

existing Wolf Lake #2 well site, and Galena well site. Development would include construction of a gas gathering pipeline connecting the well sites to existing production facilities at Marathon's Beaver Creek gas field. The applicant's proposed pipeline right-of-way is approximately 5.5 miles long, and would include a primary and secondary products pipelines, a water disposal pipeline, and communications and electric power lines, all of which would be buried. Pipeline construction would take place during the 2000/2001 winter season and is anticipated to take 30 to 40 days. No maintained roads would be constructed within the pipeline right-of-way, which would be allowed to revegetate following construction. Existing roads would be used for access to the well sites. Several small gas conditioning units and a telecommunications building would be located at each well site.

The USFWS has determined that an EIS will be prepared to evaluate the

potential direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts of constructing the proposed project, and to identify alternatives that would protect the resources of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. The environmental review will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 CFR 1500-1508, and the pertinent regulations of the USFWS. The EIS will also discuss the possible impacts attendant to potential development of future gas wells in the vicinity that would utilize the proposed pipeline. Upon Completion of the Draft EIS, a Notice of Availability will be published in the **Federal Register**.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director, Region 7, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations (50 CFR 18.27), notice is hereby given that Letters of Authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry activities have been issued to the following companies:

| Company | Activity | Date issued |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (KIAN) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (Meltwater North) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (Palm) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (Fiord) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (Cairn) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Production (Prudhoe Bay) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Production (Prudhoe Bay) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Exploration (Snowcap) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Exploration (Flaxman Island) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Exploration (Pt. Thomson) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Exploration (Genesee) | February 8, 1999. |
| BP Exploration (Alaska) | Exploration (Northstar) | February 8, 1999. |
| Western Geophysical | Exploration (Seismic) | February 8, 1999. |
| ARCO Alaska | Exploration (Alpine) | February 18, 1999. |

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Rosa Meehan or Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammal Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All Letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rule and Regulations "Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities" [64 FR 4328].

Dated: March 8, 1999.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-670-7122-6606]; CACA 35511]

Recirculated Supplement; Environmental Impact Statement; Notice of availability; Imperial Project; Proposed Gold Mining/Processing Operations; Imperial County, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Recirculated Draft Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the Imperial Project Proposed Gold Mining/ Processing Operation, Imperial County, California.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, notice is hereby given of the availability for comment of the

Recirculated Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report, which adds a new, lower threshold of significance to assess the significance of Project-related impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on "endangered, rare or threatened species" listed under the state or federal Endangered Species Acts. This change affects only the assessment of the significance of impacts under CEQA; BLM's threshold of significance to assess the significance of Project-related impact on these same biological resources under NEPA remains as described in the Draft.

DATES: Written comments must be post-marked or otherwise delivered by 4:30 p.m. on May 19, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Imperial County Planning/Building Department, 939 Main Street, El Centro, California 92243.