

Permits, Tongass National Forest, Sherman Creek, City of Juneau, AK.

Summary

EPA continued to express environmental concerns regarding impacts to air quality diesel fuel spill risks to water quality, visual impacts, the feasibility of mitigation and reclamation measures, and the need to minimize impacts associated with effluent discharges. The Final SEIS should provide additional information on evaluation of project component options and mitigation measures.

ERP No. DS-FAA-L51014-WA Rating EC2, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Improvement, South Aviation Support Area, Airport Layout Plan, Airport Master Plan; Updated Information on Master Plan Development Actions, Funding, Section 10 and 404 Permits and NPDES Permit, Port of Seattle, King County, WA.

Summary

EPA expressed reservations/concerns with the conclusion that the conforms to the State Implementation Plan. Should the final conformity determination significantly differ from the updated draft conformity analysis, it may be necessary for the FAA to allow for additional public comments on that analysis prior to making a decision. In particular, an additional public comment period should be considered if the de minimis thresholds have been exceeded for carbon monoxide and/or oxides of nitrogen.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-K65186-NV, Spring Mountains National Recreation Area General Management Plan, Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, Amendment, Implementation, Clark and Nye Counties, NV.

Summary

Review of the FEIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-DOE-L09806-WA, Northwest Regional Power Facility (NRPF), Construction and Operation if a 838 Megawatt (MW) Gas-fired Combustion Turbine Facility, Approval of Permits, Located near the Town of Creston, WA.

Summary

EPA continued to express environmental concerns regarding water quality and wetlands impacts based upon indirect effects and project segmentation. EPA encourages BPA to issue a single EIS with the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission that considers alternative sites for the project.

ERP No. F-FHW-40756-SC, and Greenville Southern Connectors Construction and Operation, I-185 at I-85 south of Donaldson Center Industrial Air Park to I-385 at US 276 and SC-153 Connector from existing SC-153 at I-85 to the Southern Connector, Funding and COE Section 404 Permit, Anderson and Greenville Counties, SC.

Summary

EPA expressed environmental concerns over floodplain crossings and associated impacts, and the loss of terrestrial habitat.

ERP No. F-FRC-L05053-WA, Condit Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2342-005), Relicensing, White Salmon River, Klickitat and Skamania Counties, WA.

Summary

EPA expressed objection to the proposed action based on adverse impacts to fish and other aquatic life in the White Salmon River. EPA also expressed concern over FERC's method of assessing impacts of the proposed alternative.

Dated: May 6, 1997.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5480-1]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or (202) 564-7153. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed April 28, 1997 Through May 2, 1997 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9. Reese (208) 624-3151.

EIS No. 970159, Final EIS, USN, AZ, CA, Yuma Training Range Complex Management, Operation and Development, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Goldwater Range, Yuma and La Paz Cos; and Chocolate Mountain Range, Imperial and Riverside Counties, CA, Due: June 9, 1997, Contact: Ron Pearc (520) 341-3318.

EIS No. 970160, Draft EIS, COE, AZ, Tucson Drainage Area Arizona, Implementation, Reduce Flooding, City of Tucson, Pima County, AZ, Due: June 23, 1997, Contact: William O. Butler (213) 452-3845.

EIS No. 970161, Draft EIS, AFS, MT, Jericho Salvage Timber Sale, Implementation, Salvage Treatments and Temporary Road Construction, Helena National Forest, Helena Ranger District, Powell County, MT, Due: June 23, 1997, Contact: Dan Mainwaring (406) 449-5490.

EIS No. 970162, Draft EIS, UAF, ID, Idaho Enhanced Training Project, Training for the 366th Wing at Mountain Home Air Force Base (AFB), Approval for Rights-of-Way Permit by (BLM) and Airspace Modifications by (FAA), Owyhee County, ID, Due: August 14, 1997, Contact: Brenda Cook (757) 764-6197.

EIS No. 970163, Draft EIS, COE, VA, KY, Levisa Fork/Haysi Dam Project, Implementation, Section 202 General Plan for Flood Damage Reduction, Flood Control Project, Buchanan County, VA and Pike County, KY, Due: June 23, 1997, Contact: A. Benjamin Borda (304) 529-5712.

EIS No. 970164, Final EIS, AFS, CO, Aspen Highlands Ski Area Expansion, Amend to Master Development Plan, COE 404 Permit and Special-Use-Permit, White River National Forest, Aspen Ranger District, Pitkin County, CO, Due: June 9, 1997, Contact: Arthur Bauer (970) 925-3445.

EIS No. 970167, Draft EIS, FHW, RI, Newport Marine Facilities Project, To Develop the Marine Mode of the Intermodal Gateway Transportation Center, Selected siting in various locations within the City of Newport, Towns of Middletown and Portsmouth, Funding, COE Section 404 Permit and US Coast Guard Permit, Aquidneck Island, RI, Due: June 23, 1997, Contact: Daniel Berman (401) 528-4541.

EIS No. 971059, Draft EIS, DOI, TT, Palau Compact Road Construction, Implementation, Funding, Republic of Palau, Babeldaob Island, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Due: June 23, 1997, Contact: Allen Chin (808) 438-6974.

Amended Notices

EIS No. 970152, Draft EIS, AFS, CA, Canyons Project, Implementation, Truckee Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest, Sierra and Nevada Counties, CA, Due: June 16, 1997, Contact: Caryn Hunter (916) 587-3558. Published FR-05-02-97-Due Date Correction.

