

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Draft PA/EA analyzed two alternatives: (1) No action/no lease; and (2) lease under a no surface occupancy stipulation. Analysis focused on addressing several issues, including impacts to water quality (municipal and private drinking water supplies and fishing opportunities), aesthetics, wetlands, threatened and endangered species, recreation, cultural/historic/Native American resources, public health and safety, and liability. Comments on the Draft PA/EA will be used to formulate the proposed PA/EA. After the release of the proposed plan, any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the approval of the plan may file a protest with the Director of the BLM. After resolution of any protests, BLM will release a Final PA/EA, which will be the basis of BLM/COE decisions for the management of Federal mineral resources in the planning area.

Dated: April 8, 1998.

James W. Dryden,
Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-9878 Filed 4-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-040-1430-00; WYW-45359]

Recreation and Public Purposes Classification and Application to Amend Lease in Lincoln County; Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action, Recreation and Public Purposes Classification and Application to Amend Lease in Lincoln County.

SUMMARY: The following public lands have been examined and found suitable for classification for lease or conveyance to Lincoln County under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 et. seq.). Lincoln County has applied to amend their existing lease for a ski area. The lease will be expanded from 372 acres to approximately 633 acres.

Sixth Principal Meridian, Lincoln County, Wyoming

T. 24 N., R. 118 W.,

Sec. 4, W $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 6, lots 7, 8, 9, 10, W $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 11, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ lot 11, lots 14, 15, 16, N $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 17, lot 18, W $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 19, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ lot 19;
Sec. 5, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 5, E $\frac{1}{2}$ lot 12, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lot 12; lot 13; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ lot 20.

T. 25 N., R. 118 W.,

Sec. 35, portions of S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$.

The areas described aggregate 633 acres.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Hatchel, Realty Specialist, Kemmerer Resource Area, Bureau of Land Management, 312 Highway 189 North, Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101, (307) 877-3933 extension 107.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lincoln County Recreation Commission has applied to amend their existing ski area lease to include an additional 261 acres that will contain portions of four new and four expanded ski runs. The application also contains an area for avalanche control. A longer ski lift will be constructed to reach the new ski runs. The ski area has been under lease since 1963. The latest lease will expire in the year 2000. The Commission has also requested that the lands be classified as suitable for conveyance in addition to leasing. This action is in conformance with the Kemmerer Resource Management Plan.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the lands 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 Recreation and Public Purposes Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed amended lease/conveyance or classification of the lands to Jeff Rawson, Kemmerer Resource Area Manager, 312 Highway 189 North, Kemmerer, WY 83101.

Classification Comments: Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for a ski area. 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 a ski area.

Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director. In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification will become effective June 15, 1998.

Dated: April 2, 1998.

Jeff Rawson,

Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-9794 Filed 4-14-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a new information collection.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, MMS invites the public and other Federal agencies to comment on a proposal to request approval of the new collection of information discussed below. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.
DATES: Submit written comments by June 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to the Rules Processing Team, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4024, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis London, Rules Processing Team, telephone (703) 787-1600. You may contact Alexis London to obtain a copy of the proposed collection of information at no cost.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Survey—Testing and Calibrating the Measurement of Nonmarket Values for Natural Resources via the Contingent Valuation Methods.

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended, directs the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a "5-Year Program" that specifies the schedule of offshore natural gas and oil lease sales for the 5-year period covered by the document. The MMS prepares the 5-Year Program for the Secretary. The key analytical support for the Secretary's decision is a cost-benefit analysis of all size, timing, and location alternatives for all lease sales being considered. The MMS's 5-year cost-benefit analysis is an almost complete accounting of all the costs and benefits attributable to the offshore natural gas and oil leasing and development process. However, the cost-benefit

analysis has one major exclusion. MMS does not account fully for the existence values (also called passive enjoyment values) of resources that might be damaged or lost through offshore activities. Existence values include the values people might place on a resource just by knowing it exists, or by having the option of using it at some future date, or by being able to bequeath it to future generations.

