

On March 13, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 49, Page 12498, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Edwin E. Smith, Houston, TX, for a permit (PRT-838493) to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy, taken prior to April 30, 1994, from the Lancaster Sound population, Northwest Territories, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on April 27, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

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Notice is hereby given that on April 27, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: May 14, 1998.

MaryEllen Amtower,
Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of
Management Authority.
[FR Doc. 98-13337 Filed 5-19-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the organizing meeting of the Ballast Water and Shipping Committee of the Aquatic

Nuisance Species Task Force. Topics to be addressed during the meeting are identified.

DATES: The Ballast Water and Shipping Committee will meet from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: the meeting will be held in the first floor conference room at the Northeast-Midwest Institute, 218 D Street, SE., Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

LT Lawrence Greene, Ph.D., Committee Chair, U.S. Coast Guard at 202-267-0500, or Bob Peoples, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, at 703-358-2025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces a meeting of the Ballast Water and Shipping Committee of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. The Task Force was established by the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990.

During the meeting, there will be an in-depth discussion of the Notice of Proposed Rule Making regarding implementation of the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 published by the U.S. Coast Guard in the **Federal Register** on April 10, 1998 (63 FR 17782). The notice addresses national voluntary ballast water management guidelines, requirements for reporting ballast water exchange, and modifications of Great Lakes and Hudson River ballast water management regulations. The meeting will conclude with a discussion of future activities and tasks of the Committee and tasks to be undertaken by individual members.

Minutes of the meeting will be maintained by the Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Suite 851, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1622, and the Chair, Ballast Water and Shipping Committee, Plans and Preparedness Division, Office of Response, U.S. Coast Guard (G-MOR-2), 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: May 14, 1998.

Gary Edwards,

Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Assistant Director—Fisheries.

[FR Doc. 98-13390 Filed 5-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-08-1320-01; WYW136142]

Competitive Coal Lease Sale; Powder River Tract; WY

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in the Powder River Tract, described below, in Campbell County, Wyoming, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*).

DATES: The lease sale will be held at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, June 30, 1998. Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 4 p.m., on Monday, June 29, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The lease sale will be held in the First Floor Conference Room (Room 107) of the Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Cashier, Wyoming State Office, at the address given above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mavis Love, Land Law Examiner, or Melvin Schlagel, Coal Coordinator, at 307-775-6258 and 307-775-6257, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This coal lease sale is being held in response to a lease by application (LBA) filed by Powder River Coal Company of Gillette, Wyoming. The coal resources to be offered consist of all reserves recoverable by surface mining methods in the following-described lands located in Campbell County approximately 48 miles south-southeast of Gillette, Wyoming, and about 7 miles east of State Highway 59 just south of Piney Canyon Road:

T. 41 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 6: Lots 10 thru 13, 18 thru 21;
Sec. 7: Lots 6, 11, 14, and 19;
Sec. 18: Lots 5, 12, 13, and 20;
Sec. 19: Lots 5, 12 (N2);
Sec. 20: Lots 1 thru 4, 5 (N2), 6 (N2), 7 (N2), 8 (N2);
Sec. 21: Lots 4, 5 (N2);
T. 42 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 31: Lots 5 thru 20;
Sec. 32: Lots 1 thru 16;
Sec. 33: Lots 1 thru 16;
Sec. 34: Lots 1 thru 16;
Sec. 35: Lots 1 thru 16.

Containing 4224.225 acres.

The tract is adjacent to the North Antelope and Rochelle mines operated by Powder River Coal Company. It contains surface minable coal reserves

in the Wyodak seam currently being recovered in the adjacent, existing mines. The Wyodak seam averages about 74 feet thick and is the primary recoverable coal seam on the tract. The seam splits roughly in two in the far southwestern portion of the LBA and a thin split off the bottom occurs in the eastern portion. There are no coal outcrops on the tract.

The overburden above the main seam ranges from about 200–300 feet thick on the LBA. The total in-place stripping ratio (BCY/Ton) of the coal is 3.0:1.

