

93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 18, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH

[FR Doc. 98-22711 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-990-1020-01]

Resource Advisory Council Meeting Location and Time

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 a discussion on the progress of the implementation of the healthy rangeland standard and guidelines, 1999 Focus and orientation of new council members. 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 David Howell at the Upper Snake River District Office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401-2100, (208) 524-7559.

DATE AND TIME: Date is September 30, 1998, starts at 8:30 a.m. at the Federal Building, Basement Meeting Room B-43, 250 South 4th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho. Public comments received from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

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: David Howell at the Upper Snake River District Office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401-2100, (208) 524-7559.

Dated: August 5, 1998.

Stephanie Hargrove,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-22697 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-910-0777-74]

Alaska Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Alaska Resource Advisory Council Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Resource Advisory Council will conduct an open meeting Tuesday, September 22, 1998, from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, September 23, 1998, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The council will review BLM land management issues and take public comment on those issues. The meeting will be held at the BLM Northern District Office, 1150 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Public comment will be taken from 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, September 22. Written comments may be submitted at the meeting or mailed to the address below prior to the meeting.

ADDRESS: Inquiries about the meeting should be sent to External Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, 222 W. 7th Avenue, #13, Anchorage, AK 99513-7599.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Teresa McPherson, (907) 271-5555.

Dated: August 13, 1998.

Tom Allen,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 98-22730 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf Western Gulf of Mexico; Notice of Leasing Systems, Sale 171

Section 8(a)(8) (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(8)) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) requires that, at least 30 days before any lease sale, a Notice be submitted to the Congress and published in the **Federal Register**:

1. identifying the bidding systems to be used and the reasons for such use; and

2. designating the tracts to be offered under each bidding system and the reasons for such designation.

This Notice is published pursuant to these requirements.

1. *Bidding systems to be used.* In the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Sale 171, blocks will be offered under the following two bidding systems as authorized by section 8(a)(1) (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(1)), as amended: (a) bonus bidding with a fixed 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ -percent royalty on all unleased blocks in less than 200 meters of water; and (b)(i) bonus bidding with a fixed 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ -percent royalty on all unleased blocks in 200 to 400 meters of water with potential for a royalty suspension volume of up to 17.5 million barrels of oil equivalent; (ii) bonus bidding with a fixed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -percent royalty on all unleased blocks in 400 to 800 meters of water with potential for a royalty suspension volume of up to 52.5 million barrels of oil equivalent; and (iii) bonus bidding with a fixed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -percent royalty on all unleased blocks in water depths of 800 meters or more with potential for a royalty suspension volume of up to 87.5 million barrels of oil equivalent.

For bidding systems (b)(i), (ii), and (iii), the royalty suspension allocation rules are described in the Interim Rule (30 CFR Part 260) addressing royalty relief for new leases that was published in the **Federal Register** on March 25, 1996 (61 FR 12022).

a. *Bonus Bidding with a 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ -Percent Royalty.* This system is authorized by section 8(a)(1)(A) of the OCSLA. This system has been used extensively since the passage of the OCSLA in 1953 and imposes greater risks on the lessee than systems with higher contingency payments but may yield more rewards if a commercial field is discovered. The relatively high front-end bonus payments may encourage rapid exploration.

b.(i) *Bonus Bidding with a 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ -Percent Royalty and a Royalty Suspension Volume (17.5 million barrels of oil equivalent).* This system is authorized by section 8(a)(1)(H) of the OCSLA, as amended. This system complies with Sec. 304 of the Outer Continental Shelf Deep Water Royalty Relief Act (DWRRA). An incentive for development and production in water depths of 200 to 400 meters is provided through allocating royalty suspension volumes of 17.5 million barrels of oil equivalent to eligible fields.

