

for disposal. Acquisitions are also restricted to lands specifically identified, except when an exchange is involved. These limitations have hindered our ability to respond timely to proposals to accept donations, purchase, exchange, or dispose of lands. The proposed Amendment would provide more flexibility to consider requests for disposals and acquisitions involving parcels that have not previously been specifically identified in the RMP, providing certain criteria are met.

DATES: Written comments related to the identification of issues will be accepted on or before December 6, 1995. Due to the noncontroversial nature of the proposal, no public meetings are scheduled.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office, Attn: Brenda Smith, 3150 Winsor Avenue, Yuma, Arizona 85365.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Smith, Renewable Resources Advisor, Yuma District Office, Yuma, Arizona. Telephone (520) 726-6300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Proposed criteria for land disposals or acquisitions have been identified. Disposal lands would serve the following purposes: (1) Community expansion and economic development; (2) local governmental needs; or (3) to facilitate Federal land management and minimize BLM administrative costs. Lands acquired would serve to: (1) Facilitate access to public lands and resources; (2) provide resource protection; (3) facilitate implementation of the RMP; (4) provide for a more manageable Federal land ownership pattern; or (5) maintain or enhance public uses and values.

Possible issues would be addressed in site-specific environmental assessments that would be completed for each land tenure adjustment. BLM anticipates that the possible loss of Federal protection for cultural resources and wildlife habitat due to land disposals may be an issue. Possible adverse socioeconomic impacts to County governments from the loss of tax revenues as a result of land acquisitions may be another issue.

Complete records of all phases of the planning process will be available for public review at the Yuma District Office, 3150 Winsor Avenue, Yuma, Arizona.

This notice is published under the authority found in 43 CFR 1610.2(c).

Dated: October 30, 1995.
Judith I. Reed,
District Manager.
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BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the San Diego Gas & Electric Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan in Southern California.

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) has applied for an incidental take permit from the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended. The application includes an implementing agreement (IA) and a habitat conservation plan/subregional natural community conservation plan (HCP/NCCP) covering the SDG&E service area in southern California. The proposed taking of threatened and endangered species would be incidental to the installation, maintenance, and operation of SDG&E facilities.

The proposed permit would authorize take of 11 animal species listed as endangered and 2 animal species listed as threatened for a period of 25 years with options for renewal. SDG&E has requested the issuance of permits (immediately or when a species is listed) under section 10(a) of the Act that would authorize incidental take, in accordance with the terms of the HCP/NCCP, of the 110 sensitive species listed in the HCP/NCCP. The Service proposes to finalize covered species agreements and offer assurances for 13 listed animal species, 5 listed plants, and 92 unlisted plants and animals, including 7 plants and 2 animals proposed for Federal listing as endangered or threatened and 7 plants that are category 1 candidates for Federal listing.

SDG&E requests coverage for impacts on up to 400 acres of natural areas containing covered species. However, based on data from past projects, SDG&E estimates a total of 124 acres of both temporary and permanent grading disturbances over the next 25 years.

To avoid or minimize potential impacts, SDG&E has developed operational protocols for workers in the field. To compensate for unavoidable impacts, SDG&E would: (1) Provide

certain fee-owned rights-of-way to be available for use by wildlife, (2) establish a conservation bank of approximately 240 acres that may be replenished as needed, and (3) develop restoration protocols for temporary impacts.

The HCP/NCCP and associated Environmental Assessment (EA) are programmatic in scope. Site-specific impacts of new construction projects would be reviewed in the future per requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act.

This notice advises the public of the availability of the permit application, HCP/NCCP, IA, and programmatic EA. Comments are requested on these documents which were prepared by the permit applicant and their consultants. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and may be made available to the public. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

The Service will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of NEPA regulations and section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that the requirements are met, an incidental take permit will be issued.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 6, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Gail C. Kobetich, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2730 Loker Avenue West, Carlsbad, California 92008. Written comments also may be sent by facsimile to (619) 431-9618.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sherry Barrett, Endangered Species Division Chief, or Jacalyn Fleming, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address, (619-431-9440).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

Persons may obtain copies of the HCP/NCCP, IA, and EA by calling the above telephone number. These documents will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours (8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday) at the above address.

