

phone 1-800-NIH-OMAR (1-800-644-6627).

Dated: February 9, 1995.

Ruth L. Kirschstein,

Deputy Director, NIH.

[FR Doc. 95-4823 Filed 2-27-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Grant to the Farm Resource Center

AGENCY: Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), HHS.

ACTION: Planned single-source award to support mental health outreach to coal miners, farmers, and their families.

SUMMARY: This notice is to provide information to the public concerning a planned single-source award by the CMHS/SAMHSA to the Farm Resource Center (FRC) of Cairo, Illinois, to fund the "MH Outreach to Coal Miners, Farmers, and Families" project. Upon receipt of a satisfactory grant application that is recommended for approval by an Initial Review Group and the CMHS National Advisory Council, approximately \$600,000 in Federal funds will be made available to the FRC to carry out a 1-year project.

This is not a formal request for applications. Grant funds will be provided only to the FRC.

Authority/Justification: This grant will be made under the authority of Section 520A of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 290bb-32).

An award is being made on a single-source basis in response to House and Senate Appropriation Subcommittees language contained in H.R. Report 103-553 and S. Report 103-318 instructing the agency to provide funding for two pilot projects to provide outreach counseling services to families of coal miners. A grant is the appropriate mechanism to fund this activity since support will be provided for a public purpose and agency involvement in the actual conduct of the activity is not required.

The FRC has provided mental health and substance abuse outreach services in rural Illinois since 1986. FRC has provided counseling to farmers, coal miners and their families, established a statewide hotline, and utilized outreach counselors to work with rural families in their homes to address problems such as depression, financial stress, alcoholism, and domestic violence.

The FRC is uniquely qualified to carry out the aims of this project in that it has

the distinction of being the only organization with extensive experience in linking coal miners, farmers, and their families with mental health services. Further, because of their years of experience and organizational readiness, the project can be implemented with a minimal start-up time. The FRC has in place mechanisms to recruit, train, and dispatch volunteers to provide outreach and counseling to the target population. Moreover, FRC's trained staff have a long history of working closely with State or regional associations of the United Mine Workers of America, Association of Public Health Administrators, the Easter Seal Society, and the Association of Community Mental Health Agencies.

Background: A significant portion of the adult population in the United States reports experiencing personal or emotional problems in the course of a year. Half of these people say they are unable to solve their problems, and approximately one-third report they are unable to do anything to make their problems more bearable. Yet relatively few seek help. Thus, outreach services are important to engage more persons into appropriate services. Outreach, when carried out aggressively, can engage and empower coal miners, farmers, and their families by giving them access to needed mental health services.

The effects of economic stress are pervasive in rural areas, and coal miners, farmers, and their families have been particularly hard hit. Unemployment and underemployment have resulted in a high incidence of problems including alcohol/drug abuse, family violence, depression, suicides, and other stress-related symptoms.

This grant is intended to address the mental health needs of a wide range of rural population groups including the poor, the elderly, the disabled, women (particularly those of child bearing age), and minority populations in Illinois and West Virginia. It will enhance effective service utilization in five areas by:

- (1) Expanding the mental health service capacity in communities to serve persons in the target population;
- (2) Increasing access to existing mental health and related support services;
- (3) Increasing utilization of existing mental health and related support services;
- (4) Developing effective public education efforts to address mental health and substance abuse issues; and
- (5) Providing family-centered outreach in the cultural context that is most appropriate for the client and family involved.

The proposed project will serve as a national demonstration site on the development and implementation of outreach to rural families who are experiencing mental illnesses or are at risk of developing mental illnesses.

Dated: February 21, 1995.

Richard Kopanda,

Acting Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 95-4845 Filed 2-27-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-030-05-1430-01; IDI-31091]

Intent To Prepare a Plan Amendment to the Medicine Lodge Resource Management Plan (RMP); Proposed Sale of Public Land in Jefferson County, ID

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare a Plan Amendment to the Medicine Lodge Resource Management Plan (RMP); Proposed Sale of Public Land in Jefferson County, Idaho.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 43 CFR part 1600, the Idaho Falls office of the Bureau of Land Management proposes to amend the Medicine Lodge RMP to identify a portion of the following described public land as suitable for disposal. The land, located in Jefferson County, Idaho, will be examined for possible disposal by direct sale to the City of Mud Lake.

Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 6 N., R. 34 E., BM
Sec. 18, lot 10, NE¼.

The land being considered for sale is approximately 40 to 50 acres. A Cadastral survey would be required to determine the exact acreage and legal description.

DATES: Comments concerning the plan amendment must be received no later March 30, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the plan amendment may be sent to the BLM Associate District Manager, 940 Lincoln Road, Idaho Falls, ID 83401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Bruce Bash, Realty Specialist, at the above address, or by calling 208-524-7521.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The amendment would change the land designation, of about 40-50 acres, from retention status to transfer status. The following resources would be considered in preparation of the

amendment: lands, wildlife, range, minerals, cultural resources, watershed/soils, threatened/endangered species, and hazardous materials. Staff members representing each resource will be consulted during preparation of the environmental document.

