

balances responses to competing legal mandates, the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Bonneville Power Administration are proposing policy level changes in Columbia Basin salmon and steelhead fish hatchery production. These proposals are contained in the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Impacts of Artificial Salmon and Steelhead Production Strategies in the Columbia Basin.

#### A. Development of the Draft EIS

This draft PEIS has been developed cooperatively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Division (lead agency); the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Bonneville Power Administration.

In the development of this draft PEIS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has initiated action to assure compliance with the purpose and intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. Extensive scoping activities were undertaken preparatory to developing the EIS with a variety of Federal, State, and local entities. A Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 25, 1994.

Key issues addressed in this draft PEIS are identified as the effects that implementation of various alternatives would have upon (1) production for fisheries, (2) fish stock diversity, and (3) social and economic conditions.

#### B. Alternatives Analyzed in the Draft EIS

The draft PEIS examines a range of alternatives from closure of all or most fish hatcheries to abandoning most fish habitat improvement programs and relying almost exclusively on increased artificial production. The preferred action proposes systemwide, policy-level decisions to better meet competing fishery obligations and mandates. Key components include:

- Limiting overall basin artificial production to current levels or very small increases,
- Shifting some emphasis of outplanting strategies from downstream (below Bonneville Dam) to the upstream and/or tributary streams,
- Implementing measures to more fully assess risks where site specific hatchery management changes are contemplated,
- Establishing an enhanced natural production objective, and
- Proposing aggressive subbasin planning and monitoring for hatchery programs and adaptive management

measures for hatchery practices where indicated.

At the programmatic or systemwide level, the PEIS frames the policy level issues associated with the proposed actions and discusses the cumulative impact issues within the basin's salmon and steelhead mainstream migration corridor.

Dated: December 13, 1996.

Michael J. Spear,

William W. Stelle, Jr.,

*For the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:*

Dated: December 19, 1996.

*For the National Marine Fisheries Service:*

[FR Doc. 96-32925 Filed 12-26-96; 8:45 am]

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### **Preparation of a joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for Federal and State Actions Associated with Furthering the Purposes of the September 28, 1996, Agreement Between the United States, State of California, and MAXXAM, Inc. and its Subsidiary, Pacific Lumber Company**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior. (Lead Agency)

Cooperating Agencies:

National Marine Fisheries Service,  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Forest Service, Agriculture  
Bureau of Land Management, Interior  
California State Resources Agency  
California State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
California State Department of Fish and Game

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (collectively "the Services"), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and California Resources Agency (Agency), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) intend to gather information necessary for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/ Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIS/EIR will consider the Federal and State actions associated with the September 28, 1996 agreement, (agreement) namely:

(1) Transfer of the Headwaters Forest and the Elk Head Forest and adjacent forest lands, totaling approximately 7,500 acres, to the United States and California in exchange for (i) the Elk

River Exchange Property (described below), and (ii) property and other consideration from both the United States and California (including cash) having an aggregate fair market value of \$300 million;

(2) Acquisition by the United States and California of the approximately 9,600-acre Elk River Timber Company property through exchange for up to 10,000 acres of National Forest System lands in the Eldorado, Plumas, Stanislaus, and Tahoe National Forests or other considerations;

(3) Transfer of approximately 7,775 acres of the Elk River Timber Lands (the Elk River Exchanged Property) to the Pacific Lumber Company and its parent MAXXAM, Inc. in return for acquisition of the Headwaters Forest and Elk Head Forest; with the remaining approximately 1,825 acres of the Elk River Timber lands becoming part of the Headwaters-Elk Head Reserve;

(4) Issuance of an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act (Act) by the Services in anticipation of a permit application by The Pacific Lumber Company (a subsidiary of MAXXAM, Inc.) to take federally listed species and requesting assurances regarding other species occurring or potentially occurring on the remaining lands of The Pacific Lumber Company, the Elk River Property, and any other timberlands or timber harvesting rights acquired by Pacific Lumber and its parent MAXXAM, Inc. as a result of the above described transactions; and

(5) Approval of The Pacific Lumber Company's Sustained Yield Plan (SYP) by CDF including consideration of conservation measures or plans addressing State-listed species.

The EIS/EIR will also consider any actions by other Federal or State agencies that are necessary or appropriate to perform the agreement.

This notice is being furnished pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing The Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (40 CFR sections 1501.7 and 1508.22) to obtain suggestions and information from other agencies and the public on the scope of issues and alternatives to be considered in preparation of the EIS.

