

systems necessary to avoid any of these conditions.

All parties who either directly withdraw Edwards Aquifer water or who reduce recharge to the aquifer, contribute to diminished springflows. Between late May and August 1996, minimum necessary flows were not sustained in either system, owing to widespread drought conditions and the level of a regional pumpage, particularly during emergency conditions. In August 1996, a Federal Court found that an emergency exists and ordered implementation of emergency measures in accord with the 1996 Emergency Withdrawal Reduction Plan, prepared by the court appointed Monitor.

Bexar Metropolitan Water District (District) is the second largest water purveyor in Bexar County, Texas and largely dependent upon withdrawals from the Edwards Aquifer.

The District proposes to adopt a Habitat Conservation Plan consistent with objectives of the approved San Marcos and Comal Springs and Associated Aquatic Ecosystems (Revised) Recovery Plan for the spring associated ecosystems, with the Federal Court ruling, and with Sections 9 and 10 of the Endangered Species Act. The District proposes to reduce its pumpage from the Edwards Aquifer on a pro rata basis to achieve compliance with the Withdrawal Reduction Plan. The District proposes to accomplish this purpose by implementing one or more measures, including but not limited to: development of alternative water resources (ground-water resources, surface water resources, reuse of treated effluents, etc.), landscape management practices (Xeriscape™, zoned irrigation, designated watering days, etc.); employment of water efficient devices; adoption of policies encouraging conservation; public education; deployment of alternative technologies in intensive water-using industries; other appropriate and effective measures; etc.

The District also proposes to include a mechanism in its Habitat Conservation Plan, for inclusion of other pumpers (municipal, industrial, commercial, or military) which, acting in concert with the District, meet certain criteria (for example, a target reduction rate in Edwards Aquifer withdrawals) that would be developed and included in the Habitat Conservation Plan and incidental take permit conditions.

In addition to considering impacts on listed species and their habitat, the EIS must include information on impacts from the proposal and alternatives to the proposal on other components of the human environment. These other

components include such things as air and water quality, cultural resources, other fish and wildlife species, social resources, and economic resources.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is gathering information necessary for the preparation of an EIS. Information such as the following topics that would assist the Service in assessing the impacts of the issuance of an incidental take permit under the provisions of an HCP is being sought: the hydrogeology of the Edwards Aquifer and the effects of aquifer levels on springflows at Comal and San Marcos Springs as they relate to the habitat needs of federally listed species; potential water conservation measures and strategies to reduce the withdrawal demands on the Edwards Aquifer and their effects on springflows; alternate water supplies and their potential effect on reducing Edwards Aquifer water withdrawals and maintaining springflows; effects of aquifer level management and springflow changes on the quality of the human environment; and, any other issues or suggestions that would be relevant toward the Fish and Wildlife Service's review and development of alternatives.

Nancy M. Kaufman,
*Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque,
New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 97-722 Filed 1-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Bureau of Land Management

[(CA-067-7122-6606); CACA-35511]

Imperial Project, CA; Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Correction

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Amendment.

SUMMARY: In the Federal Register of November 1, 1996 (Vol. 61, p. 56567), a notice was published (FR Doc. 96-27519). This amends that notice. Because of expressed interest, the comment period is extended an additional 31 days until January 31, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Shone (619) 337-4412, or Thomas Zale (619) 337-4420.

Dated: December 31, 1996.

Patricia A. Weller,
Acting Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-649 Filed 1-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

[OR-130-1020-00; GP7-0058]

Notice of Meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council; February 14, 1997, in Spokane, Washington.

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will be held on February 14, 1997. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m., at the Red Lion Inn, N. 322 Spokane Falls Ct., Spokane, Washington, 99201. The meeting will adjourn at approximately 4:00 p.m. or upon completion of business. At an appropriate time, the meeting will recess for approximately one hour for lunch. Public comments will be heard from 10:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. If necessary to accommodate all wishing to make public comments, a time limit may be placed upon each speaker. The purposes of the meeting are to discuss the status of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project and the status of Standards for Rangeland Health and Livestock Grazing Guidelines.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Hubbard, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington, 99212-1275; or call 509-536-1200.

Dated: January 7, 1997.

Joseph K. Buesing,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-723 Filed 1-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

[CA-350-1610-00]

Notice of Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Susanville Resource Advisory Council, Susanville, California.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management's Susanville Resource Advisory Council will hold a business meeting Friday, February 14, 1997, at the Bureau of Land Management's Eagle Lake Resource Area office, 2950 Riverside Drive, Susanville, California. The meeting begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Public comments will be taken at 1 p.m. Depending on the number of persons wishing to speak, a time limit may be imposed. Items on the agenda include an update on development of