

- Updating FWS Form 3–200–37d, “*Interstate or Foreign commerce of Live Animals/Samples/or Products (ESA)*,” to add a question on the description of and justification for the requested activity. We will outline the information needed for each of the following purposes: scientific research, conservation education and/or zoological display, and captive propagation for the conservation and survival of the species.

- Based on requirements outlined in Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev CoP18), we will be updating FWS Form 3–200–37f, “*Import of Live African Elephant from Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe and Southern White Rhino from Eswatini and South Africa*,” to request additional information required in order to make the finding of appropriate and acceptable destinations for the import of live African elephants and rhinoceros.

- Updates to FWS Form 3–200–41, “*Captive-Bred Wildlife Registration (U.S. Endangered Species Act)*,” will be updated to include all new applicants completing sections 1, 2, and 4, as appropriate, and section 3 for renewing a captive-bred wildlife registration.

- Splitting FWS Form 3–200–43, “*Take/Import/Export of Marine Mammals for Public Display, Scientific Research, Enhancement, or Rescue/ Rehabilitation/Release Activities or Renewal/Amendment of Existing Permit (MMPA and/or ESA)*,” into smaller parts (3–200–43a, 3–200–43b, 3–200–43c, 3–200–43d) to ensure the applicant can easily identify and submit the correct type of application for activities being requested under the MMPA.

- Clarification of information needed on FWS Form 3–200–46, “*Import/ Export/Re-Export of Personal Pets under the Conservation on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and/or the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA)*,” will include the requirement of the address of an applicant when they will be relocating with their pet.

- Updates to FWS Form 3–200–73, “*Re-Export of Wildlife (CITES)*,” will be updated to align with our FWS Form 3–200–24, “*Export of Live Captive-Born Animals and/or Part/Products from Non-Native Species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)*,” for information collected on live animals to include the sex and birth/hatch date of the live wildlife to be re-exported.

We do not plan to make changes to the annual report forms contained in this collection. We do make note that some permits are issued with specific reporting requirements at the termination of the permitted activity.

The information varies based on the permitted activities. The report is submitted at the time a permit renewal is requested or at the termination of the permitted activity.

The public may request copies of any form or document contained in this information collection by sending a request to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer (see **ADDRESSES**, above).

Title of Collection: Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Applications and Reports—Management Authority; 50 CFR 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23.

OMB Control Number: 1018–0093.

Form Numbers: FWS Forms 3–200–19 through 3–200–37, 3–200–39 through 3–200–42, 3–200–43a through 3–200–43d, 3–200–46 through 3–200–53, 3–200–58, 3–200–61, 3–200–64 through 3–200–66, 3–200–69, 3–200–70, 3–200–73 through 3–200–76, 3–200–80, and 3–200–85 through 3–200–88.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Description of Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals (including hunters); private sector (including biomedical companies, circuses, zoological parks, botanical gardens, nurseries, museums, universities, antique dealers, exotic pet industry, taxidermists, commercial importers/exporters of wildlife and plants, freight forwarders/brokers); and State, local, Tribal, and Federal governments.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 6,139.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 8,946.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Varies from 15 minutes to 40 hours, depending on activity.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 9,035.

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

Frequency of Collection: On occasion or annually, depending on activity.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: \$576,387 for costs associated with application processing fees, which range from \$0 to \$250. There is no fee for reports. State, local, Tribal, and Federal government agencies and those acting on their behalf are exempt from processing fees.

An agency 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.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Madonna Baucum,
Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[234A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900]

HEARTH Act Approval of Pala Band of Mission Indians Amended Leasing Ordinance

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) approved the Pala Band of Mission Indians Amended Leasing Ordinance under the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership Act of 2012 (HEARTH Act). With this approval, the Tribe is authorized to enter into business and residential leases without further BIA approval.

DATES: BIA issued the approval on May 2, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Carla Clark, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Real Estate Services, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104, carla.clark@bia.gov, (702) 484–3233.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Summary of the HEARTH Act

The HEARTH Act makes a voluntary, alternative land leasing process available to Tribes, by amending the Indian Long-Term Leasing Act of 1955, 25 U.S.C. 415. The HEARTH Act authorizes Tribes to negotiate and enter into business leases of Tribal trust lands with a primary term of 25 years, and up to two renewal terms of 25 years each, without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary). The HEARTH Act also authorizes Tribes to enter into leases for residential, recreational, religious or educational purposes for a primary term of up to 75 years without the approval of the Secretary. Participating Tribes develop Tribal Leasing regulations, including an environmental review process, and then must obtain the Secretary's approval of those regulations prior to entering into leases. The HEARTH Act requires the Secretary to approve Tribal regulations

if the Tribal regulations are consistent with the Department of the Interior's (Department) leasing regulations at 25 CFR part 162 and provide for an environmental review process that meets requirements set forth in the HEARTH Act. This notice announces that the Secretary, through the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, has approved the Tribal regulations for the Pala Band of Mission Indians.