To satisfy both Federal and State environmental policy act requirements, the above Federal agencies and California agencies are conducting a joint scoping process for the preparation of environmental documents. In order to expedite the planning process, the above agencies request all scoping

comments to this notice be received by February 10, 1997.

**DATES:** As an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the scope of the EIS, public scoping meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Thursday, January 16, 1997, Oakland Convention Center, West Hall, 550 Tenth Street (at Broadway), Oakland, California
- Thursday, January 23, 1997, Red Lion Hotel, 3100 Camino del Rio Court, Bakersfield, California
- Tuesday, January 28, 1997, Red Lion Hotel, 1830 Hilltop Drive, Redding, California
- Thursday, January 30, 1997, Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento, California
- Wednesday, February 5, 1997, Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, Franceschi Hall, 3750 Harris Street, Eureka, California

All scoping meetings will be held from 1:00 p.m. to no later than 4:00 p.m., and from 6:00 p.m. to no later than 9:00 p.m.

**ADDRESS:** Comments regarding the scope of the EIS should be addressed to Mr. Bruce Halstead, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1125 16th Street, Room 209, Arcata, CA 95521-5582. Comments should be received on or before January 31, 1997, at the above address. Written comments may also be sent by facsimile to (707) 822-8136. Comments received will be available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday) at the above office; please call for an appointment.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dennis Mackey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181, Telephone: (503) 231-6241. Specific information regarding the location of the National Forest System lands proposed for exchange may be obtained from Phil Bayles, 630, Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94111, (415) 705-2772.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** MAXXAM, Inc. and its subsidiary, Pacific Lumber Company own and manage approximately 200,000 acres of commercial forest land in Northern California. Pacific Lumber Company and MAXXAM Corporation signed an agreement on September 28, 1996, with the United States, and the State of California. The agreement calls for transfer of approximately 7,500 acres of private forest lands in the Headwaters and Elk Head forests to State and Federal ownership in exchange for the Elk River Exchange Property and a combination of cash and yet to be determined assets, valued at \$300

million. The Federal and State assets currently proposed for exchange include the following, however, it should be noted these may change during the planning process and any changes would be disclosed in the appropriate environmental documents:

- Approximately 2,967 acres of timber land in Humboldt County, California (estimated to contain 11 million board feet of timber) managed by the BLM,
- Federal mineral interests in California, managed by BLM, many of which are located in Kern County,
- Approximately 30 acres of excess land adjacent to Chet Holifield Federal Office in Laguna Niguel, California,
- Not more than 17,000 acres of National Forest System lands are proposed for exchange to Elk River Timber Company for a portion of the lands known as the Elk River Timber Company property. The 17,000 acres are identified on four National Forests, including 7,000 on the Eldorado National Forest, 2,000 on the Plumas National Forest, 7,000 on the Stanislaus National Forest, and 1,000 on the Tahoe National Forest. The precise acreage that would actually be exchanged will be that amount equaling approximately \$30,000,000 in value based on actual appraisal, current at the time of decision. Cash or other valuable considerations up to \$30,000,000 in value may be substituted, and
- Approximately 9,013 acres of State property within the Latour State Forest, 1,100 acres of State agricultural land in San Bernardino County, approximately 1,313 acres (in 18 parcels, 13 of which are less than 40 acres) of State General Surplus property, including the 488-acre California Department of Forestry (CDF) Black Mountain property, 140-acre CDF Deadwood Camp property, and 415-acre Rector Canyon property, 5 parcels approximating 110 acres within the city limits of Eureka, and 25 parcels of surplus Caltrans property (24 of which are less than 10 acres), including the Transbay Bus Terminal.

The USFS, pursuant to National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976, and BLM, pursuant to Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 are agencies authorized to acquire, excess, exchange, and transfer Federal lands and will be the agencies primarily responsible for furthering the federal realty actions.

The agreement also calls for the expedited development and submission by Pacific Lumber Company and processing by the Services of an application for an incidental take permit, which would be accompanied by a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP),

pursuant to the provisions of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act. Under the terms of the agreement, Pacific Lumber Company is to develop a multi-species habitat conservation plan for forested lands currently within their ownership, as well as other lands which would be acquired by Pacific Lumber under the agreement. It is anticipated that the permit application for incidental take will include the threatened northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), the threatened marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus marmoratus*), the threatened bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and the endangered American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) as well as an agreement covering conservation of unlisted species including the proposed threatened steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and proposed threatened coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*).

