

will be able to access loan information remotely via a high-speed Internet connection. Further information on performing due diligence review of the Mortgage Loans will be provided in the BIP.

Mortgage Loan Sale Policy

HUD reserves the right to add Mortgage Loans to or delete Mortgage Loans from MHLS 2008–1 at any time prior to the Award Date. HUD also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, without prejudice to HUD's right to include any Mortgage Loans in a later sale. Mortgage Loans will not be withdrawn after the Award Date except as is specifically provided in the Loan Sale Agreement.

This is a sale of unsubsidized mortgage loans. Pursuant to Section 204(a) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act of 1997, 12 U.S.C. 1715z–11a(a).

Mortgage Loan Sale Procedure

HUD selected a competitive sale as the method to sell the Mortgage Loans. This method of sale optimizes HUD's return on the sale of these Mortgage Loans, affords the greatest opportunity for all qualified bidders to bid on the Mortgage Loans, and provides the quickest and most efficient vehicle for HUD to dispose of the Mortgage Loans.

Bidder Eligibility

In order to bid in the sale, a prospective bidder must complete, execute and submit both a Confidentiality Agreement and a Qualification Statement acceptable to HUD. The following individuals and entities are ineligible to bid on any of the Mortgage Loans included in MHLS 2008–1:

(1) Any employee of HUD, a member of such employee's household, or an entity owned or controlled by any such employee or member of such an employee's household;

(2) any individual or entity that is debarred, suspended, or excluded from doing business with HUD pursuant to Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 24;

(3) any contractor, subcontractor and/or consultant or advisor (including any agent, employee, partner, director, principal or affiliate of any of the foregoing) who performed services for or on behalf of HUD in connection with MHLS 2008–1;

(4) any individual who was a principal, partner, director, agent or employee of any entity or individual described in subparagraph 3 above, at

any time during which the entity or individual performed services for or on behalf of HUD in connection with MHLS 2008–1;

(5) any individual or entity that uses the services, directly or indirectly, of any person or entity ineligible under subparagraphs 1 through 4 above to assist in preparing any of its bids on the Mortgage Loans;

(6) any individual or entity which employs or uses the services of an employee of HUD (other than in such employee's official capacity) who is involved in MHLS 2008–1;

(7) any mortgagor (or affiliate of a mortgagor) that failed to submit to HUD on or before February 21, 2008, audited financial statements for fiscal years 1999 through 2006 for a project securing a Mortgage Loan;

(8) any individual or entity and any Related Party (as such term is defined in the Qualification Statement) of such individual or entity that is a mortgagor in any of HUD's multifamily housing programs and that is in default under such mortgage loan or is in violation of any regulatory or business agreements with HUD, unless such default or violation is cured on or before February 21, 2008;

(9) any entity or individual that serviced or held any Mortgage Loan at any time during the 2-year period prior to January 1, 2008, is ineligible to bid on such Mortgage Loan or on the pool containing such Mortgage Loan, but may bid on loan pools that do not contain Mortgage Loans that they have serviced or held at any time during the 2-year period prior to January 1, 2008; and

(10) any affiliate or principal of any entity or individual described in the preceding sentence (subparagraph 9); any employee or subcontractor of such entity or individual during that 2-year period; or any entity or individual that employs or uses the services of any other entity or individual described in this subparagraph in preparing its bid on such Mortgage Loan.

Prospective bidders should carefully review the Qualification Statement to determine whether they are eligible to submit bids on the Mortgage Loans in MHLS 2008–1.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

HUD reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to disclose information regarding MHLS 2008–1, including, but not limited to, the identity of any successful bidder and its bid price or bid percentage for any pool of loans or individual loan, upon the closing of the sale of all the Mortgage Loans. Even if HUD elects not to publicly disclose any information

relating to MHLS 2008–1, HUD will have the right to disclose any information that HUD is obligated to disclose pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and all regulations promulgated there under.

Scope of Notice

This notice applies to MHLS 2008–1 and does not establish HUD's policy for the sale of other mortgage loans.

Dated: February 8, 2008.

John L. Garvin,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing, Office of Housing.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon's Proposed Trust Acquisition and Resort and Casino Project, Cascade Locks, Hood River County, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency, with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (Tribes), the Oregon Department of Transportation, the City of Cascade Locks, the Port of Cascade Locks, Hood River County and the Federal Highway Administration as cooperating agencies, intends to file a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a proposed 25-acre trust acquisition and resort and casino project to be located within the City of Cascade Locks, Hood River County, Oregon, and that the DEIS is now available for public review. Public review of the DEIS is part of an administrative process designed to evaluate tribal applications that seek to have the United States to take land into Federal trust pursuant to 25 CFR part 151. Reviewers are advised that we will consider public comments carefully prior to deciding whether to approve or disapprove this application. This notice also extends the normal 45-day public comment period to 90 days in order to accommodate heightened public interest in this proposed action, and it announces five public hearings to receive comments on the DEIS.

