

Baltimore-Washington Parkway (Anne Arundel County)

Dated: August 2, 1996.

Chris Andress,

Chief, Division of Ranger Activities, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 96-20207 Filed 8-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Devils Tower National Monument, Wyoming

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice—reconsideration of a portion of the Devils Tower Climbing Management Plan.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) has decided to reconsider certain portions of the Climbing Management Plan for Devils Tower National Monument which address climbing limitations based on concerns about Indian religious and cultural values.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted through September 23, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Superintendent, Devils Tower National Monument, P.O. Box 10, Devils Tower, Wyoming 82714-0010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah O. Liggett, Superintendent, Devils Tower National Monument. Telephone 307-467-5283.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In March 1995, the NPS adopted a Final Climbing Management Plan (Plan) for Devils Tower National Monument. In general, the Plan states that Devils Tower will be managed primarily as a crack climbing site and that climbing will be managed taking into account the religious and cultural significance of Devils Tower as a site sacred to some Native Americans.

To this end, the Plan calls for technical rock climbers to voluntarily refrain from climbing Devils Tower during the culturally significant month of June. In addition, the Plan states that commercial use licenses for climbing will not allow commercially guided climbing during June (starting in 1996).

On May 24, 1996, Executive Order 13007 was issued by the President. It generally states that federal agencies with land management responsibilities, to the extent practicable, permitted by law, and not clearly inconsistent with essential agency functions, are to accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and to avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity

of sacred sites. The Executive Order supplements the protection afforded by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act Amendments of 1994.

On June 8, 1996, the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming issued a preliminary order in *Bear Lodge Multiple Use Association v. Babbitt*, C.A. No. 96-CV-0063D. The court's order enjoined the NPS from restricting commercial guide climbing activities during the month of June pending a final decision of the court. The order upheld the Plan's voluntary program to encourage climbers not to climb in the month of June.

In light of these circumstances, NPS has decided to reconsider those portions of the Plan which address climbing limitations based on concerns about Indian religious and cultural values. Pending the outcome of this reconsideration and in accordance with the court's order, the NPS will not enforce the Plan's requirements regarding commercial guide climbing in the month of June. Except with respect to commercial guide activities in the month of June, the Plan remains in full force and effect.

Through this notice, the public is asked to comment on the Plan's climbing limitations based on concerns about Indian religious and cultural values. Particularly, the public is asked to comment on appropriate means for the NPS at Devils Tower to comply with the President's Executive Order regarding Indian Sacred sites. NPS, upon consideration of all public comments received, will determine whether to continue the Plan or to modify it with respect to climbing limitations based on concerns about Indian religious and cultural values. It is expected that this reconsideration will be completed by December 1, 1996.

Copies of the Plan, the court's order and Executive Order 13007 will be made available upon request from Devils Tower National Monument.

Dated: August 2, 1996.

Chris Andress,

Chief, Division of Ranger Activities, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 96-20208 Filed 8-7-96; 8:45 am]

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Bureau of Reclamation

Quarterly Status Report of Water Service and Repayment Contract Negotiations

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of proposed contractual actions that are new, modified, discontinued, or completed since the last publication of this notice on April 30, 1996. The February 5, 1996, notice should be used as a reference point to identify changes. The number in parenthesis corresponds to the number in the February 5, 1996, notice. This notice is one means in which the public is informed about contractual actions for capital recovery and management of project resources and facilities. Additional Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) announcements of individual contract actions may be published in the Federal Register and in newspapers of general circulation in the areas determined by Reclamation to be affected by the proposed action. Announcements may be in the form of new releases, legal notices, official letters, memorandums, or other forms of written material. Meetings, workshops, and/or hearings may also be used, as appropriate, to provide local publicity. The public participation procedures do not apply to proposed contracts for sale of surplus or interim irrigation water for a term of 1 year or less. Either of the contracting parties may invite the public to observe any contract proceedings. All public participation procedures will be coordinated with those involved in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act.

