

3.20 What Is The Relationship Between Ecological Integrity and Comprehensive Conservation Planning?

We integrate the principles of this policy into all aspects of comprehensive conservation planning as we write plans to direct long range refuge management and identify desired future conditions for planned refuges (602 FW 1.7 D).

3.21 How Do We Protect Ecological Integrity From Actions Outside Of Refuges?

When actions of others that occur off refuge lands or waters that injure or destroy the natural resources of a refuge, refuge managers should address those problems as soon as possible to protect the property of the United States and to protect the biological integrity, biological diversity, and environmental health of the refuge and the System. The refuge manager should first inform the person or entity responsible and request cooperation. Our first effort to avoid and rectify injury should always be partnerships or voluntary cooperation with adjacent landowners and others. If these efforts fail to protect the refuge, refuge managers should request the Office of the Solicitor for assistance in pursuing civil remedies, such as an injunction or damages, just as any other landowner would.

Primary Author: Brian Czech, Conservation Biologist, Branch of Wildlife Resources, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is the primary author of this notice.

Dated: September 24, 2000.

Jamie Rappaport Clark,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-921-01-1320-EL-P; MTM 88405]

Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Offering by Sealed Bid

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office

ACTION: Notice of competitive coal lease offering by sealed bid MTM 88405.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the coal resources in the lands described below in Big Horn County, Montana, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid. This offering is being made as a result of an application filed by Spring Creek Coal Company, in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as

amended (41 Stat. 437; 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*).

The lease sale will be held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 27, 2000, in the main conference room, side B, at the Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59102. Bids for the tract will be in the form of sealed bids. Sealed bids clearly marked "Sealed Bid for MTM 88405 Coal Sale—Not to be opened before 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 27, 2000" must be submitted on or before 10:00 a.m., November 27, 2000, to the cashier, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Post Office Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

An Environmental Assessment of the proposed coal development and related requirements for consultation, public involvement, and hearings have been completed in accordance with 43 CFR 3425. The results of these activities were a finding of no significant environmental impact.

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands:

T. 8 S., R. 39 E., P.M.M.

Sec. 13: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 14: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,

S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,

NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,

NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 23: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,

N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 24: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$,

N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Containing 150.00 acres, Big Horn County, Montana.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. The surface is not held by a qualified surface owner as defined in the regulations, 43 CFR 3400.0-5.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid meets the fair market value of the coal resource. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand-delivered. The cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. *Bids received after 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 27, 2000, will not be considered.* The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

If identical high bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking

sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

A lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof; and a royalty payable to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal mined by surface methods and 8.0 percent of the value of coal mined by underground methods. The value of the coal shall be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.250.

Bidding instructions for the tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are included in the Detailed Statement of Lease Sale. Copies of the statement and the proposed coal lease are available at the Montana State Office. Casefile MTM 88405 is also available for public inspection at the Montana State Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bettie Schaff, Land Law Examiner or Rebecca Good, Coal Coordinator at (406) 896-5063 or 896-5080, respectively.

Dated: October 11, 2000.

Randy D. Heuscher,

Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.

[FR Doc. 00-26560 Filed 10-16-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway; Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Park Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the final cooperative management plan/final environmental impact statement for the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources announce the availability of the final cooperative management plan/final environmental impact statement (FCMP/FEIS) for the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

The purpose of the cooperative management plan is to set forth the basic management philosophy for the riverway and to provide the strategies for addressing issues and achieving

identified management objectives. The FCMP/FEIS describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed action and four action alternatives for the future management direction of the riverway. The FCMP/FEIS also evaluates a preferred management structure and two management structure options for the riverway. No action alternatives are evaluated for both management direction and management structure.

The responsible officials are Mr. William Schenk, Midwest Regional Director, National Park Service; Mr. Allen Garber, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; and Mr. George Meyer, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

DATES: The no-action period on this FEIS will expire 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency has published a notice of availability of the FEIS in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FCMP/FEIS are available by request by writing the Superintendent, Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024-0708, by telephone at 715-483-3284, extension 625 or by e-mail from SACN_Superintendent@nps.gov. The document can be picked-up in person at the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway headquarters at 401 Hamilton Street North, St. Croix Falls, WI.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Superintendent, Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway at the address and telephone listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway is a narrow corridor that runs for 52 miles along the boundary of Minnesota and Wisconsin, from St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls to the confluence with the Mississippi River at Prescott/Point Douglas. The National Park Service manages a portion of the upper 27 miles of lands and waters of this corridor. The states of Minnesota and Wisconsin administer the lower 25 miles. The states and the federal government jointly conduct planning for the riverway.

The Draft Cooperative Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DCMP/DEIS) for the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway was released to the public on September 17, 1999. The public comment period ended November 30, 1999. About 650 copies of the document were distributed during this period. The managing agencies received almost 900 written responses during the public review period.

Modifications to the DGMP/DEIS have been made based on public comment received and on further impact analysis.

Dated: October 5, 2000.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 00-26604 Filed 10-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Official Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Symbol

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the official National Park Service symbol with the incorporating words "Underground Railroad Network to Freedom" carrying out the provisions of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act.

DATES: This action is effective October 17, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Miller, National Coordinator, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, 1709 Jackson Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, telephone 402-221-3749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Park Service has designated an official National Park Service symbol with the words "Underground Railroad Network to Freedom" fulfilling the mandate of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act. You may obtain a copy of the image incorporating the words "Underground Railroad Network to Freedom" from the National Coordinator at the address listed above. Notice is given that whoever manufactures, sells, or possesses this symbol embossed image, or any colorable limitation thereof, or photographs, prints or in any other manner makes or executes any engraving photograph or print, or impression in the likeness of this symbol, or any colorable imitation thereof, without authorization from the United States Department of the Interior is subject to the penalty provisions of section 701, Title 18 of the United States Code.

Dated: October 15, 2000.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director, Midwest Region.

[FR Doc. 00-26605 Filed 10-16-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request approval for the collection of information for the permanent program performance standards—surface mining activities at 30 CFR part 816.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by December 18, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 210—SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtreleas@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208-2783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for extension. These collections are contained in 30 CFR 816.

OSM has revised burden estimates, where appropriate, to reflect current reporting levels or adjustments based on reestimates of burden or respondents. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such