

# RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING DECISIONS— Continued

Funding recipient (name and address)	Amount Approved
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Portland, Oregon .....	963,303
Choctaw Nation, Durant, Oklahoma .....	1,488,000
Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, Colorado .....	1,488,000
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, White Earth, Minnesota .....	914,611
Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Shawnee, Oklahoma .....	1,486,412
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, North Dakota ..	1,421,867
Manzanita Band of Mission Indians, Boulevard, CA .....	120,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>14,042,000</b>

[FR Doc. 96-3705 Filed 2-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-33-P

## Office of General Counsel

[Docket No. FR-4040-D-01]

## Order of Succession, Acting General Counsel

**AGENCY:** Office of General Counsel, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Order of Succession.

**SUMMARY:** In this notice, the General Counsel for the Department of Housing and Urban Development designates the Order of Succession for the position of General Counsel, and revokes the prior Order of Succession for this position.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 7, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John P. Opitz, Assistant General Counsel for Training and Administrative Law, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 10246, 451 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20410, (202) 708-9991. A telecommunications device for hearing-impaired persons (TDD) is available at (202) 708-3259. (These are not toll-free numbers.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The General Counsel for the Department of Housing and Urban Development is issuing this Order of Succession of officials authorized to serve as Acting General Counsel when, by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office, the General Counsel is not available to exercise the powers or perform the duties of the office. The authorization to act under this Order is subject to the 120-day rule of the Vacancies Act, 5 U.S.C. 3348, whereby a vacancy caused by death or resignation of an appointee,

whose appointment is vested in the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may be filled temporarily for not more than 120 days.

Accordingly, the General Counsel designates the following Order of Succession:

### Section A. Order of Succession

During any period when, by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office, the General Counsel is not available to exercise the powers of perform the duties of the Office of General Counsel, the following are hereby designated to serve as the Acting General Counsel:

- (1) Deputy General Counsel (Programs & Regulations);
- (2) Deputy General Counsel (Civil Rights & Litigation);
- (3) Deputy General Counsel (Operations);
- (4) Associate General Counsel for Assisted Housing and Community Development;
- (5) Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations;
- (6) Associate General Counsel for Finance and Regulatory Enforcement;
- (7) Associate General Counsel for Insured Housing;
- (8) Associate General Counsel for Litigation and Fair Housing Enforcement;
- (9) Associate General Counsel for Program Enforcement;
- (10) Associate General Counsel for Human Resources.

These officials shall serve as Acting General Counsel in the order specified herein, and no official shall serve unless all the other officials, whose position titles precede his/hers in this order, are unable to act by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office. If all the officials designated in this Order of Succession are unable to serve as Acting General Counsel by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office, officials designated to serve as acting officials for these designated officials shall serve in the same order of succession as their principals.

Officials ranking below the Deputy General Counsel (Operations) in the above Order of Succession and their designees, while serving as Acting General Counsel, may only take actions with the approval of the Special Assistant to the General Counsel.

Authorization to serve as Acting General Counsel shall not exceed 120 days, pursuant to the Vacancies Act, 5 U.S.C. 3348.

### Section B. Authority Revoked

The Order of Succession of the General Counsel, published in the Federal Register on April 24, 1995, at 60 FR 20111, is hereby revoked.

Authority: Section 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

Dated: February 7, 1996.

Nelson A. Díaz,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 96-3617 Filed 2-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for a Permit To Authorize Incidental Take of the Threatened Northern Spotted Owl by the Scofield Corporation, Near Leavenworth, Chelan County, Washington

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Scofield Corporation of Chelan, Washington (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The application has been assigned permit number PRT-811110. The requested permit would authorize the incidental take of northern spotted owls (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) (owls) that may occur in or near the planning area in Chelan County, Washington, as a result of the Applicant's timber-management activities. A Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) was submitted as part of the application in accordance with section 10(a) of the Act.

The Service announces the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed issuance of the incidental take permit and approval of the HCP. All comments received will become part of the public record and may be released. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

**DATES:** Written comments on the permit application and EA should be received on or before March 21, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments regarding the application or EA should be addressed to Curt Smitch, Assistant Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Northwest Habitat Conservation Plan Program, 3773 Martin Way East, Building C—Suite 101, Olympia, Washington 98501; (360) 534-9330. Please refer to permit number PRT-

811110 when submitting comments. Individuals wishing copies of the application or EA for review should immediately contact the office listed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Craig Hansen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at the office listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Under section 9 of the Act and its implementing regulations, "taking" of threatened and endangered species is prohibited. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened or endangered wildlife species if such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are in 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively.

