

admitting fault or liability, Golden Empire Mortgage, Inc. (GEM) agreed to pay a civil money penalty. In addition, GEM agreed to indemnify HUD for any losses incurred on 12 loans.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: GEM failed to notify HUD of violations which were discovered by GEM's own quality control review; GEM failed to notify HUD that certain fraudulent documents were discovered during GEM's quality control review; GEM permitted straw buyers to qualify for HUD/FHA insured mortgages; GEM failed to require that all borrowers meet their required investment; GEM failed to correctly calculate the borrower's income in certain loans; and GEM failed to require that all repairs and/or valuation conditions were satisfied.

6. Jack Johnson and Associates, Inc., d/b/a Home Equity Mortgage, Riverside, CA

[Docket No. 00-1348-MR]

Action: Settlement Agreement signed February 7, 2002. The Board withdrew the HUD/FHA approval of JJA for a period of five years. Without admitting fault or liability, Jack Johnson and Associates, Inc. (JJA), doing business as (d/b/a) Home Equity Mortgage agreed to pay a civil money penalty.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: JJA failed to file annual loan origination reports for 1992-1999, which supplements the requirements of the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act; JJA failed to maintain and implement a quality control plan in compliance with HUD requirements; JJA permitted an investor to circumvent the restrictions on FHA insured loans to investors; JJA permitted false information to be used in originating loans and obtaining HUD/FHA mortgage insurance; and JJA allowed non-employees to take loan applications for three FHA-insured loans.

7. Pac West Financial Corporation, Ontario, CA

[Docket No. 01-1406-MR]

Action: Settlement Agreement signed January 11, 2002. Without admitting fault or liability, Pac West Financial Corporation (PWF) agreed to pay a civil money penalty. In addition, PWF agreed to indemnify HUD for any losses incurred on eight loans.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: PWF failed to maintain and implement a Quality Control Plan in compliance with HUD

requirements; PWF failed to file annual reports regarding loan activity; PWF used falsified documentation and/or conflicting information in originating 8 loans and obtaining HUD/FHA mortgage insurance; PWF allowed mortgagors to sign loan documents in blank form in two cases; and PWF failed to ensure that gift letters met HUD requirements in 18 loans.

8. Ron Simpson & Associates d/b/a Rockwell Mortgage Company, Farmington Hills, MI

[Docket No. 011497-MR]

Action: Settlement Agreement signed March 7, 2002. Without admitting fault or liability, Ron Simpson & Associates, d/b/a Rockwell Mortgage Company (RMC), agreed to pay a civil money penalty.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: RMC employed loan officers who were not exclusive employees; RMC failed to implement and maintain a Quality Control Plan in complete conformity with HUD/FHA requirements; RMC failed to maintain complete origination files and; RMC charged borrowers fees not permitted by HUD.

9. Southern Mortgage Investment Corporation, Winter Park, FL

[Docket No. 01-1480-MR]

Action: In a letter dated May 8, 2002, the Board withdrew the HUD/FHA approval of Southern Mortgage Investment Corporation (SMIC) approval for three years. In addition, they agreed to pay a civil money penalty.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: SMIC failed to establish and maintain a Quality Control Plan for the origination of HUD/FHA insured mortgages; SMIC allowed the handling of loan documents by an interested third party; and SMIC failed to maintain complete loan files.

10. Underline, Inc., d/b/a Advantage Mortgage Services, Santa Ana, CA

[Docket No. 01-1604-MR]

Action: Settlement Agreement was signed on March 20, 2002. Without admitting fault or liability, Underline, Inc.(UI) d/b/a/ Advantage Mortgage Services agreed to pay a civil money penalty.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD requirements: UI allowed non-employees to originate HUD/FHA insured loans, and UI failed to implement a Quality Control Plan in

compliance with HUD requirements by allowing non-employees to originate HUD/FHA insured loans.

11. Utah Mortgage Loan Corporation, Midvale, UT

[Docket No. 00-1342-MR]

Action: Settlement Agreement letter was signed February 9, 2002. Without admitting fault or liability, Utah Mortgage Loan Corporation (UMLC) agreed to pay a civil money penalty.

Cause: The Board took this action based on the following violations of HUD/FHA requirements: UMLC failed to maintain and implement a Quality Control Plan in compliance with HUD requirements; UMLC permitted non-UMLC employees to originate FHA loan applications; UMLC failed to pay the operating expenses of an employee; UMLC paid unallowable fees/compensation in connection with HUD/FHA insured mortgages to non-employees; UMLC paid origination commissions to UMLC Direct Endorsement Underwriter who also performed the Quality Control Audits on HUD/FHA loans; and UMLC leased office space to another entity that was not physically separate and apart from UMLC.

Dated: February 6, 2003.

John C. Weicher,

Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Chairman, Mortgagee Review Board.

