

was filed in good faith, (2) the granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species,

and (3) the granted permit would be consistent with the purposes and policy

set forth in section 2 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

| Permit No.   | Applicant                     | Receipt of application<br>Federal Register<br>notice | Permit issuance<br>date |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 116434 ..... | Erie Zoological Society ..... | 70 FR 5875; February 3, 2006 .....                   | March 30, 2006.         |
| 114024 ..... | Brice P. Noonan .....         | 71 FR 5875; February 3, 2006 .....                   | April 5, 2006.          |

Dated: April 14, 2006.

**Michael L. Carpenter,**  
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits,  
Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. E6-6870 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-830-1820-XP-CRES]

#### Proposed Information Collection— National Landscape Conservation System

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

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) NLCS survey will provide us with social science input to support planning for facilities, programs, services, and interpretive exhibits. The BLM anticipates that the information we collect could lead to revisions in processes, policies, and improvement in serving the American public. The study will use the surveys to: (1) Better understand the needs and desires of the public; and (2) respond to those needs and desires accordingly.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before July 5, 2006. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to: Regulatory Affairs Group (WO-630), Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, Virginia 22153.

You may send comments via Internet to: [comments\\_washington@blm.gov](mailto:comments_washington@blm.gov). Please include "ATTN: 1004-XXXX" and your name and address with your comments.

You may deliver comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Tony Mayfield, Bureau of

Land Management, Business and Fiscal Resources, Division of Evaluations, on (202) 452-5166. Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Mr. Mayfield.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.12(a), BLM must provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a proposed collection of information to solicit comments on: (1) The practical utility of the information being gathered; (2) the accuracy of the burden hour estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden to respondents, including use of automated information collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Interior's Department-wide Customer and Citizen-Centered Service Policy admonishes its bureaus and offices to consult and communicate with customers to integrate their feedback into our programs and business processes in order to improve our service to them. Executive Order (E.O.) 12862 (September 11, 1993) aimed at "ensuring the Federal Government provides the highest quality service possible to the American people" fortifies our mandate by the Secretary of the Interior and the Administration to provide "citizen-centered government."

**Title:** BLM National Landscape Conservation System Survey.

**Bureau Form Number:** None.

**OMB Control Number:** TBD.

**Type of Request:** New Collection.

**Description of Need:** BLM will request approval of an information collection of NLCS surveys so that we may better fulfill our responsibilities to provide excellence in government by proactively consulting with those we serve to identify opportunities to improve our information, services, and products to better meeting their needs. These surveys will be used to answer certain questions on: Travel choices and factors that influence decisions that individuals make prior to, during, or following their trips to NLCS area, such as use of overnight accommodations, trip route,

trip origin, trip destination(s), payment of entrance/user fees, ability to obtain tickets, and length of trip. Also, there will be questions about the types of recreation activities that individuals participate in during their visits to NLCS areas. These activities vary depending on the type of resource, but examples include picnicking, camping, driving for pleasure, rafting, biking, angling, canoeing, horseback riding, visiting cultural/historical sites, swimming, studying nature, taking photographs, and historical re-enactments. Also, there will be questions about individual perceptions of the natural, social, and cultural environments in the NLCS areas that they visit. This includes perceptions of the values and benefits of the areas, observations about overall experiences, interactions with other customers, natural resources, cultural resources, or BLM employees. Lastly, there will be questions about individual opinions on the management of NLCS areas (including attitudes toward alternative management actions and policies), and natural, cultural, and social aspects of NLCS.

**Automated data collection:** At this time, we will not be gathering information in an automated way.

**Description of Respondents:** This proposal seeks approval to collect information from BLM customers visiting areas within the NLCS, which includes National Monuments, National Science and Historical Trails, Wilderness Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and Wilderness Study Areas. Participating offices in 2006 include BLM Wyoming and BLM Oregon management of the natural, cultural, and social aspects of NLCS.