Background

Under section 9 of the Act, and implementing regulations, taking of federally listed threatened or endangered species is prohibited.

Taking, in part, is defined as harm or harassment of federally listed species, including under certain circumstances, the destruction of habitat. Under limited circumstances, the Service may issue section 10(a)(1)(B) permits to take listed species if such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for listed species are found at Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations 17.22 and 17.32.

SDG&E has applied for a 25-year permit, with options for renewal, to authorize incidental take associated with the installation, maintenance and operation of its facilities which are or will be necessary to provide natural gas, electricity and other services to its customers. These actions include the installation of overhead and underground facilities, substations, and regulator stations, including other ground disturbance such as building and maintaining access roads, geotechnical testing, emergency repairs, and clearing for fire control. SDG&E operations and facilities cross city and county jurisdictional boundaries in San Diego, Riverside, and Orange Counties, California. The HCP/NCCP details specific project actions that may lead to incidental take of species and specific actions that will mitigate those takings. These impacts and mitigation measures are further addressed in the HCP/NCCP, IA, and EA.

The alternatives under consideration include: (1) The proposed action, (2) no action, and (3) compliance with local jurisdiction's subarea plans. Only the proposed action conserves both listed and unlisted species, restricts the use and development of certain SDG&E fee-owned rights-of-way for wildlife and preservation, and addresses all SDG&E activities over the entire service area.

All agencies and individuals are urged to provide comments and suggestions regarding the EA, IA, and the consistency of the SDG&E HCP/NCCP with regional conservation planning efforts. All comments received by the closing date will be considered in finalizing NEPA compliance and permit issuance or denial.

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Thomas Dwyer,

Deputy Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 95-27418 Filed 11-3-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals

incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations [50 CFR 18.27(f)(3)], notice is hereby given that a Letter of Authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration activities has been issued to the following company:

Company	Activity	Date issued
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.	Exploration ...	Sept. 20, 1995.

BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc., is authorized to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to appraisal operations in the Badami Development Unit on the North Slope of Alaska. This authorization expires on July 31, 1996, and a monitoring report is due by November 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David McGillivray or Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This letter of Authorization was issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rules and Regulations "Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities" (58 FR 60402; November 16, 1993, amended 60 FR 42805; August 17, 1995).

Dated: October 25, 1995.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 95-27340 Filed 11-3-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Risk Assessment and Management Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Risk Assessment and Management Committee, a Committee of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. The Committee meeting will focus on the following: the development of the pathway evaluation process for nonindigenous species introduction; finalize the Risk Assessment Process for presentation to the Aquatic Nuisance

Species Task Force; and, prepare the black carp risk assessment process for outside review.

DATES: The Risk Assessment and Management Committee will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13, 1995, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 14, 1995.

ADDRESSES: The Risk Assessment and Management Committee meeting will be held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Building, Room 800, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Orr, Risk Assessment and Management Committee Chairman, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road, Unit 117, Riverdale, MD 20737, (301) 734-8939.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Risk Identification and Assessment Committee established under the authority of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-646, 104 Stat. 4761, 16 U.S.C. 4701 *et seq.*, November 29, 1990). Minutes of the meetings will be maintained by the Coordinator, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Room 840, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and the Risk Assessment and Management Committee Chairman, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road, Unit 117, Riverdale, MD 20737 and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Gary Edwards,

Assistant Director—Fisheries, Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.

[FR Doc. 95-27443 Filed 11-3-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Minerals Management Service

Information Collection Solicitation for Comments

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, DOI.

ACTION: Notice of information collection solicitation.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Minerals Management Service is soliciting comments on an information collection,