

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Reclamation****Availability of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Program, Draft Basin Conservation Plan for Public Review**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Eluid Martinez, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, has released the Draft Basin Conservation Plan for the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Program for a public comment period. The Draft Conservation Plan was developed by the Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group, appointed by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with Title XII of Pub. L. 103-434 authorizing the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Program (Conservation Program). The Plan outlines objectives, problems and needs, and potential water conservation solutions. It provides guidelines, processes, and procedures to participate in the Conservation Program.

**DATES:** The Draft Conservation Plan will be available August 15, 1997. Written comments on the Plan will be accepted through October 31, 1997, at the Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Columbia Area Office in Yakima, Washington, at the address indicated below.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Plan are available in public libraries throughout the Yakima River Basin or can be obtained by contacting Jerry Jacoby at the Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Columbia Area Office, Yakima River Basin, Water Enhancement Project, P.O. Box 1749, Yakima WA 98907-1749.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jerry Jacoby, Resource Conservationist, (509) 575-5848, Ext. 282, or (800) 905-7565, Press 6.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Conservation Program is a voluntary program, structured to provide economic incentives with cooperative Federal, State, and local funding to stimulate the identification and implementation of structural and nonstructural water conservation measures in the Yakima River Basin. Improvements in the efficiency of irrigation water delivery and use will result in improved stream flows for fish and wildlife, and improve the reliability of water supplies for irrigation.

Dated: August 12, 1997.

**Walt Fite,**

*Area Manager, Upper Columbia Area Office.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as Amended, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as Amended**

Under section 122 the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 ("CERCLA"), as amended, and 28 CFR 50.7, notice is hereby given that on August 5, 1997, a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Caldwell County, et al.*, Civil Action No. 5:97CV125-V, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

In this action, the United States sought the reimbursement of costs and the performance of work at the Caldwell Systems Site ("Site") in Caldwell County, North Carolina. The United States incurred these costs for a variety of actions authorized by section 104 of CERCLA, which included investigating the release and threatened release of hazardous substances at the Site, as well as investigating the health risks faced by people who formerly worked at the Site. The United States' costs for these actions are approximately \$5.26 million. Under the consent decree, Caldwell County and 42 private companies agree to remove contaminated soil, to monitor groundwater, and to remove constaminants from groundwater if necessary. This work is valued at approximately \$6.2 million. The 42 private companies also agree to guarantee a minimum recovery from a future de minimis settlement with other potentially liable parties at the Site, if EPA decides to offer such a settlement.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the consent decree.

Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC. 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Caldwell County, et al.*, D.J. Ref. No. 90-11-2-615A.

The consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, Suite 1700, Carillon Building, 227 West Trade Street, Charlotte, North

Carolina; at U.S. EPA Region 4, 61 Forsythe Street, S.E., Atlanta, Georgia; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, DC, (202) 624-0892. To review the consent decree at U.S. EPA Region 4, interested persons should make arrangements by calling Charles Mikalian at (404) 562-9575. A copy of the consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005. When requesting a copy, please enclose a check in the amount of \$124.75 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the Consent Decree Library.

**Joel M. Gross,**

*Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Water Act**

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 C.F.R. 50.7, notice is hereby given that a proposed Consent Decree in *United States v. Cominco Alaska, Inc.*, No. A97-267CIV (JKS) (D. Alaska), was lodged on July 14, 1997, with the United States District Court for the District of Alaska. With regard to the Defendant, the Consent Decree resolves a claim filed by the United States on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") pursuant to the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*

The United States entered into the Consent Decree in connection with the Red Dog Mine and Mill, located approximately 90 miles north of Koetzebue, Alaska. The Consent Decree provides that the Defendant will pay to the United States a civil penalty of \$1.7 million for violations of the Clean Water Act at the Site. Further, the Defendant will be required to develop and implement three Supplemental Environmental Projects set forth in the Consent Decree, at an estimated capital cost of \$3.1 million.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Cominco Alaska, Inc.*, DOJ Reg. #90-5-1-1-5010.