DATES: Written comments on the DEIS must arrive by May 15, 2008. The dates and times for the public hearings are as follows:

- March 03, 2008, 6–8:30 p.m.
- March 10, 2008, 6–8:30 p.m.
- March 12, 2008, 6–8:30 p.m.
- March 13, 2008, 6–8:30 p.m.
- March 17, 2008, 6–8:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand carry written comments to Gerald Henrikson, Project Manager, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232. You may also fax your comments to (503) 231–6791, or submit them electronically at the project Web site, <http://www.gorgecasinoEIS.com>. (Note: The BIA cannot receive electronic comments directly via e-mail at this time.) Please include your name, return address and the caption, “DEIS Comments, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon Trust Acquisition and Resort/Casino Project,” on the first page of your written comments.

The locations of the public hearings are as follows:

- March 03—Kah–Nee–Ta High Desert Resort and Casino, Warm Springs, OR.
- March 10—Port of Cascade Locks, Gorge Pavilion, Marine Park, 355 Wa–Na–Pa Street, Cascade Locks, OR.
- March 12—Rock Creek Center, 710 SW Rock Creek Drive, Stevenson, WA.
- March 13—Doubletree Hotel, Lloyd Center, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR.
- March 17—Hood River Middle School Auditorium, 1602 May Street, Hood River, OR.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the DEIS, please write or call Gerald Henrikson at the BIA address above or the telephone number for him provided below. An electronic version of the DEIS may be viewed at <http://www.gorgecasinoEIS.com>.

Copies of the DEIS are available for review at the BIA address above and at the following locations.

- Port of Cascade Locks, 710 Lucy Lane, Cascade Locks, OR 97014.
- Federal Highway Administration, 530 Center Street, Room 100, Salem, OR 97301.
- Cascade Locks Library, 140 SE Wa–Na–Pa Street, Cascade Locks, OR 97031.
- Multnomah County Library, Central Branch, 801 SW 10th Street, Portland, OR 97205.
- Gresham Library, 385 NW Miller Avenue, Gresham, OR 97030.
- Vancouver Community Library, 1007 E Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98663.
- Hood River County, 601 State Street, Hood River, OR 97031.
- Oregon Department of Transportation, Region 1, 123 NW Flanders, Portland, OR 97209.

- Hood River County Library, 502 State Street, Hood River, OR 97014.
- Mosier City Library, 3rd Street, Mosier, OR 97040.
- Stevenson Community Library, 120 NW Vancouver Avenue, Stevenson, WA 98648.
- Fairview—Columbia Library, 1520 NE Village Street, Fairview, OR 97024.
- White Salmon Valley Community Library, #5 Town and Country Square, White Salmon, WA 98672.

Copies of the DEIS have also been sent to agencies and individuals who participated in the scoping process and to all others who had requested copies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gerald Henrikson, (503) 231–6927.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Tribes have requested that the BIA take 25 acres of land in the City of Cascade Locks, Oregon, into trust on behalf of the Tribes. The Tribes would develop a resort and casino on the newly acquired trust land and lease adjacent lands (approximately 35 acres) from the Port of Cascade Locks for parking and other facilities related to the resort and casino development. The proposed casino project also would include a new interchange on Interstate 84 (I–84) and local transportation system improvements.

A range of project alternatives is considered in the DEIS, including: (1) The proposed Cascade Locks Resort and Casino Project, (2) a Hood River alternative, (3) a Warm Springs alternative, and (4) no action. The DEIS addresses the potential effects of each of these alternatives on geology and soils, land use, water resources, air quality, noise, plants and wildlife, endangered species, cultural resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice), transportation, public services, the visual environment, and hazardous wastes and materials. The DEIS examines the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of each alternative on these resources and identifies mitigation measures to address adverse impacts.

Public Comment Availability

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the mailing address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire

comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority

This notice is published in accordance with section 1503.1 of the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and the Department of Interior Manual (516 DM 1–6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.1.

Dated: January 28, 2008.

Carl J. Artman,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. E8–2834 Filed 2–14–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the North Fork Rancheria's Proposed 305 Acre Trust Acquisition and Hotel/Casino Project, Madera County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency, with the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians (Tribe), California Department of Transportation, Madera Irrigation District, City of Madera, National Indian Gaming Commission and U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as cooperating agencies, intends to file a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) with the EPA for the proposed 305 acre trust acquisition and the construction of a hotel/casino project to be located in unincorporated Madera County, just north of the City of Madera, California, and that the DEIS is now available for public review. Public review of the DEIS is part of an administrative process designed to evaluate tribal applications that seek to have the United States to take land into Federal trust pursuant to 25 CFR part 151. Reviewers are advised that we will consider public comments carefully