

the Director, Office of Self-Governance may select up to 50 additional participating tribes/consortia per year for the tribal self-governance program, and negotiate and enter into a written funding agreement with each participating tribe. The Act mandates that the Secretary submit copies of the funding agreements at least 90 days before the proposed effective date to the appropriate committees of the Congress and to each tribe that is served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency that is serving the tribe that is a party to the funding agreement. Initial negotiations with a tribe/consortium located in a region and/or agency which has not previously been involved with self-governance negotiations, will take approximately two months from start to finish. Agreements for an October 1 to September 30 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by July 1. Agreements for a January 1 to December 31 fiscal year need to be signed and submitted by October 1.

Purpose of Notice

25 CFR parts 1000.10 to 1000.31 will be used to govern the application and selection process for tribes/consortia to begin their participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2003 and calendar year 2003. Applicants should be guided by the requirements in these subparts in preparing their applications. Copies of these subparts may be obtained from the information contact person identified in this notice.

Tribes/consortia wishing to be considered for participation in the tribal self-governance program in fiscal year 2003 or calendar year 2003 must respond to this notice, except for those which are (1) currently involved in negotiations with the Department; (2) one of the 80 tribal entities with signed agreements; or (3) one of the tribal entities already included in the applicant pool as of the date of this notice.

Dated: December 12, 2001.

Neal A. McCaleb,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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BILLING CODE 4310-W8-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications.

SUMMARY: The following applicants have requested renewal of scientific research and enhancement of survival permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Permit No. TE-051139

Applicant: Turner Endangered Species Fund, Cimarron, New Mexico.

The applicant requests a renewed permit to take black-footed ferrets (*Mustela nigripes*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

Permit No. TE-051140

Applicant: St. Louis Zoological Park, St. Louis, Missouri 63110.

The applicant requests a renewed permit to take Wyoming toads (*Bufo hemiophrys baxteri*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

Permit No. TE-049748

Applicant: Dr. Todd Crowl, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322.

The applicant requests a renewed permit to take razorback suckers (*Xyrauchen texanus*), Colorado pikeminnows (*Ptychocheilus lucius*), bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*), and June suckers (*Chasmistes liorus*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing their survival and recovery.

Permit No. 047252

Applicant: Trent Miller, SWCA, Inc., Environmental Consultants, Westminster, Colorado 80031.

The applicant requests a renewed permit to take black-footed ferrets (*Mustela nigripes*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

Permit No. TE-045150

Applicant: Dr. William W. Hoback, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska 68849.

The applicant requests a renewed permit to take American burying beetles (*Nicrophorus americanus*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

DATES: Written comments on these requests for permits must be received February 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Assistant Regional Director—Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225-0486; telephone 303-236-7400, facsimile 303-236-0027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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 within 20 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above; telephone 303-236-7400.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

Ralph O. Morgenweck,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 02-603 Filed 1-9-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-670-5101-ER-B140; CACA-42662]

Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report and Proposed Amendments to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan and the Yuma District Resource Management Plan in Conjunction With the Proposed North Baja Pipeline Project

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report and proposed amendments to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA Plan) and the Yuma District Resource Management Plan in conjunction with the proposed North Baja Pipeline Project.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) and proposed amendments to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA Plan) and the Yuma District Resource Management Plan (Yuma RMP) in conjunction with the proposed North Baja Pipeline project. The proposed North Baja Pipeline project would provide natural gas supplies for new gas-fired electric power generation

serving the power grids in Baja California, Mexico and southern California, where there has been strong documented demand. The proposed North Baja Pipeline project extends from Ehrenberg, Arizona, through Riverside and Imperial Counties in California, south to the Mexican border. All federal lands affected by the proposed plan amendments are located in eastern Imperial County, California.

DATES: The Final EIS/EIR and proposed plan amendments will be available for public review and protest until February 10, 2002. Protests must be filed in accordance with the instructions described in the Supplemental Information section of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Director, Bureau of Land Management (WO-210, ms 1075LS), Attention: Brenda Hudgens-Williams, Protest Coordinator, 1620 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20236. Please send a copy of any protest along with all backup documentation to Lynda Kastoll, El Centro Field Office, 1661 South 4th St., El Centro, CA 92243.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information contact Lynda Kastoll, Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management El Centro Field Office, 1661 S. 4th St., El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 337-4421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is the lead Federal agency on this project; BLM is a cooperating agency. The proposed amendment to the CDCA Plan would allow placement of pipeline outside of a designated utility corridor. The proposed Yuma RMP amendment would allow the placement of pipeline across portions of the Milpitas Wash Natural Area in which the RMP currently does not allow new utilities to be sited. A limited number of individual copies of the Final EIS/EIR and Plan Amendments may be obtained from BLM's El Centro Field Office. Copies are also available for inspection at the following locations:

(a). Public libraries in Blythe, Riverside and El Centro, California and in Yuma and Parker, Arizona

(b). Bureau of Land Management, California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

(c). Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Field Office, 1661 S. 4th St., El Centro, CA 92243;

(d). Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office, 2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365.

(e). Bureau of Land Management, California Desert District, 6221 Box Springs Boulevard, Riverside, California 92507.

(f). Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

(g). California State Lands Commission, 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South, Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

In accordance with 43 CFR 1610.5-2, any person who participated in the planning process and believes they will be adversely affected by this plan amendment may protest the proposed amendment. The protest may raise only those issues which were submitted for the record during the planning process. The protest must be in writing and filed, on or before February 10, 2002, with the Director, Bureau of Land Management (WO-210, ms 1075LS), Attention: Brenda Hudgens-Williams, Protest Coordinator, 1620 L Street NW., Washington, DC, 20236. Please send a copy of any protest along with all backup documentation to Lynda Kastoll, El Centro Field Office, 1661 S. 4th St., El Centro, CA 92243. In order to be considered complete, your protest must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

1. The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.

2. A statement of the issue or issues being protested.

3. A statement of the part or parts of the proposed plan amendment being protested. To the extent possible, this should be done by reference to specific pages, paragraphs, sections, tables, maps, etc., included in the document.

4. A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues that you submitted during the planning process or a reference to the date the issue or issues were addressed by you for the record.

5. A concise statement explaining why you believe the proposed plan amendment is wrong.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

J. Anthony Danna,

Acting State Director, California.

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BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[CA 668-02-1610-DO-083A]

Monument Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior; United States Forest Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and United States Forest Service (USFS) announce a meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument (hereinafter referred to as "National Monument"). The meeting will be held on Monday, January 28, in the Hoover Room of the Education Center at the Living Desert, 47900 Portola Avenue, Palm Desert, California 92260. Meeting hours will be 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. The proposed agenda for the meeting will include a welcome and introductions followed by (1) an overview of the National Monument, (2) review of the National Monument advisory committee charter, (3) discussion of the guidelines and processes under which the advisory committee members will advise the BLM and USFS in the management and planning of the Monument, (4) election of committee chair and committee vice chairperson, (5) establishment of subsequent meeting schedule, and (6) a public question and answer period scheduled for 3 p.m.

The Monument Advisory Committee (MAC) is a committee of citizens appointed to provide advice to the BLM and USFS with respect to preparation and implementation of the management plan for the National Monument as required in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 431nt). The act authorized establishment of the MAC with representative members from State and local jurisdictions, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, a natural science expert, local conservation organization, local developer or building organization, the Winter Park Authority and a representative from the Pinyon Community Council.

The meeting will be open to the public with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance such as sign language interpretations or other