

Defiance Zoo for a permit (PRT-808562) to take for the purposes of public display a female polar bear recovered as an orphan near Barrow, Alaska.

Notice is hereby given that on February 6, 1996, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 420(c), Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Date: February 16, 1996.

Caroline Anderson,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 96-3951 Filed 2-21-96; 8:45 am]

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Bureau of Land Management

[AK-962-1410-00-P; AA-8099-01]

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(e) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(e), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 5,322 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nyac, Alaska, and are described as within T. 10 N., Rgs. 61 and 62 W., Seward Meridian, 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 March 25, 1996 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.

Terry R. Hassett

Chief, Branch of Gulf Rim Adjudication

[FR Doc. 96-3943 Filed 2-21-96; 8:45 am]

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[NM-030-7122-03-8532]

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Copper Flat Mine Project, Sierra County, New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the BLM Las Cruces District has prepared a Draft EIS on the impacts of a proposed copper mine on private and Federal lands, 4 miles northeast of Hillsboro in Sierra County, New Mexico.

DATES: Written comments on the Draft EIS must be postmarked on or before April 15, 1996. Public hearings will be held at the times and places listed under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Russell Jentgen, Copper Flat Team Leader, BLM, Las Cruces District, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Russel Jentgen, Copper Flat Team Leader, (505) 525-4351.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public hearings will be held at the following times and locations.

Date	Time	City	Location
March 26, 1996.	7 p.m.	Hillsboro, New Mexico.	Fire Station.
March 27, 1996.	7 p.m.	Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.	Civic Center, 400 West 4th Ave.

Both oral and written comments may be given at the hearings. Written comments may also be submitted to the BLM, Las Cruces District, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, NM 88005 on or before April 15, 1996.

Oral testimony at the hearings will be limited to 10 minutes for each witness. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the presiding officer based on the number of speakers registered. Written text of prepared speakers may be filed at the hearing whether or not

the speaker has been able to complete the oral delivery in the allotted time.

All oral and written comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIS will receive consideration in the Final EIS.

Copies of the Draft EIS have been distributed to a mailing list of identified interested parties. Single copies of the Draft EIS may be obtained from the BLM Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico; the BLM New Mexico State Office, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico; and the Socorro Resource Area Office, 198 Neel Veneue, NW, Socorro, New Mexico. Public reading copies are available for review at public and university libraries in Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Truth or Consequences, Socorro, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe, New Mexico and El Paso, Texas.

The Alta Gold Corporation of Henderson, Nevada submitted a proposed plan of operations to conduct mining activities on approximately 1,103 acres at Copper Flat. The plan was prepared pursuant to Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), subpart 3809 (surface management-operations authorized by the mining laws). Four primary alternatives were assessed for the Copper Flat Project Draft EIS. These alternatives were the proposed action, a reduced stripping ratio alternative, a consolidated waste rock disposal alternative, and a no action alternative. Under the proposed action, approximately 537 acres of public land managed by the BLM and 566 acres of private land would be disturbed, a total of 1,103 acres. Under the reduced stripping ratio alternative, a total of 1,023 acres would be disturbed, and under the consolidated waste rock disposal alternative the total disturbance would be 1,080 acres. In the no action alternative, approximately 656 acres of previously disturbed mine lands would remain in the existing partially reclaimed condition.

During scoping, several issues were determined to require in-depth assessment. These issues were acid rock drainage from waste disposal areas, impacts to the water table from dewatering the mine pit, impacts to ground water from the tailings disposal area, and impacts to the water table from pumping up to 6,000 gallon of water per minute from the water supply well field. Other impacts were also assessed in the Draft EIS.

Dated: February 14, 1996.

Linda S. C. Rundell,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 96-3942 Filed 2-21-96; 8:45 am]

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