[FR Doc. 03-4037 Filed 2-19-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-27-P

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge in Northwestern Minnesota.

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations, for the Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge located in Marshall County, Minnesota.

The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration

Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*), to achieve the following:

- (1) Advise other agencies and the public of our intentions, and
- (2) Obtain additional suggestions and information on the scope of alternatives and impacts to be considered.

Open house style meetings and focus group meetings will also be held throughout the scoping phase of the CCP development process. In addition, the Service is inviting comments on archaeological, historic, and traditional cultural sites in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

Special mailings, newspaper articles, and other media announcements will inform people of the opportunities for written input throughout the CCP planning process. Information on the CCP planning process will be posted on the Internet at <http://www.midwest.fws.gov/planning/agassiz.htm>

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Refuge Manager, Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, 22996 290th Street NE., Middle River, MN 56737. Comments may also be submitted electronically at r3planning@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Refuge Manager, Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Phone: (218)-449-4115.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Federal Law, all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System are to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. The CCP guides management decisions and identifies refuge goals, long-range objectives, and strategies for achieving refuge purposes.

The CCP planning process will consider many elements, including wildlife and habitat management, habitat protection and acquisition, wilderness preservation, public recreational activities, industrial use, and cultural resource preservation. Public input into this planning process is essential.

The CCP will provide other agencies and the public with a clear understanding of the desired conditions for the Refuge and how the Service will implement management strategies.

The Service will prepare in Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with procedures for implementing NEPA found in the Departmental Manual 516 DM 6, Appendix 1.

The Service will contract for a cultural resources overview study in support of the comprehensive conservation plan. The professional study will identify known sites on the refuge. We are also asking the public to

identify any cultural sites that are important to them.

Review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), other appropriate Federal laws and regulations, and Service policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations.

We estimate that the draft environmental documents will be available in late 2003.

Dated: November 8, 2002.

William F. Hartwig,
Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 03-4027 Filed 2-19-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-060-1320-EL, WYW150210, WYW150318, WYW151134, WYW151643, WYW154001]

Notice of Availability of South Powder River Basin Coal Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Federal Coal Notice of Hearing, WY

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on four maintenance lease applications received for five Federal coal tracts in the decertified Powder River Federal Coal Production Region, Wyoming, and Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the implementing regulations, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the South Powder River Basin Coal DEIS and announces a public hearing pursuant to 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3425.4.

The DEIS analyzes and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of issuing five Federal coal leases in the Wyoming portion of the Powder River Basin. The tracts are being considered for sale as a result of the following coal lease applications received from existing mines in the Wyoming Powder River Basin:

- On March 10, 2000, Powder River Coal Company applied for a maintenance coal lease for approximately 4,500 acres (approximately 564 million recoverable tons of coal) in two tracts adjacent to the

North Antelope/Rochelle Mine Complex in Campbell County, Wyoming. The tracts, which are referred to as the NARO North Lease by Application (LBA) Tract and the NARO South LBA Tract, were assigned case numbers WYW150210 and WYW154001, respectively;

- On March 23, 2000, Ark Land Company applied for a maintenance coal lease for approximately 2,799.5 acres (approximately 383.6 million in-place tons of coal) adjacent to the Black Thunder Mine in Campbell County, Wyoming. The tract, which is referred to as the Little Thunder LBA Tract, was assigned case number WYW150318.

- On June 14, 2001, Ark Land Company filed an application to modify the Little Thunder LBA Tract. As currently filed, the tract includes approximately 3449.3 acres and 440 million tons of recoverable coal reserves;

- On July 28, 2000, Triton Coal Company applied for a maintenance coal lease for approximately 1870.6 acres (approximately 173.2 million in-place tons of coal) adjacent to the North Rochelle Mine in Campbell County, Wyoming. The tract, which is referred to as the West Roundup LBA Tract, was assigned case number WYW151134; and,

- On September 12, 2000, Antelope Coal Company applied for a maintenance coal lease for approximately 3,500 acres (approximately 292.5 million in-place tons of coal) adjacent to the Antelope Mine in Campbell and Converse Counties, Wyoming. The tract, which is referred to as the West Antelope LBA Tract, was assigned case number WYW151643.

- On June 27, 2001, Antelope Coal Company filed an application to modify the West Antelope LBA Tract. As currently filed, the tract includes approximately 3,542 acres and 293.9 million tons of in place coal reserves.

The purpose of the public hearing is to solicit comments on the DEIS from the public on the proposed competitive sales of the Federal coal included in the NARO North, NARO South, Little Thunder, West Roundup, and West Antelope LBA tracts, and on the fair market value and maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal included in the five tracts.

DATES: Written comments on the DEIS will be accepted for 60 days following the date that EPA publishes their NOA of the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. Requests to be included on the mailing list and to receive copies of the DEIS and notification of the comment period