The tract contains an estimated 532 million tons of minable coal. This estimate of minable reserves includes the two splits mentioned above but does not include any tonnage from localized seams or splits containing less than 5 feet of coal.

The coal is ranked as subbituminous C. The overall average quality is 8742 Btu/lb, 27.93% moisture, 4.21% ash, 0.18% sulfur, and 1.84% sodium in ash. These quality averages place the coal reserves near the high end of the range of coal quality currently being mined in the southern Powder River Basin south of Wright, Wyoming.

There are several oil and gas wells on the tract. The estimate of the bonus value of the coal lease will include consideration of the future oil and gas production from these wells. An economic analysis of this future income stream will determine whether a well is bought out and plugged prior to mining or re-established after mining is completed. Other costs considered will include moving or removing roads, pipelines, and surface facilities.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. There are qualified surface owners as defined in the regulations at 43 CFR 3400.0–5. Consent granted by the qualified surface owners has been filed with and verified by the Bureau of Land Management. The lands and purchase price of the consent are shown below:

T. 41 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming
Sec. 19: Lots 5, 12 (N2).
Containing 60.115 acres.

Purchase Price: \$10.00 and an overriding royalty of three percent (3%) of the gross realization of all coal mined and sold from the subject property.

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid equals the fair market value of the tract. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand delivered.

The Cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after 4 p.m., on Monday, June 29, 1998, will not be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value of the tract will be determined by the Authorized Officer after the sale.

If identical high bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

The lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, and of a royalty payment to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal produced by strip or auger mining methods and 8 percent of the value of the coal produced by underground mining methods. The value of the coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.250.

Bidding instructions for the tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are available from the Wyoming State Office at the addresses above. Case file documents, WYW136142, are available for inspection at the Wyoming State Office.

Michael Madrid,

Acting Deputy State Director.

[FR Doc. 98–12953 Filed 5–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of the Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, CO

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 43 CFR 10.10 (a)(3), of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Denver Museum of Natural History (DMNH) which meet the definition of “sacred objects” and “objects of cultural patrimony” under Section 2 of the Act.

The 164 cultural items consist of 25 Hopi spirit friends or Katsina masks and 31 mask attachments; 59 pahos and prayer feathers; one paho holder; three altar figures from Walpi; five Katsina Society dance items from Walpi; 21 Mazrau Society dance items from

Shungopavi; nine Katsina Society dance items from Shungopavi; four Snake Society dance items from Shungopavi; two Katsina Society dance items from Oraivi; one Mazrau Society dance item from Oraivi; one Snake Society medicine pouch from Shungopavi; one Snake Society medicine bundle from Shungopavi; and one Mazrau Society ceremonial canteen from Shungopavi.

In 1973, the three altar figures from Walpi were donated to the DMNH by donors whose names are withheld at the DMNH's request. In 1981, three of the pahos were donated to the DMNH by a donor whose name is withheld at the DMNH's request. Between 1968–1983, the remaining 158 cultural items were donated to the DMNH by Dr. and Mrs. Frances Crane, who had acquired the items from at least 12 different sources, including collectors, gift shops, and dealers.

DMNH accession, catalogue, and computer records indicate these 164 cultural items are of Hopi origin from Hopi villages in northern Arizona. Extensive consultations with representatives of the Hopi Tribe and Hopi traditional religious leaders confirm the Hopi identity of these cultural items. Representatives of the Hopi Tribe and Hopi traditional religious leaders have stated that these 164 cultural items are needed by traditional Hopi religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religion by their present-day adherents; and that these items also have on-going historical, traditional, and cultural importance central to the culture itself and could not have been alienated by any individual.

Based on the above-mentioned information, officials of the Denver Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(3), these 164 cultural items are specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present-day adherents. Officials of the Denver Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(4), these 164 cultural items have ongoing historical, traditional, and cultural importance central to the tribe itself, and could not have been alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual. Officials of the Denver Museum of Natural History have also determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these items and the Hopi Tribe.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Hopi Tribe. Representatives of