

mitigation proposed under the Proposed Project Alternative.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Act and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The Service will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act regulations and section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued to the Applicant for the incidental take of the California gnatcatcher. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: January 19, 2000.

Daniel S. Walsworth,

Acting Deputy Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 00-1923 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Issuance of Six Permits for Incidental Take of Threatened and Endangered Species

SUMMARY: Between April 1, 1999, and September 30, 1999, Region 2 of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued six permits for the incidental take of threatened and endangered species, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended. Of the six permits issued, four are associated with the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve and two are associated with other areas. The other two permits issued are outside of The City of Austin and Travis County, but are within the Southwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Copies of the six permits and associated decision documents are available upon request.

ADDRESSES: If you would like copies of any of the above documents, please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Leslie Dierauf, Regional Habitat Conservation Plan Coordinator, at the above address, 505-248-6651.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act and Federal Regulation prohibits the "take" of wildlife species listed as threatened or endangered species. Under the Act, the term "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect listed wildlife, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. The Service may, under limited circumstances, issue permits to authorize incidental take, *i.e.*, that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

Permittee	Permit No.	Date of issuance
Four Incidental Take Permits Issued Associated With the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve		
Tomen Park/Grandview Hills (TX)	PRT-815447	08/27/99
Balfour Tract (TX)	TE-003593-0	03/31/99
John C. Hunt (TX)	TE-010556-0	07/21/99
John M. Caster (TX)	TE-012423-0	09/24/99
Four Incidental Take Permits Issued in Other Areas of Region Permittee		
Lumbermans Investment Corp. (TX)	PRT-836384	09/30/99
Fred P. Stein (TX)	TE-007891-0	06/03/99

Thomas L. Bauer,

Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priorities List as of FY 2000

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is publishing the Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priority List as of FY 2000 in the **Federal Register** as required by statute. Construction funding is not yet currently available for all projects on the list. The Bureau will use this list to determine the order in which Congressional appropriations are

requested for funding education facilities replacement construction projects.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the Education Facilities Construction Priority List may be addressed to Dr. Kenneth G. Ross, Assistant Director, Office of Indian Education Programs, 201 Third St. NW, Suite 510, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102, (505) 346-6544/5/6, Fax (505) 346-6553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Publication of the Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priority List (Priority List) in the **Federal Register** is required by 25 U.S.C. 2005(c) at the time any budget request for school construction is presented. In a Senate Report accompanying an early version of the FY 2000 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, S. Rept. No. 106-99, p. 55 (1999), the Committee on Appropriations stated that it anticipates the release of a new replacement list during the FY 2001

appropriations process. In 1998, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA or Bureau) had begun preparations for developing a new Priority List, including the acceptance of applications from tribes who wished to have schools placed on the Priority List.

Schools placed on the "Education Facilities Construction Priority List as of FY 1993" that are not yet fully funded for construction, project Nos. 13, 15 and 16, did not have to submit applications for ranking on the new Priority List and are retained, in order, at the top of the FY 2000 list as project Nos. 1 through 3. The FY 1993 Priority List was published in the **Federal Register** on January 6, 1993 (58 FR 579). Education Facilities Replacement Construction projects will be funded for construction in the order in which they are ranked as appropriations become available, unless a school is not ready for the next phase of funding. In accordance with Congressional directives, the projects do not provide for new school starts nor grade level expansions.

The Conference Report for the FY 1992 Interior Related Agencies Appropriations Act, H. Conf. Rept. No. 102-256, p. 46 (1991), indicated that Congress wanted the Department to revise the priority ranking process for new school construction. The Bureau revised the process and developed draft revised instructions and criteria, complying with the 1991 Conference Report requirements that the BIA should emphasize tribal consultation and improve the objectivity of the ranking process, provide continuity to the priority ranking list, and provide procedures for handling emergency needs.

