

surplus Federal property reviewed by HUD for suitability for possible use to assist the homeless.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 3, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clifford Taffet, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7262, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-1234; TTY number for the hearing- and speech-impaired (202) 708-2565, (these telephone numbers are not toll-free), or call the toll-free Title V information line at 1-800-927-7588.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the December 12, 1998, court order in *National Coalition for the Homeless v. Veterans Administration*, No. 88-2503-OG (D.D.C.), HUD publishes as Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: August 25, 1999.

Fred Karnas, Jr.,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development.

[FR Doc. 99-22487 Filed 9-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the Arnaudo Brothers, Wathen-Castanos, Kaufman and Broad Development Sites in Merced County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and receipt of application.

SUMMARY: The partnership of Arnaudo Brothers and the public corporations of Wathen-Castanos and Kaufman and Broad (collectively, the Applicants) have applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The Service proposes to issue a 5-year permit to the Applicants that would authorize take of the San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) (kit fox) incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Such take would occur during the development of 170 acres of

nonnative grassland and dry-farmed fields for residential and other uses. This project would permanently eliminate 170 acres of suitable habitat for the kit fox.

We request comments from the public on the permit application, and an Environmental Assessment, which are available for review. The permit application includes the proposed Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan) and an accompanying Implementing Agreement. The Plan describes the proposed project and the measures that the Applicant would undertake to minimize and mitigate take of the kit fox.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Mr. Wayne White, Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, W-2605, Sacramento, California 95825. Comments may be sent by facsimile to (916) 414-6710.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ann Chrisney, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or call (916) 414-6600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

You may obtain copies of these documents for review by contacting the above office. Documents also will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Background

Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act and Federal regulation prohibit the "take" of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened, respectively. Take of listed fish or wildlife is defined under the Act to include kill, harm, or harass. The Service may, under limited circumstances, issue permits to authorize incidental take; i.e., take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are found in 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively.

The Applicants have proposed four project sites for development within the Santa Nella Community Specific Plan

Area. All of the project sites are located between Interstate 5 and the San Luis Reservoir in western Merced County, California. Typical land uses in the area surrounding the project sites are dryland farming, grazing and some residential development. The California Aqueduct and Delta-Mendota Canals are adjacent to the project sites. The San Luis Reservoir and O'Neill Forebay are west of the project sites. The Applicants propose the following land uses at the project sites: residential development, some commercial development, and open space community parks. The proposed number of home sites per acre range from 3.2 to 5.5.

Biologists surveyed the project sites for special-status plants and wildlife in 1998. Based on these surveys and previous knowledge of the area, the Service concluded that the project may result in the take of one federally listed species, the endangered San Joaquin kit fox.

The Applicants propose to implement the following measures to minimize and mitigate take of the San Joaquin kit fox: (1) conduct surveys and implement avoidance measures before and during construction activities; and (2) mitigate the loss of habitat at a 3:1 ratio (mitigation:impact) by purchasing a conservation easement for, or fee title to, 510 acres of off-site suitable kit fox habitat in the Santa Nella region. The Applicants will finance the off-site mitigation by establishing a Kit Fox Mitigation Account to be held by an appropriate entity.

The Environmental Assessment considers the environmental consequences of two alternatives in addition to the Proposed Project Alternative. The Proposed Project Alternative consists of the issuance of an incidental take permit and implementation of the Plan and its implementing Agreement, which includes measures to minimize and mitigate impacts of the project on the San Joaquin kit fox. Under the No Action Alternative, the Service would issue a permit and the project area would continue to be dry-land farmed, remain as nonnative grassland or be converted to irrigated row crops with the possibility of future adjacent development. This alternative would result in less habitat value for the kit fox than the off-site mitigation proposed under the Proposed Project Alternative. We also considered a Reduced Density Alternative. Compared to the Proposed Project, this alternative did not provide any significantly improved on-site habitat for kit fox.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species

Act and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). We will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act regulations and section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act. If we determine that those requirements are met, we will issue a permit to the Applicants for the incidental take of the San Joaquin kit fox. Our final permit decision will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: August 27, 1999.

Elizabeth H. Stevens,
Deputy Manager, California/Nevada
Operations Office, Fish and Wildlife Service,
Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 99-22987 Filed 9-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-320-1330-01-24 1A]

OMB Approval Number 1004-0103; Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposed collection of information listed below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). On April 7, 1999, BLM published a notice in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 16994) requesting comments on this proposed collection. The comment period ended on June 7, 1999. BLM received no comments from the public in response to that notice. Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms and explanatory material may be obtained by contacting the BLM clearance officer at the telephone number listed below. OMB is required to respond within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration, your comments and suggestions on the requirement should be sent directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Interior Department Desk Officer (1004-0103), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503, telephone (202) 395-7340. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Bureau Clearance Officer (WO-630), 1849 C St., NW, Mail Stop 401 LS, Washington, DC 20240.

Nature of Comments

We specifically request your comments on the following:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the Bureau of Land Management, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of BLM's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of collecting the information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Mineral Materials Disposal.

OMB Clearance No.: 1004-0103.

Abstract: BLM proposes to extend the currently approved collection of information for the disposal through sale of mineral materials, such as sand, gravel, and petrified wood, on public lands. BLM uses the information that applicants provide to: (1) determine if the sale of the mineral materials is in the public interest, (2) mitigate any environmental impacts associated with mineral development, (3) get fair market value for the material sold, and (4) prevent the trespass removal of the resource. The collection also includes a sale contract form, BLM 3600-1.

Bureau Form: 3600-1 (combines forms 3600-4, Contract for Cash Sale of Mineral Materials, Appraised at Less Than \$2,000; and 3600-5, Contract for the Sale of Units of Materials, Appraised at \$2,000 or More)

Frequency: Once or twice per year.

Description of Respondents: Respondents are operators desiring sand, gravel, stone, and other mineral materials from lands under BLM jurisdiction.

Annual Respondents: 2,700.

Annual Responses: 2,800.

Annual Burden Hours: 1,475.

Collection Clearance Officer: Carole Smith, (202) 452-0367.

Dated: August 12, 1999.

Carole J. Smith,

Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-22977 Filed 9-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-700-99-5440-00-C023]

Notice of Availability

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior; Forest Service, Agriculture. Responsible Officials: Ann Morgan, State Director, Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2850 Youngfield, Denver, CO 80215 and Robert L. Storch, Forest Supervisor, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests, U.S. Forest Service, 2250 US Hwy 50, Delta, CO 81416.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of North Fork Coal Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Comments on the DEIS, Maximum Economic Recovery Report, and Fair Market Value; for lease and exploration license applications of Federal coal in Delta and Gunnison Counties, Colorado (COC61209, COC61357, COC61945).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (FS) announce the availability of the North Fork Coal DEIS for the Iron Point and Elk Creek Coal Lease Tracts for competitive leasing and the Iron Point Coal Exploration license for exploration drilling in accordance with 43 CFR 3425 and 3410. The scheduled date and place for a public hearing pursuant to 43 CFR 3425.4 is announced. The purpose of the hearing is to solicit comments on the DEIS and on the fair market value (FMV) and Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) of the proposed lease tract.

DATES: The public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. MDT, on October 14, 1999, at the Hotchkiss High School, Hotchkiss, Colorado. To assist the public in formulating their comments, there will also be an informal open house on October 7, 1999, starting at 7:30 p.m. MDT, at the Hotchkiss High School, Hotchkiss, Colorado to answer questions regarding the organization and technical content of the DEIS. Written comments on the DEIS, fair market value and maximum economic recovery will be accepted for 60 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes their Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. We expect the EPA notice will be published on September 3, 1999. Written comments on the DEIS, fair market value and maximum economic recovery must be received by November 3, 1999.