ADDRESSES: The identity of the approving officer and other information pertaining to a specific contract proposal may be obtained by calling or writing the appropriate regional office at the address and telephone number given for each region in the supplementary information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alonzo Knapp, Manager, Reclamation Law, Contract, and Repayment Office, Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007; telephone 303-236-1061 extension 224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 226 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 1273) and 43 CFR 426.20 of the rules and regulations published in 52 FR 11954, Apr. 13, 1987, Reclamation will publish notice of proposed or amendatory contract actions for any contract for the delivery of project water for authorized uses in newspapers of general circulation in the affected area at least 60 days prior to contract execution. Pursuant to the "Final Revised Public Participation Procedures" for water resource-related contract negotiations,

published in 47 FR 7763, Feb. 22, 1982, a tabulation is provided of all proposed contractual actions in each of the five Reclamation regions. Each proposed action is, or is expected to be, in some stage of the contract negotiation process in 1996. When contract negotiations are completed, and prior to execution, each proposed contract form must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior or, pursuant to delegated or redelegated authority, the Commissioner of Reclamation or one of the regional directors. In some instances, congressional review and approval of a report, water rate, or other terms and conditions of the contract may be involved.

Public participation in and receipt of comments on contract proposal will be facilitated by adherence to the following procedures:

1. Only persons authorized to act on behalf of the contracting entities may negotiate the terms and conditions of a specific contract proposal.

2. Advance notice of meetings or hearings will be furnished to those parties that have made a timely written request for such notice to the appropriate regional or area office of Reclamation.

3. Written correspondence regarding proposed contracts may be made available to the general public pursuant to the terms and procedures of the Freedom of Information Act (80 Stat. 383), as amended.

4. Written comments on a proposed contract or contract action must be submitted to the appropriate regional officials at the locations and within the time limits set forth in the advance public notices.

5. All written comments received and testimony presented at any public hearings will be reviewed and summarized by the appropriate regional office for use by the contract approving authority.

6. Copies of specific proposed contracts may be obtained from the appropriate regional director or his designated public contact as they become available for review and comment.

7. In the event modifications are made in the form of a proposed contract, the appropriate regional director shall determine whether republication of the notice and/or extension of the comment period is necessary.

Factors considered in making such a determination shall include, but are not limited to: (i) The significance of the modification, and (ii) the degree of public interest which has been expressed over the course of the negotiations. As a minimum, the

regional director shall furnish revised contracts to all parties who request the contract in response to the initial public notice.

ACRONYM DEFINITIONS USED HEREIN

(BCP)	Boulder Canyon Project.
(CAP)	Central Arizona Project.
(CUP)	Central Utah Project.
(CVP)	Central Valley Project.
(CRSP)	Colorado River Storage Project.
(D&MC)	Drainage and Minor Construction.
(FR)	Federal Register.
(IDD)	Irrigation and Drainage District.
(ID)	Irrigation District.
(M&I)	Municipal and Industrial.
(O&M)	Operation and Maintenance.
(P-SMBP)	Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program.
(R&B)	Rehabilitation and Betterment.
(SRPA)	Small Reclamation Projects Act.
(WCUA)	Water Conservation and Utilization Act.
(WD)	Water District.

The following contract actions are either new, modified, discontinued, or completed in the Bureau of Reclamation since the April 30, 1996, Federal Register notice.

Pacific Northwest Region: Bureau of Reclamation, 1150 North Curtis Road, Boise, Idaho 83706-1234, telephone 208-378-5346.

1. New Contract Actions:

(21) Baker Valley Irrigation District, Baker Project, Oregon: Warren Act contract with cost of service charge to allow for use of project facilities to store nonproject water.

2. Contract Actions Completed:

(19) Contracts for 1996 have been executed with Stanfield ID and Westland ID.

Mid Pacific Region: Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825-1898, telephone 916-978-5030.

1. New Contract Actions:

(20) Solano County Water Agency and Solano Irrigation District, Solano Project, California: Contract to transfer responsibility for operation and maintenance of Monticello Dam, Putah Diversion Dam, Headworks of Putah South Canal, and Parshall Flume at Milepost 0.18 of Putah South Canal to Solano Irrigation District and provide that the Solano County Water Agency shall provide the funds necessary for operation and maintenance of the facilities.

