

areas of Kern County, the Allensworth area of Tulare County, and the Kettleman Hills area of Kings County, California. Third persons will have to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Service which sets out that person's mitigation obligations, including the number of off-site acres the person must acquire in order to obtain incidental take authority. Once the Authority sells the conservation credits to the third person, the Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a certificate of inclusion to that person establishing that the person has the authority to commit the incidental take of listed species pursuant to the Master Permit. The purpose of the Master Permit is to encourage the use of the conservation bank (thereby insuring protection in perpetuity of bank lands) and to streamline the Fish and Wildlife Service's permitting process for projects with minor impacts.

The Implementing Agreement contains a section which implements the Service's "No Surprises" Policy. Under this section, the Fish and Wildlife Service may not require additional mitigation or compensation, including commitments of additional land or financial compensation, from the Authority unless the Fish and Wildlife Service makes a finding of "extraordinary circumstances," defined as a significant and substantial adverse change in the population of a species covered by the Plan. If the Fish and Wildlife Service makes a finding of extraordinary circumstances which warrants requiring additional mitigation or compensation, the additional mitigation or compensation the Fish and Wildlife Service may require is limited to modifying the management of the Kern Water Bank, excluding that portion of the bank used for recharge basins and that portion used for farming. If additional land or financial compensation is needed, the primary responsibility to provide this compensation rests with the Federal government.

In compliance with National Environmental Policy Act, the Environmental Assessment examines the environmental impacts of issuing the proposed Incidental Take Permits and the effects of implementing the proposed Plan and alternative plans. Although a number of alternative conservation configurations and mechanisms were considered, the Environmental Assessment analyzes four alternatives in detail. The Environmental Assessment considers (1) the proposed action, (2) the proposed action excluding the Master Permit, (3) the proposed action, but reducing the

amount of acreage that could be covered by recharge basins to 3,258 acres, and (4) a no permit alternative.

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). The Fish and Wildlife Service 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 it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of the listed species. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 45 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: May 8, 1997.

Don Weathers,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 97-12854 Filed 5-15-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Schedule of Regional Consultation Sessions on Tribal Shares

Introduction

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended, Public Law 93-638, to implement a process whereby Tribes can contract and compact functions of the BIA. Public Law 103-413 expanded the scope of Public Law 93-638 by providing Tribes the option to take their "share" from BIA administrative and program accounts, based on savings due to contracting and also based on additional administrative functions being assumed by Tribes, without regard to organizational level. This process is known as the "Tribal Shares Process."

The BIA has been working for the past two years to define a "tribal shares determination process" to identify which functions currently performed by the BIA can be assumed by Tribes. A federal workgroup was formed in April 1995 to identify which BIA functions were "inherently federal," and which BIA functions were available for contracting and compacting. The workgroup submitted their work product to the Area Offices for review and tribal consultation.

A majority of tribal leaders did not agree with the BIA's work product, and requested further consultation and establishment of a Tribal Workgroup to conduct a similar review. A small tribal workgroup was formed in July 1996, in consultation with the National Congress of American Indians. The Workgroup reviewed the BIA's work product and issued its findings recommendations for continuation of the effort to define a tribal shares process. This workgroup, however, did not continue in its advisory capacity, due to tribal dissatisfaction with the lack of equal representation of self-governance, self-determination and direct service Tribes.

In response to this dissatisfaction, the Deputy Commissioner formed a more expanded, representative workgroup in September 1996. This tribal workgroup is comprised of 24 tribal representatives; two from each of the twelve BIA Areas. The workgroup has assisted the BIA in reviewing and refining a list of inherently federal functions and non-inherently federal functions of the BIA. This listing will be one of many topics reviewed at the consultation sessions. The schedule for the consultation sessions is listed below.

Summary

The BIA will be holding three regional consultation sessions on the Tribal Shares Process during June and July 1997. The sessions are for tribal consultation on the Tribal Shares Process. Tribes will have the opportunity to review and provide comments on the BIA's identification of inherently federal and non-inherently federal functions of the BIA.

Regional Consultation Sessions: The three regional consultation sessions will accommodate all twelve Areas of the BIA. Billings, Aberdeen, Eastern and Minneapolis Area tribes will attend Session 1, in Bloomington, MN. The Juneau, Portland, and Sacramento Area tribes will attend Session 2, in Seattle, WA. Phoenix, Albuquerque, Navajo, Anadarko, and Muskogee Area tribes will attend Session 3, in Tempe, AZ.

Areas may hold additional Area-wide consultation sessions if needed.

