

Information for meeting dates and locations.

ADDRESSES: Address comments and requests for more information to: Louis J. Bridges, Project Manager, Research Management Consultants, Inc., P.O. Box 71, (412 Nevada Street), Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado 80451.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andy Loranger, Refuge Complex Manager (409) 267-3337; John Slown, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist/Planner (505) 248-7458.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service started the process of developing a Habitat Stewardship Program for the Texas Chenier Plain ecosystem in southeast Texas in 1994. This Program included potential expansion through land acquisition of the Texas Chenier Plain NWR Complex. This Refuge Complex encompasses the Anahuac, McFaddin, Moody and Texas Point National Wildlife Refuges. Open houses and public meetings were held in 1994 and 1996.

Persons and organizations involved in the scoping process for the Habitat Stewardship Program included: the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service; U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Texas General Land Office; U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers; members of national, state and local conservation organizations; grazing permittees; inholders and neighboring landowners; and other interested citizens. Comments and concerns received have been used to identify issues for the upcoming Comprehensive Conservation Plan and EIS.

Major issues to be addressed in the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and associated EIS include management of the Refuge Complex and potential expansion of the Complex' refuges through land acquisition. Specific refuge management issues include management of public recreational uses such as hunting, fishing and wildlife observation, and habitat management strategies (grazing, cooperative rice farming, prescribed burning, water management) for wetland, grassland and woodland habitats. The plan will include the following topics: (a) An assessment of existing biological, physical, and cultural resources, and their condition; (b) identification of the long term goals and objectives of the refuge, consistent with the National Wildlife Refuge System mission; (c) strategies for habitat management, including actions for wetlands, grasslands and woodlands; (d) strategies for management of public access and

uses, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education and interpretation; (e) strategies for land acquisition or cooperative agreements with adjacent land owners to further the conservation goals of the plan.

Public open houses to allow opportunities for direct public input on the scope of the document will be held at a time and place to be determined. For information concerning these open houses, please contact Louis J. Bridges, at the address provided above.

All comments received from individuals on Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations [40 CFR 1506.6(f)], and other Service and Departmental policy and procedures. When requested, the Service generally will provide comment letters with the names and addresses of the individuals who wrote the comments. However, the telephone number of the commenting individual will not be provided in response to such requests to the extent permissible by law. Additionally, public comment letters are not required to contain the commentator's name, address, or other identifying information. Such comments may be submitted anonymously to the Service.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.

We estimate that the draft CCP/ Environmental Impact Statement will be available in November, 2001.

Dated: October 7, 1999.

Stephen W. Perry,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 99-27550 Filed 10-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain

activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*):

PRT-014420

Applicant: Thomas Leuteritz, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

The applicant requests a permit to import blood samples from Radiated tortoises (*Geochelone radiata*) collected in the wild in Madagascar, for scientific research.

PRT-016034

Applicant: International Animal Exchange, Ferndale, MI

The applicant requests a permit to purchase in interstate commerce three male and four female captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) from the Bridgeport Nature Center, Inc., Bridgeport, Texas, for export to Safari Park Qin Huang Dao, Qinhuangdao, China for the purpose of public display and conservation education.

PRT-016035

Applicant: International Animal Exchange, Ferndale, MI

The applicant requests a permit to purchase in interstate commerce four male and three female captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) from the Bridgeport Nature Center, Inc., Bridgeport, Texas, for export to Beijing Badaling Wild Animal World, Beijing, China for the purpose of public display and conservation education.

PRT-015401

Applicant: Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens, Cincinnati, OH

The applicant requests a permit to export one male captive-born Komodo Island monitor (*Varanus komodoensis*) to the North of England Zoological Society, Chester, United Kingdom, for the purpose of enhancement of the species through propagation.