2. Contract Action Completed:

(12) Pershing County Water Conservation District, Nevada: Repayment contract for Safety of Dams work on Rye Patch Dam. Action: Contract executed February 29, 1996.

Lower Colorado Region: Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 61470 (Nevada Highway and Park Street), Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470, telephone 702-293-8536.

1. New Contract Actions:

(49) Pacific Gas and Electric Company, BCP, California: Short-term delivery contract for surplus and/or unused apportionment Colorado River water for domestic and industrial use at the Topock Compressor Station, California.

(50) Mr. Don Schuler, BCP, California: Proposed short-term delivery contract for surplus and/or unused apportionment Colorado River water for domestic and industrial use on 18 lots of recreational homes in California.

(51) Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, CAP, Arizona: O&M Contract for their water distribution system.

(52) Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, Salt River Project, Arizona: Funding Agreement for Safety of Dams construction activities at Horse Mesa Dam and Mormon Flat Dam.

(53) U.S. Army Proving Ground, BCP, Arizona: Proposed permanent allocation of 1,883 acre-feet of Colorado River water.

(54) Arizona Public Service, BCP, Arizona: Colorado River water diversion contract for 1,500 a.f. for domestic use at Yucca Power Plant, near Yuma, Arizona.

(55) Arizona State Lands, BCP, Arizona: Approval of assignment of water delivery contract with Lakeview City for 400 a.f. of Colorado River water for domestic use.

(56) Murphy Broadcasting, Inc., BCP, California: Change of use and assignment of the Schroeder's PPR entitlement for 12,0068 a.f.

(57) Brooke Water L.L.C., CAP, Arizona: Approval of assignment of Consolidated Water Utilities LTD M&I water subcontract for 3,932 a.f. of CAP water.

2. Contract Actions Modified:

(43) County of San Bernardino, San Savaine Creek Project, California: Repayment Contract is in negotiation, covering \$20,079,000 reimbursable costs and a Grant for \$27,371,000. Total project cost is \$81,171,000.

3. Contract Actions Deleted:

(8 and 26) Kent Sea Farms, Yuma, AZ: Contract to divert and return 32,000 acre-feet of water per year from ad to, respectively, the Main Outlet Drain Extension for one or more fish farms.

Upper Colorado Region: Bureau of Reclamation, 125 South State Street, Room 6107, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1102, telephone 801-524-4419.

1. New Contract Actions:

(26) Department of Energy, San Juan-Chama Project, New Mexico. Reassignment of rights under Contract No. 7-07-51-X0883 from the Department of Energy to the County of Los Alamos for 1,200 acre-feet of San Juan-Chama Project water to be used for municipal, commercial, residential, and scientific purposes.

(27) City of Albuquerque, San Juan-Chama Project, New Mexico. Amend water storage Contract No. 3-CS-53-01510 to exempt the City of Albuquerque from acreage limitation and reporting provisions.

(28) The State of Colorado, the State of New Mexico, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and certain other entities that executed the June 30, 1986 "Agreement in Principle Concerning the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement and Binding Agreement for Animas-La Plata Project Cost Sharing": Amendment to the terms of that cost sharing agreement in order for that agreement to conform with Phase I, Stage A of the project. The proposed amendment would allow cost sharing contributions from Colorado non-federal entities to be credited to the municipal and industrial repayment obligation on an interim basis, rather than to the Colorado non-Indian irrigation.

2. Contract Actions Modified:

(9) The National Park Service, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Wayne N. Aspinall Unit, CRSP, Colorado: Contract to provide specific flow patterns in the Gunnison River through the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument.

(10) Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, Wayne N. Aspinall Unit, CRSP, Colorado: Long-term water service contract for municipal, domestic, and irrigation use.

3. Contract Actions Deleted:

(12) Collbran Conservancy District, Collbran project, Colorado: Amendatory contract defining priority of use of project water.