II. Federal Preemption of State and Local Taxes

The Department's regulations governing the surface leasing of trust and restricted Indian lands specify that, subject to applicable Federal law, permanent improvements on leased land, leasehold or possessory interests, and activities under the lease are not subject to State and local taxation and may be subject to taxation by the Indian Tribe with jurisdiction. See 25 CFR 162.017. As explained further in the preamble to the final regulations, the Federal government has a strong interest in promoting economic development, self-determination, and Tribal sovereignty. 77 FR 72440, 72447–48 (December 5, 2012). The principles supporting the Federal preemption of State law in the field of Indian leasing and the taxation of lease-related interests and activities applies with equal force to leases entered into under Tribal leasing regulations approved by the Federal government pursuant to the HEARTH Act.

Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act, 25 U.S.C. 5108, preempts State and local taxation of permanent improvements on trust land. *Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation v. Thurston County*, 724 F.3d 1153, 1157 (9th Cir. 2013) (citing *Mescalero Apache Tribe v. Jones*, 411 U.S. 145 (1973)). Similarly, section 5108 preempts State taxation of rent payments by a lessee for leased trust lands, because “tax on the payment of rent is indistinguishable from an impermissible tax on the land.” See *Seminole Tribe of Florida v. Stranburg*, 799 F.3d 1324, 1331, n.8 (11th Cir. 2015). In addition, as explained in the preamble to the revised leasing regulations at 25 CFR part 162, Federal courts have applied a balancing test to determine whether State and local taxation of non-Indians on the reservation is preempted. *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136, 143 (1980). The *Bracker* balancing test, which is conducted against a backdrop of “traditional notions of Indian self-government,” requires a particularized examination of the relevant State, Federal, and Tribal

interests. We hereby adopt the *Bracker* analysis from the preamble to the surface leasing regulations, 77 FR at 72447–48, as supplemented by the analysis below.

The strong Federal and Tribal interests against State and local taxation of improvements, leaseholds, and activities on land leased under the Department's leasing regulations apply equally to improvements, leaseholds, and activities on land leased pursuant to Tribal leasing regulations approved under the HEARTH Act. Congress's overarching intent was to “allow Tribes to exercise greater control over their own land, support self-determination, and eliminate bureaucratic delays that stand in the way of homeownership and economic development in Tribal communities.” 158 Cong. Rec. H. 2682 (May 15, 2012). The HEARTH Act was intended to afford Tribes “flexibility to adapt lease terms to suit [their] business and cultural needs” and to “enable [Tribes] to approve leases quickly and efficiently.” H. Rep. 112–427 at 6 (2012).

Assessment of State and local taxes would obstruct these express Federal policies supporting Tribal economic development and self-determination, and also threaten substantial Tribal interests in effective Tribal government, economic self-sufficiency, and territorial autonomy. See *Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community*, 572 U.S. 782, 810 (2014) (Sotomayor, J., concurring) (determining that “[a] key goal of the Federal Government is to render Tribes more self-sufficient, and better positioned to fund their own sovereign functions, rather than relying on Federal funding”). The additional costs of State and local taxation have a chilling effect on potential lessees, as well as on a Tribe that, as a result, might refrain from exercising its own sovereign right to impose a Tribal tax to support its infrastructure needs. See *id.* at 810–11 (finding that State and local taxes greatly discourage Tribes from raising tax revenue from the same sources because the imposition of double taxation would impede Tribal economic growth).

Similar to BIA's surface leasing regulations, Tribal regulations under the HEARTH Act pervasively cover all aspects of leasing. See 25 U.S.C. 415(h)(3)(B)(i) (requiring Tribal regulations be consistent with BIA surface leasing regulations). Furthermore, the Federal government remains involved in the Tribal land leasing process by approving the Tribal leasing regulations in the first instance and providing technical assistance, upon request by a Tribe, for the

development of an environmental review process. The Secretary also retains authority to take any necessary actions to remedy violations of a lease or of the Tribal regulations, including terminating the lease or rescinding approval of the Tribal regulations and reassuming lease approval responsibilities. Moreover, the Secretary continues to review, approve, and monitor individual Indian land leases and other types of leases not covered under the Tribal regulations according to the Part 162 regulations.

Accordingly, the Federal and Tribal interests weigh heavily in favor of preemption of State and local taxes on lease-related activities and interests, regardless of whether the lease is governed by Tribal leasing regulations or Part 162. Improvements, activities, and leasehold or possessory interests may be subject to taxation by the Pala Band of Mission Indians.

Bryan Newland,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

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Forthcoming Fiscal Year 2023 Living Language Grant Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Interior.

ACTION: Announcement.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary of the Interior—Indian Affairs, through the Office of Indian Economic Development (OIED), announces a forthcoming fiscal year (FY) 2023 Living Language Grant Program (LLGP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in advance of publication on *Grants.gov*. The FY 2023 LLGP will fund Native language immersion projects that support a cohesive Tribal community approach through collaborative instruction based on current language immersion models. The OIED aims to publish the NOFO and allow submission of applications in May 2023.

DATES: Proposals must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. EST by the deadline indicated in the NOFO and posting on *Grants.gov*.

ADDRESSES: Proposals must be submitted to <https://www.Grants.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dennis Wilson, Grant Management Specialist, Office of Indian Economic