

Washington as vacated by Final Order of Vacation recorded under Auditor's File Number 201111070157, records of said County, totaling 283.17 acres, more or less.

Situate in the County of Kitsap, State of Washington.

The above-described lands contain a total of 283.17 acres, more or less, which is subject to all valid rights, reservations, rights-of-way, and easements of record.

This proclamation does not affect title to the land described above nor does it affect any valid existing easements for public roads and highways, for public utilities and for railroads and pipelines and any other rights-of-way or reservations of record.

Dated: February 21, 2014.

Kevin K. Washburn,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Ochoa Mine Project in Lea County, NM

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Ochoa Mine Project and by this notice is announcing its availability.

DATES: The BLM will not issue a final decision on the proposal for a minimum of 30 days from the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its own notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Ochoa Mine Project Final EIS are available for public inspection at the Carlsbad Field Office, 620 E Greene Street, Carlsbad, NM 88220. Interested persons may also review the Final EIS on the Web site at: www.nm.blm.gov/cfo/ochoaMine/.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Herrell or Shiva Achet, project co-leads, telephone 575-234-2229

(David) or 575-234-5924 (Shiva); address BLM Carlsbad Field Office, 620 East Greene Street, Carlsbad, NM 88220; email blm_nm_cfo_comments@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at: 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intercontinental Potash Corporation (ICP) is proposing to develop a new underground mine in southern Lea County, New Mexico, to extract polyhalite ore for the production of the sulfate of potash and sulfate of potash magnesia, potassium fertilizers for food production. The project area includes Federal, State, and private lands totaling 31,134 acres, of which 2,400 acres would be disturbed. The surface landownership consists of about 22 percent public lands managed by the BLM, 53 percent owned by the State of New Mexico, and 25 percent privately owned. About 55 percent of the minerals within the proposed mine area is owned by the Federal Government.

ICP holds BLM prospecting permits and has applied for preference right leases. These prospecting permits are located about 40 miles southeast of Carlsbad and 20 miles west of Jal, in Lea County, New Mexico. ICP has proposed a Mine Plan of Operations that includes an underground mine accessed by a shaft and a ramp, and processing facilities, including the ore process plant, dry stack tailings pile, evaporation ponds, water wells, pipelines, power lines, and a railroad load out facility. The polyhalite will be continuously mined using the conventional room and pillar retreat method. In order to mine in proximity to active oil and gas wells, ICP has elected to follow the rules and regulations of a Category IV gassy mine. Processing would require pumping a maximum of 4,000 gallons per minute of groundwater from the Capitan Reef Aquifer.

The BLM initiated the NEPA process for the project by publication of a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS on January 3, 2012 (77 FR 130). Public scoping meetings were conducted on January 23-24, 2012. Major issues identified for this project include oil and gas, water resources, land use, socioeconomic impacts, air quality, wildlife, livestock grazing, and health and safety. A

scoping report was compiled and published on March 27, 2012.

Alternatives developed in the Draft EIS include the proposed action (Alternative A), which would include approval of ICP's Mine Plan of Operations, granting new rights-of-way, and approval of preference right leases to allow the mining and processing of polyhalite ore for the production of the sulphate of potash and sulphate of potash magnesia. In addition, three action alternatives were analyzed in the Draft EIS. Alternative B is identical to Alternative A except that the visual impacts of the tailing stockpile would be reduced. Alternative C is identical to Alternative A except that standards and guidance would be established for managing concurrent development of fluid minerals. Alternative D is similar to Alternative A, except that the location of the evaporation ponds and tailings stockpile would be at a different location. A no action alternative was also analyzed, in which the proposed mine plan of operations, rights-of-way, and preference right leases would be denied.

