

(PRT-840287) 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 June 4, 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.

On March 4, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 43, Page 10931, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Jacksonville Field Office, USFWS, Jacksonville, FL, for renewal and amendment of a permit (PRT-770191) for enhancement of West Indian manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) through recovery, rehabilitation and release.

Notice is hereby given that on May 13, 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.

On April 9, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 63, Page 17436, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA, for a permit (PRT-840350) for enhancement of two southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris nereis*) through public education.

Notice is hereby given that on June 1, 1998, the application request was withdrawn. The Service has authorized the Long Beach Aquarium to maintain these sea otters for continued rehabilitation under section 109(h) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*).

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 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: June 19, 1998.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98-16872 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-030-1220-00]

Emergency Closure of the Lordsburg Playa to Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV), Hidalgo County, NM

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Emergency closure.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately, the Las Cruces Field Office is implementing emergency closure of an existing OHV area known as the Lordsburg Playa. The area is closed to all vehicle use except for administrative purposes. This closure extends to both motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including landsail craft. This action is taken to aid in reducing the blowing dust from the Lordsburg Playa across Interstate Highway 10 west of Lordsburg, New Mexico. The dust storms have caused four fatalities on this portion of the Interstate and resulted in closure of the Interstate on 5 consecutive days since June 13. The authority for this emergency closure is 43 CFR 8364.1: Closure and Restriction Orders.

The following public land is affected by the closure:

T.23 S., R.20 W., NMPM

Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, all;
Section 11, W $\frac{1}{2}$;
Sections 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, all;
Section 26, N $\frac{1}{2}$;
Section 27, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, all;
Section 34, W $\frac{1}{2}$.

T.24 S., R.20 W., NMPM

Section 5, N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Section 6, all.

DATES: This closure is effective June 19, 1998 and shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the authorized officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim C. McCormick, Assistant Field Office Manager for Renewable Resources, or Dwayne Sykes, Multi-Resource Staff Chief, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico or call (505) 525-4300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Violations of this closure are punishable by fines not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year.

The purpose of this action is to reduce impacts to the soil on the Lordsburg Playa. Once the soil surface is disturbed, it is highly susceptible to wind erosion. Windy conditions this year have produced heavy dust storms in the area resulting in low visibility on nearby

Interstate Highway 10. These conditions have caused 4 fatal accidents on the highway and required that the highway be closed for up to 9 hours per day for 5 consecutive days since June 13.

Copies of this closure order and maps showing the location of the area are available from the Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88005 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dated: June 19, 1998.

Josie Banegas,

Acting Field Manager, Las Cruces.

[FR Doc. 98-16899 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-030-1430-01; NMNM99245]

Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act Classification; New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action; R&PP Act Classification.

SUMMARY: The following public land in Dona Ana County, New Mexico has been examined and found suitable for classification for lease or conveyance to Las Cruces Public Schools under the provision of the R&PP Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). Las Cruces Public Schools propose to use the land for the K-2 Sunrise Elementary School and playgrounds.

T. 22 S., R. 3 E., NMPM

Sec. 18, Part of lot 11.

Containing 30 acres, more or less.

DATES: Comments regarding the proposed lease/conveyance or classification must be submitted on or before August 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin M. James at the address above or at (505) 525-4349.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Lease or conveyance will be subject to the following terms, conditions, and reservations:

1. Provisions of the R&PP Act and to all applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.

2. All valid existing rights documented on the official public land records at the time of lease/patent issuance.

3. All minerals shall be reserved to the United States, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals.

4. Any other reservations that the authorized officer determines appropriate to ensure public access and proper management of Federal lands and interests therein. Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for lease or conveyance under the R&PP Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. On or before August 13, 1998, interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed lease/conveyance or classification of the land to the Field Manager, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director. In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification will become effective 60 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Classification Comments

Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for the K-2 Sunrise Elementary School. Comments on the classification are restricted to whether the land is physically suited for the proposal, whether the use will maximize the future use or uses of the land, whether the use is consistent with local planning and zoning, or if the use is consistent with State and Federal programs.

Application Comments

Interested parties may submit comments regarding the specific use proposed in the application and plan of development, whether the BLM followed proper administrative procedures in reaching the decision, or any other factor not directly related to the suitability of the land for the K-2 Sunrise Elementary School.

Dated: June 18, 1998.

Linda S.C. Rundell,

Field Manager, Las Cruces.

[FR Doc. 98-16900 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Submission of Study Package to Office of Management and Budget; Review Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, National Park Service; Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

ABSTRACT: The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing in 1998 to conduct a survey of community residents in one gateway community near Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks to refine those issues related to fire management and associated smoke that are most important to people who live there. This information collection will support ongoing fire management planning at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Study packages that include the proposed survey questionnaires for these three proposed park studies have been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR part 1320, Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements, the NPS invites public comment on these three proposed information collection requests (ICR). Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the information including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the reporting burden estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The NPS goal in conducting this survey is to obtain park neighbors' perceptions of the existing fire management program and its effect on residents, the community, and the ecosystem. Results of the survey will assist NPS fire managers in their management decisions by providing information about the knowledge, needs and desires of the affected publics living in the community that is closest to the two parks. The intended effect of this information collection is to better inform park managers about issues important to park neighbors, to assist them in developing citizen education and involvement programs, and to help them formulate fire management decision making criteria for fires in the parks.

There were no public comments received as a result of publishing in the **Federal Register** a 60-day notice of intention to request clearance of information collection for this survey.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before July 27, 1998.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20530; and also to: William Kaage, Fire Management Officer, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, California 93271-9700, phone: 209-565-3160.

The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments on or before July 27, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE STUDY PACKAGES SUBMITTED FOR OMB REVIEW, CONTACT: William Kaage, Fire Management Officer, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, California 93271-9700, phone: 209-565-3160; e-mail: <william_kaage@nps.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Fire Management Planning Survey at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Bureau Form Number: None.

OMB Number: To be requested.

Expiration date: To be requested.

Type of request: Request for new clearance.

Description of need: The National Park Service needs information concerning perceptions of residents who live near Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks regarding forest fire, fire ecology, regional fire management history and the effects of fire management practices on their community and the ecosystem. The proposed information to be collected from park neighbors is not available from existing records, sources, or observations either regularly or comprehensively.

Automated data collection: At the present time, there is no automated way to gather this information, since it includes asking gateway community residents about their perceptions of fire management in the region.

Description of Respondents: A sample of adult householders living in one gateway community near Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Estimated average number of respondents: Each respondent will respond only one time, so the number