**Estimated average number of respondents:** 1800.

**Estimated average number of responses:** 1260.

**Estimated average burden hours per response:** 20 minutes.

**Frequency of Response:** 1 time per respondent.

**Estimated Annual reporting burden:** 420.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All

comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 28, 2006.

**Ted R. Hudson,**

*Bureau of Land Management, Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 06-4258 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AK-025-05-1610-DP-089L]

#### Notice of Availability of Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Planning Area.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS will be accepted until 90 calendar days after the date the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes its NOA in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by the following methods:

- Email: [ksp\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:ksp_comments@blm.gov).
- Mail: Bureau of Land Management, Central Yukon Field Office, ATTN: Kobuk-Seward Peninsula RMP, 1150 University Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99709

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeanie Cole, (907) 474-2340, [jeanie\\_cole@ak.blm.gov](mailto:jeanie_cole@ak.blm.gov) or in writing to the address listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) covers approximately 13.1 million acres of BLM-managed land in northwestern Alaska. The Northwest Management Framework Plan (MFP), a land use plan that guides current management of the area, was completed in 1982. BLM published a Notice of Intent to prepare an RMP/EIS in the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2004. A 90-day formal scoping period began with the publication of that notice. Public meetings were held in nine communities, and the following primary management concerns were identified: (1) How should recreation be managed to provide and maintain a diversity of experiences on BLM-managed lands while protecting subsistence resources and opportunity, and what level of commercial recreational use is appropriate; (2) how should access trails and roads for the use of OHVs for various purposes, including recreation, commercial use, subsistence, and casual use, be managed while protecting natural and cultural resources; (3) what areas, if any, should be made available for mineral exploration and development; and (4) what areas, if any, should be recommended for special designations.

This draft RMP/EIS presents four alternatives to address the issues identified in scoping: a No Action Alternative (Alternative A), an Alternative that emphasizes resource development (Alternative B), one that emphasizes conservation (Alternative C), and the agency Preferred Alternative (Alternative D), which has elements of B and C. The No Action Alternative would continue existing management. Alternative B would emphasize resource development. Under this alternative, the entire planning area would be open to a variety of land and resource uses. Alternative C would emphasize conservation of natural resources. Under this alternative, some resource uses or activities be excluded over large areas. The Preferred Alternative calls for a balance between development and the conservation of sensitive resources; some resource uses or activities would be excluded in limited areas. The lifting of existing withdrawals may be accomplished through actions approved by the Secretary. As required by section 204(c)(2) of FLPMA, however, withdrawals of areas greater than 5,000 acres in size require the approval of Congress.

As required by 43 CFR 1610.7-2, areas with potential for designation as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) and protective management have been considered during the planning process. Several potential areas are considered for designation in two alternatives. Boundaries, size, and management direction within potential ACECs vary by alternative. The following tables illustrate the names and acreages of each area and provide summary descriptions of resource use limitations for Alternatives C and D.

TABLE 1.—PROPOSED ACECS UNDER ALTERNATIVE C

| Name of area  | Acreage           | Resource use limitations   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| Nulato Hills .....  | 2 million .....   | Closed to locatable and leasable mineral entry; Limited OHV designation, ROW avoidance area, Retain in Federal ownership, Closed to grazing, FLPMA and Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act leases not allowed. |
| Western Arctic Caribou Herd calving and insect relief ACEC. | 2.9 million ..... | Same as Nulato Hills.  |
| Kigluaik ACEC .....   | 298,000 .....     | Same as Nulato Hills, plus:<br>Communication site rights-of-way (ROW) limited to existing sites;<br>Level of commercial recreational use may be limited; Closed to mineral material disposal.                        |
| McCarthy's Marsh .....                                      | 131,000 .....     | Same as Nulato Hills, plus:<br>Closed to mineral material disposal; Level of commercial recreational use may be limited.   |
| Kuzitrin River .....  | 141,000 .....     | Same as Nulato Hills.  |