

per-unit costs associated with water deliveries.

Although the maintained banks of the canal are generally unvegetated, elderberry bushes and several mature oaks and cottonwoods are present within adjacent Tulare Irrigation District right-of-ways. Land use adjacent to the canal is primarily agricultural (vineyards, orchards, and nurseries) interspersed with stretches of sparse residential and industrial developments. The Tulare Irrigation District comprises approximately 70,000 acres of land that has been entirely developed for agricultural, residential, and/or commercial purposes.

In 1998, biologists surveyed the project area for special-status wildlife and plant species that could be affected by the project. Based upon those surveys, the Service concluded the project may result in take of one federally listed species, the threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle.

The Tulare Irrigation District has agreed to implement the following measures to minimize and mitigate take of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle: (1) Protect elderberry bushes in place where possible by using protective fencing and conducting educational meetings with contractors to highlight the importance of protecting elderberry bushes; and (2) make a one-time payment into the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle Mitigation Fund that has been established through a joint agreement between the Service and the Center for Natural Lands Management. Payments made to the Mitigation Fund would be dispersed by the Center for Natural Lands Management at the direction of the Service to preserve and manage large tracts of habitat suitable for supporting valley elderberry longhorn beetle.

The Proposed Action consists of the issuance of an incidental take permit and implementation of the Plan to minimize and mitigate impacts of the project on the valley elderberry longhorn beetle. An alternative to the taking of listed species under the Proposed Action is considered in the Plan. Under the No Action Alternative, no permit would be issued. Under this alternative, canal operation would continue to result in the loss of up to 6,000 acre-feet of water per year. The Tulare Irrigation District considered five other alternatives described in the Plan, but did not select them for various reasons, including disagreement among, or opposition from, local landowners.

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the Plan qualifies as a "low-effect" plan as defined by its Habitat Conservation Planning

Handbook (November 1996). We made this determination by evaluating the following criteria: (1) Implementation of the Plan would result in minor or negligible effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the Plan would result in minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts of the Plan, considered together with the impacts of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects would not result, over time, in cumulative effects to environmental values or resources which would be considered significant. As more fully explained in the Service's Environmental Action Statement, the Tulare Irrigation District Plan likely qualifies as a "low-effect" plan for the following reasons:

1. Approval of the Plan would result in minor or negligible effects on the valley elderberry longhorn beetle and its habitat. The Service does not anticipate significant direct or cumulative effects to the valley elderberry longhorn beetle resulting from lining of the existing canal.
2. Approval of the Plan would not have adverse effects on unique geographic, historic or cultural sites, or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
3. Approval of the Plan would not result in any cumulative or growth inducing impacts and, therefore, would not result in significant adverse effects on public health or safety.
4. The project does not require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, nor does it threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
5. Approval of the Plan would not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

The Service therefore has preliminarily determined that approval of the Plan qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act, as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1). Based upon this preliminary determination, we do not intend to prepare further National Environmental Policy Act documentation. The Service will consider public comments in making its final determination on whether to prepare such additional documentation.

The Service provides this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act. We will evaluate the permit application, the Plan, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act. If the requirements are met, the Service will issue a permit to the Tulare Irrigation District for incidental take

of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle during lining of the canal. We will make the final permit decision no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: July 24, 1999.

Elizabeth H. Stevens,
*Deputy Manager, California/Nevada
Operations Office, Sacramento, California.*
[FR Doc. 99-19973 Filed 8-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Technology Transfer Act of 1996

AGENCY: United States Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

SUMMARY: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the Conservation Fund to further develop a new method for treating water degraded by acidic mine drainage or other sources of acid.

INQUIRIES: If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Barnaby Watten, USGS-BRD, Leetown Science Center, 1700 Leetown Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430.

BUREAU CLEARANCE OFFICER: John Cordyack, 703-648-7313.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is to meet the USGS requirement stipulated in the Survey Manual.

Dated: July 26, 1999.

Byron K. Williams,
Acting Chief Biologist.
[FR Doc. 99-19946 Filed 8-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Information Collection for Class III Procedures

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of emergency clearance and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) this notice announces that the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs approved an information collection request for emergency clearance under 5 CFR 1320.13. The information

collection, Class III Gaming Procedures, is cleared under OMB Control Number 1076-0149 through October 31, 1999. We are seeking comments from interested parties to renew the clearance.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Gaming Management Staff, 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 2070-MIB, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested person may obtain copies of the information collection requests without charge by contacting Ms. Paula Hart, (202) 219-4066, Facsimile number (202) 273-3153, or E-mail: Paula_Hart@IOS.DOI.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Department has issued regulations prescribing procedures to permit Class III gaming when a State interposes its immunity from suit by an Indian tribe in which the tribe accuses the state of failing to negotiate in good faith. The rule announces the Department's determination that the Secretary may promulgate Class III gaming procedures under certain specified circumstances. It also sets forth the process and standards pursuant to which any procedures would be adopted.

II. Request for Comments

The Department invites comments on:

(1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the BIA, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the BIA's estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(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 those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other collection techniques or forms of information technology.

III. Data

(1) *Title of the Information Collection:* Class III Gaming Procedures.

(2) *Summary of Collection of Information:* The collection of information will ensure that the provisions of IGRA, the relevant provisions of State laws, Federal law

and the trust obligations of the United States are met.

(3) *Affected Entities:* Federally recognized tribes who submit Class III procedures for review and approval by the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) *Frequency of Response:* Annually.

(5) *Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 12.

(6) *Estimated Time per Application:* 1,000 hours.

(7) *Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 12,000 hours.

Dated: July 23, 1999.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-19958 Filed 8-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-921-41-5700; WYW72456]

Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Pursuant to the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2-3(a) and (b)(1), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease WYW72456 for lands in Campbell County, Wyoming, was timely filed and was accompanied by all the required rentals accruing from the date of termination. The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, per year and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively.

The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$125 to reimburse the Department for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in section 31 (d) and (e) of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease WYW72456 effective March 1, 1999, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Pamela J. Lewis,

Chief, Leasable Minerals Section.

[FR Doc. 99-20029 Filed 8-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request; Extension

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of a currently approved information collection.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), we are notifying you that MMS is planning to submit an information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to request an extension of a currently approved collection. Under the PRA, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to Bids and Financial Statements for Sale of Royalty Oil and Gas (RIK Pilots), (OMB Control Number 1010-0129).

DATES: Submit written comments on the collection of information by October 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to the Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, P.O. Box 25165, MS-3021, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165; courier address is Building 85, Room A613, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; e-mail address is RMP.comments@mms.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning this collection of information, please contact Anne Ewell, Royalty-in-Kind (RIK) Study Team, telephone (703) 787-1584. You may also obtain copies of this collection of information by contacting MMS's Information Collection Clearance Officer at (202) 208-7744.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA, Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To