshone/Sun Valley Environmental Impact Statement, 1986), in Gooding County, Idaho is closed to motorized use year round. The closed area includes all public land in Township 3 South, Range 15 East, Section 33 except for a signed parking area south of the historic stone and earthen dam in the Little City of Rocks WSA. Motorized cross country travel has caused significant surface disturbance in the described area. The purpose of the closure is to prevent unacceptable impacts to soils and vegetation in compliance with the Interim Management Policy Guidance for WSAs. All public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management within the above described area is closed to motorized vehicle use indefinitely from the date of this notice.

Exemptions from this closure may be approved by the Authorized Officer. Exemptions may be approved for federal, state, and local government personnel on official duty, emergency service personnel including medical, search and rescue, and other licensed or permitted individuals.

The authority for this closure is 43 CFR 8364-1.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paula Perletti, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Shoshone Resource Area, P.O. Box 2-B, Shoshone Idaho 83352, telephone (208) 886-2206.

Dated: July 7, 1997.

**Bill A. Baker,**

*Area Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-20087 Filed 7-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[UT-030-1020]

#### **Notice of Public Involvement and Scoping Opportunities for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan and Associated Environmental Impact Statement**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** The Utah Bureau of Land Management, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) is seeking public, agency and tribal involvement in the preparation of the GSENM Management Plan, through a series of public planning workshops/scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Land Management Act (FLMPA), National Environmental Policy Act, Presidential Proclamation 6920 and Part 43, Section 1600 of Code of Federal Regulations, the Bureau of Land Management Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument is seeking public involvement through various means including the hosting of a series of planning workshops in order to inform the public of Monument values and to understand public views, concerns and ideas regarding possibilities for management and the future of the GSENM.

**ADDRESSES:** Questions or concerns regarding the planning workshops/scoping meetings and schedules should be addressed to Pete Wilkins, Planning Coordinator, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Planning Office, Bureau of Land Management, 337 South

Main Street, Suite 010, Cedar City, Utah 84720.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pete Wilkins, Planning Coordinator at the above address or by phone at (801) 865-5100, E-Mail at [p1wilkin@ut.blm.gov](mailto:p1wilkin@ut.blm.gov), or fax to (801) 865-5170.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was established on September 18, 1996 by Presidential Proclamation 6920. As stated in the Proclamation, a management plan would be prepared pursuant to existing authorities, mainly FLPMA and the National Environmental Policy Act. In accordance with these authorities, the Bureau of Land Management is seeking the comments, concerns and views of all individuals, groups, organizations, agencies and American Indian Tribal Governments that may have an interest in the GSENM. As such, the GSENM, is announcing a series of planning workshops/scoping meetings through out Utah and other western states as well as in Washington D.C.

The purpose of these meetings is to inform the public of some of the important values within the Monument as well as some of directives and guidelines that were established within Proclamation 6920. These workshops are also designed to gather ideas, concerns and opportunities regarding possible management of the GSENM. Additionally, these workshops will help the monument staff identify appropriate issues and alternatives to be addressed within the associated GSENM Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement.

The schedule and location of these Workshop Events is as follows:

All workshops will begin at 7:00 p.m.  
Big Water, UT, Big Water Town Hall, August 12, 1997  
Escalante, UT, Community Center, August 14, 1997  
Orderville, UT, Valley High School Little Theater, August 19, 1997  
Kanab, UT, Kanab High School, August 21, 1997  
Cedar City, UT, SUU Sharwan Smith Center, August 26, 1997  
Tropic, UT, Bryce Valley High School Auditorium, August 27, 1997  
Panguitch, UT, Panguitch High School, August 28, 1997  
Salt Lake City, UT, Division of Natural Resources Auditorium, 1594 W. North Temple, September 2, 1997  
Las Vegas, NV, Cashman Field Center, 850 Las Vegas Blvd. N. @ Washington Ave., September 4, 1997  
Flagstaff, AZ, Woodlands Plaza Hotel, 1175 W. Route 66, September 16, 1997

Lakewood, CO, Sheraton West, 360 Union Blvd., September 30, 1997  
Santa Fe, NM, Santa Fe Community College, 6401 South Richards Ave, October 2, 1997  
San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Marriott, 55 Fourth Street, October 9, 1997  
Moab, UT, Moab Valley Inn, 711 S. Main, October 14, 1997  
Washington, D.C., Location to be announced, October 16, 1997

Dated: July 7, 1997.

**A. J. Meredith,**

*Monument Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-20228 Filed 7-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-U

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

#### **Amended Notice**

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the County of Kem, State of California have extended the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Soledad Mountain Project, a proposed gold mining operation on public and private lands in Kem County, California.

**DATES:** Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement must be postmarked no later than August 11, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to Bureau of Land Management, Ridgecrest Resource Area, 300 S. Richmond Road, Ridgecrest, California, 93555, Attention: Ahmed Mohsen, EIS Coordinator.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ahmed Mohsen—EIS Coordinator (760) 384-5421.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS:** Public meetings were held on: Tues. June 24, 1997 and Wed. June 25, 1997.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Draft EIR/EIS is to present BLM and Kem County's comparative analysis of the impacts of the Proposed Action and Alternatives on the physical, biological, social and economic resources of the area. The Proposed Action is a mining proposal to extract minerals from the subsurface, process the ore using chemical leaching methods and place the waste rock adjacent to the processing and mining areas. Alternatives to the Proposed Action include variations on the duration of operations and placement of waste rock. After careful consideration