The primary issue to be addressed is the change in land designation from retention to transfer status. The amendment is not expected to be controversial as the City of Mud Lake currently holds an airport lease on the same land. No public meetings are scheduled; however, written comments may be submitted after each of two public notices.

Prepared documents will be available at the BLM Idaho Falls office. Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Dated: February 16, 1995.

Gary L. Bliss,

Associate District Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-4801 Filed 2-27-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-M

Fish and Wildlife Service

Marine Mammals; Polar Bear Habitat Conservation

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Availability of a draft Habitat Conservation Strategy for Polar Bears in Alaska; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Final Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regulations published in the **Federal Register** on November 16, 1993, authorized and governed the incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bear and walrus during oil and gas industry operations year-round in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska. Those regulations contained provisions requiring the Service by June 15, 1995, to develop and be implementing a strategy for the identification and protection of important polar bear habitats. The Service has developed a draft Habitat Conservation Strategy for Polar Bears in Alaska (Strategy), announces its availability, and solicits public comments.

DATES: Comments on the draft Strategy must be received by May 1, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft Strategy are available by contacting the Office of Marine Mammals Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503; Telephone: 907/786-3800; FAX: 907/786-3816.

Written comments should be submitted either by mail or FAX to

David McGillivary, Supervisor, Office of Marine Mammals Management at the above identified address, telephone, or FAX numbers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David McGillivary in Anchorage, Alaska, at 907/786-3800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (Act) vested authority for management and conservation of polar bears in the United States (i.e., Alaska) with the Service. Provisions in section 101(a)(5) of the Act authorize the incidental, unintentional take by U.S. citizens of small numbers of marine mammals (e.g., polar bear) in specified activities other than commercial fishing. As defined in section 3 of the Act, the term "take" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.

While the Act authorizes these incidental takes, section 2(6) of the Act states that:

Marine mammals * * * should be protected and encouraged to develop to the greatest extent feasible commensurate with sound policies of resource management and that the primary objective of their management should be to maintain the health and stability of the marine ecosystem.

In this regard, section 112(a) of the Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to prescribe regulations that are necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Act.

In addition to its responsibilities under the Act, the Service has further responsibilities under the 1973 International Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears (International Agreement). Article II of this International Agreement states that:

Each Contracting Party [i.e., Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia, and the U.S.] shall take appropriate action to protect the ecosystems of which polar bears are a part, with special attention to habitat components such as denning and feeding sites and migration patterns * * *

On December 17, 1991, BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc., for itself and on behalf of 14 other oil and gas related companies operating in Alaska, petitioned the Service to promulgate regulations pursuant to section 101(a)(5) of the Act to allow for the incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and walrus during year-round oil and gas activities (i.e., exploration, development, and production) in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska. Culminating a two-year process, the Service ultimately published a final rule in the **Federal Register** on November 16, 1993 (58 FR 60402), with final

regulations initially effective beginning on December 16, 1993, for an 18-month period through June 16, 1995.

Consistent with the intent of the International Agreement, the final rule contains provisions that require the Service to develop and begin implementing a strategy, as part of our management plan process pursuant to section 115 of the Act, for the identification and protection of important polar bear habitats. Development of a strategy, as well as the initiation of steps to implement it, is necessary for the Beaufort Sea final regulations to be extended beyond their initial 18 month effective period (now set to expire on June 16, 1995) for a total 5-year period (through December 15, 1998) as authorized by the Act.

Initiating efforts to develop this draft Strategy, the Service on December 28, 1993, published a "Notice of intent to prepare a polar bear habitat protection strategy, conduct public meetings, and request [for] information," in the **Federal Register** (58 FR 68659). Public meetings were held in Anchorage and Barrow, Alaska, on January 20 and 25, 1994, respectively, in order to provide background information and our proposed plan for development of a Strategy, and to solicit input from those in attendance. The formal public comment period associated with the Notice closed on February 11, 1994. Additional meetings subsequently were held in coastal Alaska communities and discussions have been conducted with Alaskan Native hunters to collect knowledge on polar bear habitat use. The Service has also consulted with the Marine Mammal Commission, signatories to the International Agreement, the Department of State, the State of Alaska, the oil and gas industry, conservation organizations, and academia. Information obtained during these various efforts has been incorporated into the draft Strategy.

The objective of this Strategy is to identify and enhance protection of important polar bear habitats in Alaska. This will enable the United States to address the ecosystem protection provisions of the Act and the Agreement, and to ensure oil and gas activities are conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts on polar bears, their habitat, and on their availability for subsistence uses. Its goal is to maintain the integrity of the ecosystem upon which polar bears depend and to maintain polar bear populations at optimum sustainable population levels. The Service hereby announces the availability of its draft Strategy. Public review and comment is solicited.