Once completed, it is expected that Pacific Lumber Company will submit the HCP as part of the incidental take permit application process, as required under the provisions of section 10(a)(2)(A) of the Act. The Service and NMFS will evaluate the incidental take permit application and associated HCP in accordance with section 10(a)(2)(B) of the Act, and its implementing regulations. The environmental review of the HCP will be conducted in accordance with the Act and the requirements of NEPA and its implementing regulations. A No Action/No Project alternative will be considered consistent with the requirements of NEPA and CEQA. As a cooperating agency EPA will also review the plan for consistency with the provisions of the Clean Water Act. Several streams in watersheds in which Pacific Lumber owns land are listed as water quality limited under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. If feasible, EPA will work with Pacific Lumber Company, sister Federal Agencies, the State, and the public to address water quality issues of these limited waterbodies at the same time the HCP and SYP are developed.

As a party to the agreement, the Agency has agreed to the expedited development and submission by Pacific Lumber and processing by the CDF of a Sustained Yield Plan pursuant to the provisions under Article 6.75 of the California Forest Practice Rules including consideration of conservation measures or plans addressing State-listed species under the California Endangered Species Act. Land transactions proposed under the agreement may be subject to the approval of the Eureka City Council, California Transportation Commission,

or the State of California legislature. The State-sponsored actions are being reviewed under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Dated: December 19, 1996.

Michael J. Spear,

*Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-32926 Filed 12-26-96; 8:45 am]

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## Geological Survey

### Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Public Meetings of the FGDC Facilities Working Group

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to invite public participation in meetings of the FGDC Facilities Working Group and subgroups. The major topics for this meeting are: development of a Facility/Installation ID standard; development of a utility data content standard; and development of an environmental hazard data content standard, and an accuracy standard for facility mapping.

**TIME AND PLACE:** 10 February 1997, from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Headquarters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in Room 8222D of the Pulaski Building, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The Pulaski building is located just a few blocks west of Union Station. The standards development project teams will also meet in the same place at the following times: the Facility ID and Environmental Hazards Standards Teams will meet from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and the Utilities Standard Team will meet from 3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Fox, FGDC Secretariat, U.S. Geological Survey, 590 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192; telephone (703) 648-5514; facsimile (703) 648-5755; Internet "gdc@usgs.gov".

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FGDC is a committee of Federal agencies engaged in geospatial activities. The FGDC Facilities Working Group specifically focuses on geospatial data issues related to facilities and facility management. A facility is an entity with location, deliberately established as a site for designated activities. A facility database might describe a factory, a military base, a college, a hospital, a power plant, a fishery, a national park, an office building, a space command center, or a prison. The database for a

complex facility may describe multiple functions or missions, multiple buildings, or even a county, town, or city. The objectives of the Working Group are to: promote standards of accuracy and currentness in facilities data which is financed in whole in part by Federal funds; exchange information on technological improvements for collecting facilities data; encourage the Federal and non-Federal community to identify and adopt standards and specifications for facilities data; and to promote the sharing of facilities data among Federal and non-Federal organizations

Dated: December 19, 1996.

Richard E. Witmer,

*Acting Chief, National Mapping Division.*

[FR Doc. 96-33026 Filed 12-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

## Bureau of Land Management

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

### Alaska; Notice for Publication, AA-9243; Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 680.8 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 1 S., R. 95 W.,  
Sec. 31.

T. 2 S., R. 96 W.,  
Sec. 1;  
Sec. 2.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the Anchorage Daily News. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 ((907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until January 27, 1997 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the

requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

*Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.*

[FR Doc. 96-32928 Filed 12-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

[NM-932-1320-7; OKNM 91571, et al.]

## Notice of Coal Lease Offering; Oklahoma

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of competitive coal lease sale by sealed bid.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in the tracts described below in Le Flore County, Oklahoma, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*), and the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1977.

**DATES:** The lease sale will be held at 10:00 a.m., January 31, 1997. Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 10:00 a.m., January 31, 1997. Each bid should be clearly identified by tract and/or serial number on the outside of the envelope containing the bid(s).

**ADDRESSES:** The lease sale will be held in the Bureau of Land Management Conference Room, Tulsa District Office, 7906 E. 33rd Street, Suite 121, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Cashier, Tulsa District Office, Attention: Laura Stich, 7906 E. 33rd Street, Suite 121, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Stuckey, BLM, Tulsa District Office, (918) 621-4115.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The tracts will be leased to the qualified bidder(s) submitting the highest cash offer provided that the high bid meets the fair market value determination of the coal resource. The minimum bid for these tracts is \$100.00 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100.00 per acre or fraction thereof, will be considered. This \$100.00 per acre is a regulatory minimum, and is not intended to reflect fair market value of the tracts. Bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt, or be hand-delivered. The cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after the time specified above will not be considered. The fair market value of each tract will be