b.(ii) *Bonus Bidding with a 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -Percent Royalty and a Royalty Suspension Volume (52.5 million*

barrels of oil equivalent). This system is authorized by section (8)(a)(1)(H) of the OCSLA, as amended. It has been chosen for blocks in water depths of 400 to 800 meters proposed for the Western Gulf of Mexico (Sale 171) to comply with Sec. 304 of the DWRRA. The 12½-percent royalty rate is used in deeper water because these blocks are expected to require substantially higher exploration, development, and production costs, as well as longer times before initial production, in comparison to shallow-water blocks. The use of a royalty suspension volume of 52.5 million barrels of oil equivalent for eligible fields provides an incentive for development and production appropriate for this water depth category.

b. (iii) *Bonus Bidding with a 12½-Percent Royalty and a Royalty Suspension Volume (87.5 million barrels of oil equivalent)*. This system is authorized by section (8)(a)(1)(H) of the OCSLA, as amended. It has been chosen for blocks in water depths of 800 meters or more proposed for the Western Gulf of Mexico (Sale 171) to comply with Sec. 304 of the DWRRA. The use of a royalty suspension volume of 87.5 million barrels of oil equivalent for eligible fields provides an incentive for development and production appropriate for these deep-water depths.

2. *Designation of Blocks*. The selection of blocks to be offered under the four systems was based on the following factors:

a. Royalty rates on adjacent, previously leased tracts were considered to enhance orderly development of each field.

b. Blocks in deep water were selected for the 12½-percent royalty system based on the favorable performance of this system in these high-cost areas in past sales.

c. The royalty suspension volumes were based on the water depth specific volumes mandated by the DWRRA.

The specific blocks to be offered under each system are shown on the "Lease Terms, Bidding Systems, and Royalty Suspension Areas, Sale 171" map for Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 171. This map is available from the Public Information Unit, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

Dated: July 20, 1998.

Cynthia L. Quarterman,
Director, Minerals Management Service.

Approved:

Bob Armstrong,
Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 98-22800 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico; Notice Regarding Sale 171

On August 17, 1998, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) became aware that the routine Notice of Leasing Systems for Sale 171, Western Gulf of Mexico, printed in full below, was not published in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 1998. The leasing systems in this Notice are specified in the Sale 171 Notice of Sale which MMS published in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 1998. The Sale 171 Notice of Sale identified the bidding systems used in the sale and identified the blocks offered under each system. This Notice of Leasing Systems states again the leasing and bidding terms and the reasons for selection of the specific bidding systems. These bidding systems and the reasons for their selection are the same as those published for each Gulf of Mexico OCS lease sale since Sale 157, held in April 1996 (See 61 FR 12086, March 25, 1996). The MMS sent this Notice of Leasing Systems to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate on July 20, 1998.

Dated: August 20, 1998.

Carolita U. Kallaur,
Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 98-22801 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent: Natchez Trace Parkway

AGENCY: National Park Service, DOI.
ACTION: Amendment to Notice of Intent to prepare a Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Old Agency Road, Natchez Trace Parkway.
SUMMARY: On August 3, 1998, the National Park Service published a Notice of Intent to initiate a supplemental environmental impact analysis process for the construction of

a segment of the Natchez Trace Parkway motor road which would affect a portion of Old Agency Road in the city of Ridgeland, Mississippi. This notice serves to amend the scope of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analysis area to the 0.5 mile segment of the proposed Parkway motor road associated with Old Agency Road.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jerry Belson, Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 1924 Building, 100 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: August 18, 1998.

Daniel W. Brown,
Regional Director, Southeast Region.
[FR Doc. 98-22722 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection and Draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is converting and updating its current system of internal instructions. When these documents contain new policy or procedural requirements that may affect parties outside the NPS, this information is being made available for public review and comment. Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection revises NPS policies, standards, and requirements for implementing Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands. Draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection establishes procedures for implementing the Director's Order. These documents update, streamline, and clarify existing NPS wetland protection policies and procedures for implementing the Executive Order, which were originally published in 1980 as part of the NPS Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Guidelines (45 FR 35916, minor revisions in 47 FR 36718).

DATES: Written comments will be accepted on or before September 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection and draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection are available on the Internet at: <http://www.nps.gov/refdesk/DOrders/index.htm> Requests for copies and written comments should be sent to: Joel Wagner, National Park Service,