(13) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, North Fork Water Conservancy District, Paonia Project, Colorado: Contract for releases to support endangered fish in the Gunnison and Colorado Rivers: water available for releases will come from reserve capacity held by Reclamation as a sediment pool, estimated to be 1,800 acre-feet annually; contract will define the terms and conditions associated with delivery of this water.

Great Plains Region: Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 36900, Federal Building, 316 North 26th Street,

Billings, Montana 59107-6900, telephone 406-247-7730.

1. Contract Actions Modified:

(11) City of Rapid City and Rapid Valley Water Conservancy District, Rapid Valley Unit, P-SMBP, South Dakota: Contract renewal for up to 55,000 acre-feet of storage capacity in Pactola Reservoir.

2. Contract Actions Completed:

(4) Cedar Bluff Irrigation District No. 6, Cedar Bluff Unit, P-SMBP, Kansas: In accordance with Section 901 of Public law 102-575, 106 Stat. 4600, terminate the Cedar Bluff Irrigation District's repayment contract and transfer use of the District's portion of the reservoir storage capacity to the State of Kansas for fish, wildlife, recreation, and other purposes.

(15) Mountain Park Master Conservancy District, Mountain Park Project, Oklahoma: Pursuant to Title IV of Pub. L. 103-434, amend the District's contract to reallocate the project costs to reflect the environmental activities authorized by Title IV and provide for a discounted prepayment of all or a portion of the reimbursable costs allocated for its M&I water supply.

(17) Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, Canadian River Project, Texas: Contract for the United States to pay up to 33 percent of the costs of the salinity control project. These costs are to be used for the design and construction management of the project facilities.

3. Contract Actions Discontinued:

(7) Foss Reservoir Master Conservancy District, Washita Basin Project, Oklahoma: Amendatory repayment contract for remedial work.

(8) Arbuckle Master Conservancy District, Arbuckle Project, Oklahoma: Contract for the repayment of costs of the construction of the Sulphur, Oklahoma, pipeline and pumping plant (if constructed).

(12) Belle Fourche Irrigation District, Belle Fourche Unit, P-SMBP, South Dakota: Amendment to Contract No. 5-07-60-WR170. The amendment will initiate the repayment period for the rehabilitation and betterment work to begin June 30, 1996. The amendment will also provide an additional \$10.5 million for additional rehabilitation and betterment work.

Dated: July 18, 1996.

Wayne O. Deason,

Assistant Director, Program Analysis Office.

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**Draft Environmental Impact Report/
Environmental Impact Statement on
the Stanislaus River Basin and
Calaveras River Water Use Program
(Also Known as the American River/
Folsom South Conjunctive Use
Optimization Study)**

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of cancellation.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) are canceling plans to continue work under the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act on the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Stanislaus River Basin and Calaveras River Water Use Program. DWR terminated participation in this joint EIR/EIS since the Program would not likely result in any increased yield to the State Water Project. The notice of intent was published in 55 FR 15291, Apr. 23, 1990.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Lewis, Mid-Pacific Region, Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: MP-700, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825-1898; telephone: (916) 979-2336.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Program was a joint study by Reclamation and DWR to formulate a plan for increasing and optimizing water supply, and for the long-term use of water supply for the area between the Stanislaus and Calaveras Rivers. In terminating their participation, DWR indicated the Program would not likely result in any increased yield to the State Water Project. Interim water supplies once available for use outside the study area appear to now be needed to meet water quality, fish, and wildlife requirements as required by both the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and the December 1994 Bay-Delta Accord. Owing to the ongoing Reclamation activity entitled New Melones Water Management Study, Short-term, it is advantageous for Reclamation to write a transition report documenting study activities. The New Melones Water Management Study, Short-Term, is developing an interim plan of operation and suitable method of allocation to manage available water supplies in the Stanislaus River Basin until either the California State Water Resources Control Board completes the water rights phase of the Bay-Delta hearings or until a long-term operation plan for New Melones Reservoir is negotiated among the stakeholders. The New Melones Water Management