Dates and Locations

Session 1. June 17-18, 1997,
Bloomington, MN. Days Inn
Airport, 1901 Killebrew Drive,
Bloomington, MN 55425.
Telephone (612) 854-8400.

Session 2. June 24-25, 1997, Seattle,
WA. Radisson Hotel Seattle Airport,
17001, Pacific Highway South,
Seattle, WA 98188. Telephone (206)
244-6000.

Session 3. July 22–23, 1997, Tempe, AZ. Sheraton Tempe Mission Palms, 60 East 5th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281. Telephone (602) 894–1400, or (800) 547–8705.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, contact Shirley LaCourse, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at telephone (202) 208–4172.

Conclusion

The consultation sessions are open to all interested parties.

Dated: May 12, 1997.

Hilda A. Manuel,

Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97–12926 Filed 5–15–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming; Notice of Approved Tribal-State Compact

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of approved Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming on Indian lands. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through her delegated authority, has approved the Tribal State Gaming Compact between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation and the State of Montana, which was executed on March 14, 1997.

DATES: This action is effective May 16, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George T. Skibine, Director, Indian Gaming Management Staff, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 219–4068.

Dated: May 8, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97–12821 Filed 5–15–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV–930–1430–01; N–58975]

Termination of Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Classification; Nevada

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice terminates R&PP Classification N–58975. The termination of this classification is for record-clearing purposes. The subject lands will remain segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, due to an overlapping segregation for disposal by exchange.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Termination of the classification is effective upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon DiPinto, BLM Las Vegas District Office, 4765 Vegas Drive, NV 89108, 702–647–5062. Detailed information concerning this action is available for review at the office of the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas District, 4765 W. Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 21, 1994, the Clark County School District filed an application with BLM for a middle school site pursuant to the R&PP Act. On February 16, 1996, the lands requested were classified suitable for lease/conveyance under that act. The school was not constructed and the applicant withdrew their application by letter dated February 6, 1997. Pursuant to the R&PP Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*), the regulation contained in 43 CFR 2091.7–1, and the authority delegated by Appendix 1 of the Bureau of Land Management Manual 1203, R&PP Classification N–58975 is hereby terminated in its entirety for the following described land:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 23 S., R. 62 E.,

Sec. 6, Lot 5.

Containing 37.98 acres.

Dated: May 2, 1997.

Michael F. Dwyer,

District Manager, Las Vegas, NV.

[FR Doc. 97–12896 Filed 5–15–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–HC–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY–985–0777–66; WYW–138720]

Realty Action; Direct Sale of Public Land; Cody Resource Area, Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of realty action.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management has determined that the following land is suitable for direct sale to Peter M. Scripps under Sections 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and

Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, (90 STAT. 2750, 2757), (43 U.S.C. 1713, 1719), (43 CFR 2711.3–3 [1] and [5]) and (43 CFR 270) at not less than fair market value. The land will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming

T. 51 N., R. 102 W.,

Tract 72C.

Containing 9 acres more or less.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Duane Whitmer, Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Cody Resource Area, P.O. Box 518, Cody, Wyoming 82414–0518, 307–587–2216.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The land described is hereby segregated from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, pending disposition of this action, or 270 days from the date of publication of this notice, whichever occurs first. The land would be offered by direct sale to Peter M. Scripps, an adjacent private landowner, at fair market value. Mr. Scripps would pay almost all of the administrative costs of the sale. This sale is consistent with Bureau of Land Management policies and the Cody Resource Management Plan (RMP) approved November 8, 1990. As indicated in the Cody RMP, the preferred method of land disposal to a private landowner is by exchange. However, because of the small acreage and relatively low dollar value involved, BLM believes a sale is more appropriate.

The purpose of this sale is to resolve a conflict with an inadvertent placement of a private water well on public lands, to consolidate Mr. Scripps' holdings, and to dispose of an isolated parcel of public land that is difficult and uneconomical to manage. The 9 acre tract is adjoined on two sides by Mr. Scripps' land, and by state of Wyoming land on the other two sides. There is virtually no public access to the tract, except by foot or horseback across 0.75 to 1.5 miles of public and state land to the north and east. The unfenced tract consists of a moderately steep hillside covered with mostly sagebrush, grasses, and some trees. Little, if any, use of the land by the public has occurred in the past because of the isolated location. A public scoping notice regarding this proposed sale was published in the Cody Enterprise for three consecutive weeks from July 29, 1996 to August 12, 1996. No adverse comments were received.