The only way currently available to measure existence values is through the use of the contingent valuation method (CVA). CVA consists of carefully constructed questionnaires which are used in interviews that elicit from people their estimate of what they would be willing to pay to avoid the loss or damage. The MMS has two major reasons why it has not funded CVA studies to provide estimates of existence values to complete its cost-benefit analysis: First, the methodology for CVA studies is still somewhat controversial in the economics profession. Second, CVA studies for a program covering as vast an array of environmental resources across the entire outer continental shelf would be prohibitively expensive.

The work proposed here is part of a research plan designed to come to grips with both of these problems. This project focuses on improving the methodology of CVA and its acceptance by the economics profession. A follow-on project would build on the results of this project to test a less expensive way of gathering estimates of peoples' willingness to pay for environmental resource protection. This new approach is expected to cut the cost of CVA studies to one-third the present cost. With these improvements, MMS should be able to complete its 5-year cost-benefit analysis using methodology acceptable to a majority of the economics profession.

Frequency: This is a one-time voluntary survey.

Estimated number and description of respondents and reporting and recordkeeping "hour" burden: Approximately 1,200 American adults will be asked four questions, averaging about 4 minutes per respondent.

Estimated reporting and recordkeeping "cost" burden: The PRA requires agencies to estimate the total annual cost burden to respondents as a direct result of this collection of information. This is a one-time survey. There are no questions asked which would require review of such detailed records as capital or operating expenditures of businesses or individuals. There is no cost burden on the respondents associated with this collection of information.

Comments: The MMS will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in its submission for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In calculating the burden, MMS has assumed that information requested from respondents will not require the reviewing of detailed records. Questions have been designed to elicit information which would reasonably be recalled by respondents or quickly estimated. The MMS specifically solicits comments on the following questions:

(a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of MMS's functions, and will it be useful?

(b) Are the estimates of the burden hours of the proposed collection reasonable?

(c) Do you have any suggestions that would enhance the quality, clarity, or usefulness of the information to be collected?

(d) Is there a way to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology?

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: April 7, 1998.

John Mirabella,

Acting Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

[FR Doc. 98-9969 Filed 4-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Meeting of National Landmarks Committee of National Park System Advisory Board

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Commission Act that a meeting of the National Landmarks Committee of the Secretary of the Interior's National Park System Advisory Board will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the following date and at the following location.

DATE: May 11, 1998.

LOCATION: Main Hearing Room, First Floor, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Henry, National Register, History, and Education (2280), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20013-7127. Telephone (202) 343-8163.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting of the National Landmarks Committee of the Secretary of the Interior's National Park System Advisory Board is to evaluate studies of historic properties in order to advise the full National Park System Advisory Board meeting on May 21, 1998, of the qualifications of properties being proposed for National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation, and to recommend to the full board those properties that the committee finds meet the criteria for designation for the National Historic Landmarks Program. The members of the National Landmarks Committee are: Dr. Holly Anglin Robinson, co-chair; Mr. Parker Westbrook, co-chair; Mr. Peter Dangermond; Dr. Shereen Lerner; Mr. Jerry L. Rogers; Dr. John Vlach; Dr. Richard Guy Wilson; and Dr. James Horton, ex officio.

The meeting will include presentations and discussions on the national historic significance and the historic integrity of a number of properties being nominated for National Historic Landmark designation. The meeting will be open to the public. However, facilities and space for accommodating members of the public are limited. Any member of the public may file for consideration by the committee written comments concerning nominations and matters to be discussed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 65. Comments should be submitted to Carol D. Shull, Chief, National Historic Landmarks Survey, and Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, National Register, History, and Education (2280), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

The nominations to be considered are:

CONNECTICUT

Austin F. Williams Carriagehouse and House, Farmington

FLORIDA

Key West Light Station, Key West
Ponce de Leon Light Station, Ponce Inlet

ILLINOIS

James Charnley House, Chicago
Grosse Point Light Station, Evanston

MASSACHUSETTS

Castle Hill, Ipswich
Fenway Studios, Boston

MICHIGAN

North Manitou Island Lifesaving Station, Leelanau County

NEW MEXICO

Georgia O'Keeffe Home and Studio, Abiquiu