

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Office of the Secretary****Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group; Meeting**

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary is announcing a public meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group.

DATES: June 13–14, 1995 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: First floor conference room, 645 "G" Street, Anchorage, Alaska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Douglas Mutter, Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance, 1689 "C" Street, Suite 119, Anchorage, Alaska, (907) 271–5011.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Public Advisory Group was created by Paragraph V.A.4 of the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered into by the United States of America and the State of Alaska on August 27, 1991, and approved by the United States District Court for the District of Alaska in settlement of *United States of America v. State of Alaska*, Civil Action No. A91–081–CV. The agenda will include the review of the fiscal year 1996 restoration work plan and proposed fish and marine mammal projects.

Dated: May 10, 1995.

Willie R. Taylor,

Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95–11979 Filed 5–15–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–10–M

Bureau of Land Management

[AK–962–1410–00–P]

Alaska; Notice for Publication AA–10968; Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h), will be issued to Chugach Alaska Corporation for 0.10 acre. The land involved is in the vicinity of Long Bay, Alaska.

U.S. Survey No. 6935, Alaska.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the ANCHORAGE

DAILY NEWS. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513–7599 ((907) 271–5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until June 15, 1995 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4, subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Christy Favorite,

Acting Chief, Branch of Gulf Rim Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 95–11964 Filed 5–15–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–84–P

Interagency Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Animal Damage Control and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management; Interior.

ACTION: Notice of final memorandum of understanding.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Animal Damage Control (APHIS–ADC) have signed a Master Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that recognizes APHIS–ADC as the lead federal agency for the conduct of animal damage management on lands administered by the BLM. Specifically, the MOU assigns responsibility to APHIS–ADC for carrying out animal damage management, primarily for protection of livestock, including compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the issuance of records of decision. The MOU also recognizes the State's responsibilities for management of resident wildlife populations and the need for communication among the parties, the States, and other affected agencies such as the USDA Forest Service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This MOU becomes effective May 16, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cal McCluskey, Bureau of Land Management, Wildlife, Fisheries, Rangeland and Forestland Group, 1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; telephone (202) 452–7765.

Background Information

On August 5, 1994 the BLM published for a 60-day public comment period, a draft MOU between BLM and APHIS–ADC outlining the proposed shift of responsibility for compliance with NEPA, ESA, and authorization of animal damage management actions on BLM administered lands to APHIS–ADC. The BLM received a total of 66 written comments from various sources. Approximately half (36) of the comments came from individuals, 20 from non-profit, nongovernment organizations and 10 were received from either State or Federal agencies.

A summary of the comments received, responses to the comments and a copy of the final MOU is provided in the following section.

Denise Meridith,

Acting Director.

Comment: APHIS–ADC does not have any administrative appeals process thereby forcing individual citizens or organizations to resort to litigation in order to challenge a decision issued by APHIS–ADC on their control program.

Response: The transfer of NEPA compliance and decision-making responsibility to APHIS–ADC does not eliminate the responsibility to obtain adequate public input into the decision-making process. APHIS–ADC must consider issues presented to them during the NEPA process and comment period. APHIS recently published its new NEPA implementation procedures (60CFR 6000–05, February 1, 1995) which contain specific commitments to public involvement and notification during the NEPA process.

Comment: The BLM should complete NEPA analysis using either an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement before it makes a decision to transfer NEPA responsibilities and decision-making authority for animal damage control to APHIS–ADC as proposed by the MOU.

Response: The development of policies, directives, regulations and guidelines of an administrative, financial, legal, technical or procedural nature, or environmental effects which are too broad, speculative or conjectural to lend themselves to meaningful analysis and that will be subject to the NEPA process, either collectively or case by case are categorically excluded from the NEPA process under