

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: San Carlos Irrigation Project, Arizona

ACTION: Notice of proposed irrigation operation and maintenance (O&M) rate adjustment.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs proposes to change the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the San Carlos Irrigation Project for the 1998 and 1999 irrigation season. The following table illustrates the impact of the rate adjustment.

SAN CARLOS IRRIGATION PROJECT
[Irrigation Rate Per Assessable Acre]

	Year		
	Present 1997	Proposed 1998	Proposed 1999
Rate	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$26.00

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Phoenix Area Office, P.O. Box 10, Phoenix, Arizona 85001, Telephone (602) 379-6956.

DATE: Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed rate adjustment. Comments must be submitted on or before October 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the proposed rate adjustment must be in writing and addressed to: Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, Attn.: Irrigation and Power, MS#4513-MIB, Code 210, 1849 "C" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, Telephone (202) 208-5480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 14, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with § 171.1(e) and 171.1(g) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for the fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information of Bureau of Indian Affairs irrigation projects.

The assessment rates are based on a prepared estimate of the cost of normal operation and maintenance of the irrigation project. Normal operation and maintenance means the expenses we incur to provide direct support or

benefit to the project's activities for administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation. We must include at least:

- (a) Personnel salary and benefits for the project engineer/manager and our employees under his management/control;
- (b) Materials and supplies;
- (c) Major and minor vehicle and equipment repairs;
- (d) Equipment, including transportation, fuel, oil, grease, lease and replacement;
- (e) Capitalization expenses;
- (f) Acquisition expenses, and
- (g) Other expenses we determine necessary to properly perform the activities and functions characteristic of an irrigation project.

Payments

The irrigation operation and maintenance assessments become due based on locally established payment requirements. No water shall be delivered to any of these lands until all irrigation charges have been paid.

Interest and Penalty Fees

Interest, penalty, and administrative fees will be assessed, where required by law, on all delinquent operation and maintenance assessment charges as prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 4, Part 102, Federal Claims Collection Standards; and 42 BIAM Supplement 3, part 3.8 Debt Collection Procedures. Beginning 30 days after the due date interest will be assessed at the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury. An administrative fee of \$12.50 will be assessed each time an effort is made to collect a delinquent debt; a penalty charge of 6 percent per year will be charged on delinquent debts over 90

days old and will accrue from the date the debt became delinquent. No water shall be delivered to any farm unit until all irrigation charges have been paid. After 180 days a delinquent debt will be forwarded to the United States Treasury for further action in accordance with Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134).

Dated: September 4, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management Alaska

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

Notice for Publication (AA-9260); 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)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 26.9 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 4 S., R. 98 W.,
Secs. 4 and 9.

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