PRT-018063

Applicant: Randy Miller, Big Bear City, CA

The applicant requests a permit to export and re-import tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and progeny of the animals currently held by the applicant and any animals acquired in the United States by the applicant to/from worldwide locations to enhance the survival of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities

conducted by the applicant over a three year period.
PRT-017745

Applicant: Jeffrey R. Powell, Yale University, New Haven, CT

The applicant requests a permit to re-export up to 5000 blood samples collected from wild Galapagos tortoises (*Geochelone nigra*) to Michel C. Milinkovitch, Free University of Brussels (ULB), Gosselies, Belgium, for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, 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, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: October 18, 1999.

Kristen Nelson,

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

[FR Doc. 99-27502 Filed 10-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-1320-00; NMNM 99144]

Request for Public Comment on Fair Market Value and Maximum Economic Recovery; Lease by Application NMNM 99144

October 8, 1999.

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management requests public comment on the fair market value of certain coal resources it proposes to offer for competitive lease sale.

The lands included in Coal Lease Application NMNM 99144 are located in San Juan County, New Mexico and are described as follows:

T. 30 N., R. 14 W., NMMP

Sec. 17, All;
Sec. 18, All;
Sec. 19, All;
Sec. 20, All;
Sec. 29, All;
Sec. 30, All;
Sec. 31, Lot 1-4, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$;
Containing 4,483.88 acres, more or less.

The average thickness of the coal under consideration is about 12 feet with an in-place of approximately 90 million tons.

The public is invited to submit written comments on the fair market value and the maximum economic recover of the tract.

In addition, notice is also given that a public hearing will be held on November 15, 1999, on the fair market value and maximum economic recovery of the proposed lease tract.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: For more complete data on this tract, please contact Powell King or Ida T. Viarreal, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office, 1474 Rodeo Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87504.

The public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Farmington Field Office, 1235 La Plata Highway, Farmington, New Mexico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charlie F. Beecham, Team Lead Solid Minerals, (505) 599-6372.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Federal Coal Management regulations 43 CFR 3422 and 3425, not less than 30 days prior to the publication of the sale notice of sale, the Secretary shall solicit public comments on the fair market value appraisal, and maximum economic recovery and on factors that may effect these two determinations. Proprietary data marked as confidential may be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management in response to this solicitation of public comments. Data so marked shall be treated in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the confidentiality of such information. A copy of the comments submitted by the public on fair market value and maximum economic recovery, except those portions identified as proprietary by the author and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, will be available for public inspection at the above address during regular business hours (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

Comments should be sent to Bureau of Land Management Farmington Field Office, 1235 La Plata Highway, Farmington, NM 87401 and should address, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information:

1. The quality and quantity of the coal resource;

2. The mining method or methods, which would achieve maximum economic recovery of the coal, including specification of seams to be mined and the most desirable timing and rate of production.

3. The quantity of coal;

4. If this tract is likely to be mined as part of an existing mine and therefore be evaluated, on a realistic incremental basis, in relation to the existing mine to which it has the greatest value;

5. If this tract should be evaluated as part of a potential larger mining unit and evaluated as a portion of a new potential mine (*i.e.*, a tract which does not in itself form a logical mining unit);

6. The configuration to the mining, which may affect coal recovery;

7. Restrictions to the mining, which may affect coal recovery;

8. The price that the mined coal could bring when sold;

9. Costs, including mining and reclamation, of producing the coal and the time of production.

10. The percentage rate at which anticipated income streams should be discounted, either in the absence of inflation or with inflation, in which case the anticipated rate of inflation should be given;

11. Depreciation and other tax accounting factors;

12. The value of any surface estate where held privately;

13. Documented information on the terms and conditions of recent and similar coal land transactions in the lease sale acres; and

14. Any comparable sales data of similar coal lands.

The values given above may or may not change as a result of comments received from the public and changes in market conditions between now and when final economic evaluations are completed.

Carsten F. Goff,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 99-27178 Filed 10-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-952-00-1420-BJ]

Notice of Filing of Plat of Survey; New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The plats of survey described below will be officially filed in the New