The Draft EIS was published on August 9, 2013, starting a 45-day public comment period. Three public scoping meetings were held in Carlsbad, New Mexico, on August 26, 2013, and in Hobbs and Jal, New Mexico, on August 27, 2013. Briefings were also held for the City of Eunice, New Mexico, and a cooperating agency. Twenty-nine written comment letters consisting of 490 comments were received and analyzed. Comments on the Draft EIS received from the public and internal BLM review were considered and incorporated as appropriate into the Final EIS. The Final EIS Preferred Alternative consists of a mixture of what the BLM considers the best features of Alternatives A, B, and C, as well as some new aspects incorporated in response to public comments and BLM concerns. The Preferred Alternative is similar to the proposed action (Alternative A), as it incorporates the same proposed mine area, mining methods, facilities, and processing methods. Additionally, water demands, well field and water pipelines, and layout facilities remain the same as the proposed action. The Preferred Alternative differs from the proposed action as it requires additional monitoring of water resources, includes subsidence, dust, and reclamation requirements, a smaller tailings stockpile, a more formalized co-development coordination program with stakeholders, and a dispute resolution process.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10.

Aden L. Seidlitz,
Associate State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASONRSS-15011; PPWOVPADW0, PPMRLE1Y.LB0000]

Information Collection Request Sent to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Approval; Research Permit and Reporting System Applications and Reports

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We (National Park Service) have sent an Information Collection Request (ICR) to OMB for review and approval. We summarize the ICR below and describe the nature of the collection

and the estimated burden and cost. This information collection is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2014. We may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. However, under OMB regulations, we may continue to conduct or sponsor this information collection while it is pending at OMB.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before March 31, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments and suggestions on this information collection to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at OMB—OIRA at (202) 395-5806 (fax) or OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov (email). Please provide a copy of your comments to Madonna L. Baucum, Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW. (2601), Washington, DC 20240 (mail); or madonna_baucum@nps.gov (email). Please include “1024-0236” in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Bill Commins at bill_commins@nps.gov (email) or at 202-513-7166 (telephone). You may review the ICR online at <http://www.reginfo.gov>. Follow the instructions to review Department of the Interior collections under review by OMB.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 1024-0236.

Title: Research Permit and Reporting System Applications and Reports, 36 CFR 2.1 and 2.5.

Service Form Number(s): 10-226, 10-741a, and 10-741b.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals; businesses; academic and research institutions; and Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion for applications; annually for reports.

Activity	Number of respondents	Number of annual responses	Completion time per response	Total annual burden hours
Investigator's Annual Report (Form 10-226)	5,395	5,395	15 minutes	1,349
Application for a Scientific Research and Collecting Permit (Form 10-741a).	4,980	4,980	1.38 hours	6,872
Application for a Science Education Permit (Form 10-741b)	415	415	1 hour	415
TOTALS	10,790	10,790		8,636

Abstract: Regulations at 36 CFR 2.1 and 2.5 provide for taking of scientific research specimens in parks. We use a permit system to manage scientific research and collecting. National Park Service Forms 10-741a (Application for a Scientific Research and Collecting Permit) and 10-741b (Application for a Science Education Permit) collect information from persons seeking a permit to conduct natural or social science research and collection activities in individual units of the National Park System. The information we collect includes, but is not limited to:

- Names and business contact information.
- Project title, purpose of study, summary of proposed field methods and activities, and study and field schedules.
- Location where scientific activities are proposed to take place, including method of access.
- Whether or not specimens are proposed to be collected or handled, and if yes, scientific descriptions and proposed disposition of specimens.

- If specimens are to be permanently retained, the proposed repositories for those specimens.

Persons who receive a permit must report annually on the activities conducted under the permit. Form 10-226 (Investigator's Annual Report) collects the following information:

- Reporting year, park, and type of permit.
- Names and business contact information and names of additional investigators.
- Project title, park-assigned study or activity number, park-assigned permit number, permit start and expiration dates, and scientific study start and ending dates.
- Activity type, subject discipline, purpose of study/activity during the reporting year, and finding and status of study or accomplishments of education activity during the reporting year.

We use the above information to manage the use and preservation of park resources and for reporting to the public via the Internet about the status of permitted research and collecting activities. We encourage respondents to

use the Internet-based, automated Research Permit and Reporting System (RPRS) to complete and submit applications and reports. For those who use RPRS, much of the information needed for the annual report is generated automatically through information supplied in the application or contained in the permit.

Comments: On September 19, 2013, we published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 57654) a notice of our intent to request that OMB renew approval for this information collection. In that notice, we solicited comments for 60 days, ending November 3, 2013. We did not receive any comments.

We again invite comments concerning this information collection on:

- Whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information;
- Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and