The Applicant proposes to implement a HCP for the owl that will allow timber harvest on the 40-acre project area. The Applicant's proposed timber harvest may result in the take, as defined in the Act and its implementing regulations, of the owl. The permit would be in effect for one year. The terms of the HCP, which include conservation benefits for the owl, would be in effect into perpetuity.

The Applicant proposes to mitigate for potential impacts from incidental take of the owl by retaining a buffer of intact habitat, implementing a selective timber harvest, and placing a perpetual deed restriction on the property permanently prohibiting further timber harvest or tree removal. This would ensure the retention of some owl habitat and approximately 72 percent of the total number of trees after harvest. The retention of habitat and trees, and the deed restriction would ensure the availability of owl habitat in the future. The harvest method and timing would further minimize impacts to owls. If possible, all trees would be felled in winter or early spring which would minimally disturb owls and other wildlife. Harvesting while there is still snow on the ground would prevent potential ground disturbance by the felled trees. In addition, all felled trees would be removed by helicopter, thus precluding the need for road construction into the project area, and minimizing impacts to owl habitat and the ground.

The EA considers the environmental consequences of the proposed action and no-action alternatives. The proposed action alternative is the issuance of a permit under section 10(a) of the Act that would authorize

incidental take of the owl. The proposed action would require the Applicant to implement their HCP. Under the no-action alternative, the permit would not be issued, and the Applicant would avoid the take of owls by delaying harvest until: (1) the owl site center is moved such that the project area is outside the territorial circle, or (2) the owl territorial circle has been changed to historic status after 3 consecutive years of protocol owl surveys have resulted in no owl detections, or (3) regulatory release is provided, such as a 4(d) special rule under the Act providing an exemption for small landowners, or (4) forests on surrounding U.S. Forest Service or other land regenerates or develops to provide greater than 40 percent owl habitat within the 1.8 mile radius owl circle.

Dated: February 13, 1996.

(Notice: Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for a Permit Under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act by the Scofield Corporation.)

H. Dale Hall,

*Acting Deputy Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 96-3654 Filed 2-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

**Geological Survey**

**Application Notice Describing the Areas of Interest and Establishing the Closing Date for Receipt of Applications Under the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 1997**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Applications are invited for research projects under the NEHRP.

The purpose of this program is to support research in earthquake hazards prediction; to provide earth-science data and information essential to determine seismic hazards present in the United States; and information essential to mitigate earthquake damage.

Applications may be submitted by educational institutions, private firms, private foundations, individuals, and agencies of state and local governments.

The NEHRP supports research related to the following general areas of interest:

- I. Evaluating National and Regional Hazard and Risk. National and regional hazard and risk maps are critical to effective risk reduction strategies.
- II. Evaluating Urban Hazard and Risk. The strong ground shaking and resulting

catastrophic losses in the 1994 Northridge earthquake reinforced the need for the U.S. Geological Survey to concentrate its efforts where the risks are highest, that is, in the nation's urban areas.

III. Understanding Earthquake Processes. The effectiveness of risk-mitigation strategies and disaster response are limited by our meager understanding of the tectonic processes that cause earthquakes and generate the strong shaking and ground failure that devastates the built environment.

IV. Providing Real-time Hazard Assessment. Effective earthquake hazard evaluation and response to damaging events depend on timely, accurate information. Short, intermediate, and long-term earthquake forecasts in regions of high earthquake potential can all lead to mitigation activities that reduce the losses in subsequent earthquakes.

V. Providing Geologic Hazards Information Services. Computer technology has evolved rapidly in recent years to the point that new powerful tools are accessible both to the providers and the users of geologic hazards information.

**ADDRESSES:** The program announcement is expected to be available on or about March 8, 1996. You may obtain a copy of Announcement No. 00001 by writing Francine Harris, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Acquisition and Federal Assistance—Mail Stop 205C, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092, or by fax (703-648-7901). Organizations that applied for an FY 1996 award, and organizations that requested to be retained on the mailing list since the last announcement will be mailed a copy of Announcement No. 00001.

**DATES:** The closing date for receipt of applications will be on or about May 10, 1996. The actual closing date will be specified in Announcement No. 00001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Sims, Office of Earthquakes, Volcanoes, and Engineering—U.S. Geological Survey, Mail Stop 905, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092. Telephone: (703) 648-6722.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Authority for this program is contained in the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, Public Law 95-124 (42 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*).

Dated: February 13, 1996.

Timothy E. Calkins,  
*Acting Chief, Office of Program Support.*  
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