EIS No. 970153, Final EIS, GSA, MD, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Consolidation of the following: Center for Drug Evaluation and

Research (CDER), Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH), Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) and Office of Commissioner (OC), Site Selection, White Oak Naval Surface Weapons Center, Montgomery, MD, Due: June 2, 1997, Contact: Jag Bhargava (202) 708-7248. Published FR-05-02-97—Due Date Correction.

EIS No. 970154, Draft EIS, AFS, MT, Poorman Project, Implementation, Harvesting and Road Construction, Helena National Forest, Lincoln Ranger District, Lewis and Clark County, MT, Due: June 16, 1997, Contact: Thomas J. Andersen (406) 449-5201. Published FR-05-02-97—Due Date Correction.

EIS No. 970155, Draft EIS, AFS, CA, Damon Fire Salvage and Restoration Project, Implementation, Modoc National Forest, Modoc County, CA, Due: June 16, 1997, Contact: Paul Bailey (916) 233-5811. Published FR-05-02-97—Due Date Correction.

EIS No. 970156, Draft EIS, SCS, OK, Middle Deep Red Run Creek Watershed Plan, Implementation, Funding and Possible COE Section 404 Permit, Central Rolling Red Plains, Tillman, Comanche and Kiowa Counties, OK, Due: June 16, 1997, Contact: Ronnie L. Clark (405) 742-1200. Published FR-05-02-97—Agency Correction.

EIS No. 970157, Final EIS, AFS, NV, Griffon Mining Project, Implementation, Issuance Plan of Operations Approval, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forests, Ely Ranger District, White Pine County, NV, Due: June 2, 1997, Contact: David Valenza (702) 289-3031. Published FR-05-02-97—Due Date Correction.

EIS No. 970158, Final EIS, FTA, TX, North Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (LRT) Extension, Transportation Improvements, Funding, NPDES Permit and COE Section 404 Permit, Dallas and Collin Counties, TX, Due: June 2, 1997, Contact: Jesse Balleza (817) 860-9663. Published FR-05-02-97—Due Date Correction.

Dated: May 6, 1997.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5480-3]

Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Final Rule for Environmental Impact Assessment of Nongovernmental Activities in Antarctica

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Final Rule for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of Nongovernmental Activities in Antarctica.

PURPOSE: The U.S. EPA, in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), will prepare a Draft EIS for the proposed final regulations that will provide for: (1) Environmental impact assessment of nongovernmental activities, including tourism, in Antarctica for which the United States is required to give advance notice under paragraph 5 of Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, and (2) coordination of the review of information regarding environmental impact assessments received by the United States from other Parties to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. These final regulations will be prepared pursuant to the Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act of 1996. EPA invites comments and suggestions on the scope of the rulemaking and analysis including the environmental and regulatory issues to be addressed in the EIS.

DATES: Written comments from the public regarding the environmental and regulatory issues and alternatives to be addressed in the Draft EIS will be accepted by EPA through July 15, 1997. The EPA will also hold a public meeting on Tuesday, July 8, 1997, in Washington, DC, metropolitan area to receive public input, either verbal or written, on relevant environmental and regulatory issues that should be addressed in the Draft EIS. The specific location and time of the public meeting will be published in the **Federal Register** at a later date with this information mailed directly to those requesting to be on the project mailing list.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO BE PLACED ON THE PROJECT MAILING LIST

CONTACT: Mr. Joseph Montgomery or Ms. Katherine Biggs, Office of Federal Activities (2252A), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW.,

Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 564-7157 or (202) 564-7144, respectively. Copies of the Environmental Assessment, Finding of No Significant Impact, and Interim Final Rule discussed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below may be requested from these contacts. These documents are also available on the World Wide Web at: <http://es.inel.gov/oeca/ofa/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background: Environmental Assessment and Interim Final Rule

The Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act of 1996 (Act) implements the Protocol on Environmental Protection (Protocol) to the Antarctic Treaty (Treaty). Pursuant to the Act, the EPA is required to promulgate regulations by October 2, 1998, that provide for assessment of the environmental impacts of nongovernmental activities, including tourism, in Antarctica and for coordination of the review of information regarding environmental impact assessments received from other Parties to the Protocol. The EPA promulgated an Interim Final Rule on April 30, 1998, (**Federal Register**/Vol. 62, No. 83/Wednesday, April 30, 1997/23538-23549) so that the United States would have the ability to implement its obligations under the Protocol as soon as the Protocol enters into force. The EPA also prepared an "Environmental Assessment of Proposed Interim Rules for Non-Governmental Activity in Antarctica" (EA) to evaluate the environmental and cultural impacts of the interim rule. Based on the EA's analysis, EPA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) concluding that the promulgation of the Interim Final Rule will not have or cause significant impacts on the Antarctic environment. The Interim Final Rule: sets forth appropriate environmental impact assessment and documentation procedures, including documentation regarding planned mitigation and monitoring, if appropriate, by tour operators; enhances the collection of data on effects and intensity of activities by nongovernmental visitors in Antarctica; and reduces the likelihood of inadvertent environmental perturbations that may be avoidable.

II. Description of Final Rule to be Developed and the Issues and Alternatives to be Considered in the EIS for the Final Rule

During the time the Interim Final Rule is in place and before the October 1998 deadline set by the Act, EPA will