The Bureau published a Notice in the **Federal Register** on November 17, 1998 (63 FR 63942), requesting comments on the draft revised instructions and criteria, entitled "Instructions and Application for Replacement School Construction, 1999." The new instructions governed the priority ranking process for construction of replacement education facilities and the criteria used in ranking applications. Comments were received relating to administrative requirements and responsibilities; definitions of ranking criteria; evaluation of applications; and cost-sharing. The comments were reviewed and incorporated into the final instructions and criteria as appropriate by a team comprised of tribal representatives and BIA employees from the Office of Indian Education Programs and the Office of Facilities Management and Construction. The Bureau proceeded with using the final revised application instructions and criteria on February 26, 1999.

Copies of the final revised instructions and criteria were sent to all BIA schools and schools that receive BIA funds under contract or grant (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number: 15.062 "Replacement and Repair of Indian Schools"), and the Bureau held tribal consultation meetings on the revised process. BIA's Office of Indian Education Programs Education Line Officers offered training to applicants at all schools under their administrative jurisdiction on how to complete applications using the revised instructions and ranking criteria. Tribes and BIA-funded school boards received advance, written notice of training session dates, times and locations for tribes and schools under their respective jurisdictions. The Bureau published another Notice in the **Federal Register** on March 29, 1999 (64 FR 14936), calling for applications based on the revised instructions and ranking criteria. The Bureau accepted applications beginning June 28, 1999

and used the criteria in the revised instructions to review and evaluate all applications that were received on or before the deadline of July 16, 1999. These applications were ranked according to the new criteria and 10 schools were placed on the FY 2000 Priority List.

The Committee on Appropriations also recommended that the BIA establish a demonstration project to allow tribes with schools on the replacement list to apply for Federal funding with the guarantee of a cost share from the tribe, S. Rept. No. 106-99, p. 54 (1999). Accordingly, in the priority ranking process for the Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priority List as of FY 2000, applicants indicated whether they would cost share. Congress further stated that tribes may share the cost of construction of their school, identify non-Bureau funding to match or supplement Bureau funding, or pay future operations costs in exchange for the full funding of school construction costs earlier than they might hope to receive it under the Priority List.

Use of the term "cost share" after the name of an education facility replacement construction project on the FY 2000 Priority List means that a tribe has submitted a tribal council resolution supporting a long-term commitment to cost sharing, and has specified the exact nature of its monetary commitment or contribution by completing Section II of the application form, which commits the tribe to share in the costs of school facility replacement in order to expedite construction.

This notice is published under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs in the Departmental Manual at 209 DM 8.

Education Facilities Replacement Construction Priority List as of FY 2000

1. Tuba City Boarding School
2. Second Mesa Day School
3. Zia Day School
4. Baca/Thoreau (Dlo'ay Azhi) Consolidated Community School
5. Lummi Tribal School
6. Wingate Elementary School
7. Polacca Day School
8. Holbrook Dormitory
9. Santa Fe Indian School (Cost Share *)
10. Ojibwa Indian School
11. Conehatta Elementary School (Cost Share*)
12. Paschal Sherman Indian School
13. Kayenta Boarding School

*Tribe or tribal organization commits to cost share.

Dated: January 24, 2000.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-2035 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU 78566]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation proposes to withdraw 170 acres of National Forest System lands, for a period of 50 years, for protection, operation and maintenance of the Washington and Lost Lake Dams in the Upper Provo River component of the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project. This notice segregates the lands for up to 2 years from location and entry under the United States mining laws. The lands will remain open to all other uses which may be made of National Forest System lands.

DATES: Comments and requests for a meeting must be received on or before May 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and meeting requests should be sent to the Bureau of Reclamation, Area Manager, Provo Area Office, 302 East 1860 South, Provo, Utah 84606-7317.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Krueger, Provo Area Office, 801-379-1083.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 1, 1999, a petition was approved allowing the Bureau of Reclamation to file an application to withdraw the following described National Forest System lands from location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

Salt Lake Meridian

Wasatch National Forest

T. 2 S., R. 9 E.,

Sec. 4, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄SW¹/₄ and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄SW¹/₄;

Sec. 5, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, W¹/₂NE¹/₄SE¹/₄, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄SE¹/₄,

E¹/₂NW¹/₄SE¹/₄, and N¹/₂SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;

Sec. 6, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄ and N¹/₂NW¹/₄SE¹/₄.

The areas described aggregate 170 acres in Summit County.

All persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed