

coerulescens and exposure of the Applicant under Section 9 of the Act. A third alternative is the proposed Project that is designed with a different mitigation strategy. The proposed action alternative is issuance of the incidental take permit. This provides for restrictions of construction activity, purchase of offsite habitat for the Florida scrub jay, and the establishment of an endowment fund for the offsite acquired habitat. The HCP provides a funding mechanism for these mitigation measures.

As stated above, the Service has made a preliminary determination that the proposed action, e.g., issuance of the incidental take permit, is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. This preliminary information may be adjusted due to public comment received in response to this notice and is based on information contained in the EA and HCP. An appropriate excerpt from the FONSI reflecting the Service's finding on the application is provided below:

Based on the analysis conducted by the Service, it has been determined that:

1. Issuance of the incidental take permit will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of the affected species in the wild or result in the adverse modification of designated critical habitat. This decision is based upon and considers the cumulative impacts of past, present and future issuance of incidental take permits within the area affected in the permit action.

2. Issuance of an incidental take permit would not have significant effects on the human environment in the project area.

3. The proposed take is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity.

4. The Applicant has ensured that adequate funding will be provided to implement the measures proposed in the submitted HCP.

5. Other than impacts to endangered and threatened species as outlined in the documentation of this decision, the indirect impacts which may result from issuance of the incidental take permit are addressed by other regulations and statutes under the jurisdiction of other government entities. The validity of the Service's incidental take permit is contingent upon the Applicant's compliance with the terms of the permit and all other laws and regulations under the control of State, local, and other Federal governmental entities.

Dated: March 8, 1996.

Jerome M. Butler,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 96-6211 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made with 60 days directly to the Bureau clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 208 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 22092, telephone (703) 648-7313.

Title: Annual National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Announcement.

OMB approval number: 1028-0051.

Abstract: Respondents submit proposals to support research in earthquake hazards and earthquake prediction to earth-science data and information essential to mitigate earthquake losses. This information will be used as the basis for selection and award of projects meeting the program objectives. Annual or final reports are required on each selected performances.

Bureau form number: None.

Frequency: Annual proposals, annual or final reports.

Description of respondents: Educational institutions, profit and non-profit organizations, individuals, and agencies of local or State governments.

Annual responses: 500.

Annual burden hours: 17,200 hours.

Bureau clearance officer: John Cordyack, (703) 648-7313.

Dated: February 27, 1996.

P. Patrick Leahy,

Chief Geologist.

[FR Doc. 96-6173 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Receipt of Petition for Federal Acknowledgment of Existence as an Indian Tribe

This is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Pursuant to 25 CFR 83.9(a) (formerly 25 CFR 54.8(a)) notice is hereby given that the Oakbrook Chumash People, 3290 Lang Ranch Parkway, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 has filed a petition for acknowledgment by the Secretary of the Interior that the group exists as an Indian tribe. The petition was received by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on May 25, 1995, and was signed by members of the group's governing body.

This is a notice of receipt of petition and does not constitute notice that the petition is under active consideration. Notice of active consideration will be sent by mail to the petitioner and other interested parties at the appropriate time.

Under §83.9(a) (formerly 54.8(d)) of the Federal regulations, interested parties may submit factual and/or legal arguments in support of or in opposition to the group's petition. Any information submitted will be made available on the same basis as other information in the BIA's files. Such submissions will be provided to the petitioner upon receipt by the BIA. The petitioner will be provided an opportunity to respond to such submissions prior to a final determination regarding the petitioner's status.

The petition may be examined, by appointment, in the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Room 1362-MIB, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, Phone: (202) 208-3592.

Dated: February 28, 1996.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 96-6257 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-M

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-350-4210-01]

Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection; OMB Approval Number 1004-0153

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is announcing its intention to request extension of approval for the collection of information from those persons who seek to acquire the Federally owned (reserved) mineral interests underlying their surface estate. BLM collects information to assure that the applicant is the owner of the surface that overlies the Federally owned minerals and that statutory requirements for their conveyance have been met.

DATE: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by May 14, 1996 to be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Regulatory Management Team (420), Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C. Street NW, Room 401 LS, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Comments may be sent via Internet to: !WO140@attmail.com. Please include "Attn: 1004-0153" and your name and return address in your internet message.

Comments may be hand delivered to the Bureau of Land Management Administrative Record, Room 401, L Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

Comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 A.M. to 4:15 P.M., Monday through Friday).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl C. Gammon, (202) 452-7777.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d), BLM is required to provide 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning a proposed collection of information to solicit comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. 1719, states that the Secretary of the Interior may convey mineral interests owned by the United States where the surface is or will be in non-Federal ownership if he finds that there are no known mineral values in

the land or that the reservation of the mineral rights in the United States is interfering with or precluding appropriate non-mineral development of the land and the non-mineral development is a more beneficial use of the land than mineral development. BLM adopted implementing regulations at 43 CFR Part 2720 in 1979 (44 FR 1342, January 4, 1979) and amended them in 1986 (51 FR 9657, March 20, 1986). The regulations establish a procedure whereby any individual seeking to acquire the Federally owned (reserved) mineral interest underlying their surface must make application and provide information essential to compliance with law, regulations, and procedures. At 43 CFR 2720.1-2, the regulations specify the information that must be included in the application in narrative form:

Name, address, and phone number. The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the existing or prospective record title owner of the land is necessary to identify and locate the individual for transacting business and communication. The phone number is necessary for direct communication with the applicant.

Proof of Ownership. Proof of ownership of land included in the application is necessary to assure the applicant is the record title owner of the surface. In the case of a prospective owner, the application must include a copy of the contract or a statement describing the method by which ownership will be obtained.

Supporting survey evidence. The applicant must include a copy of any patent or other instrument conveying the land included in the application, with supporting survey information. This information is necessary to legally describe the land in the application.

Statement. The applicant must include a statement concerning: (1) The nature of the Federally owned or reserved mineral values in the land, (2) the existing and proposed uses of the land, (3) why the mineral reservation is interfering with or precluding appropriate non-mineral development of the land, (4) how and why such development would be a more beneficial use than mineral development, and (5) a showing that the proposed use complies or will comply with State and local zoning or planning requirements. This information is necessary to assure that the application meets statutory requirements for receiving benefits.

BLM uses the information collected to analyze and approve applications for purchase of Federally owned mineral interests. If the information required by

43 CFR 2720.1-2 was not collected, BLM would be unable to carry out the mandate of Section 209 of FLPMA, and beneficial development of the surface would be precluded.

Based on its experience administering the regulations at 43 CFR Part 2720, BLM estimates that the public reporting burden for the information collection is eight hours per application. The respondents are non-Federal owners of the surface of the land in which the mineral interests are reserved or otherwise owned by the United States who seek to acquire those mineral interests. The frequency of response is one per application. BLM estimates that 29 Conveyance of Federally Owned Mineral Interests applications will be filed annually. The estimated total annual burden on new respondents is collectively 232 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 12, 1996.

Dr. Annetta L. Cheek,

Chief, Regulatory Management Team.

[FR Doc. 96-6270 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

[CA-066-06-1610-00]

Proposed California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment, Palm Springs—South Coast Resource Area, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared an environmental assessment and proposed California Desert Conservation Area plan amendment affecting public lands within the Palm Springs—South Coast Resource Area, southern California. Citizens are requested to review and provide comments on the proposed amendment and environmental assessment. BLM proposes to expand the boundaries of two existing Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): the Big Morongo Canyon ACEC (No. 50) and the Salt Creek Pupfish/Rail Habitat ACEC (No. 60). The Salt Creek ACEC would be renamed the Dos Palmas ACEC.