

requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm. 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: March 3, 2000.

**Kristen Nelson,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 00-5720 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-020-4310-EU; NMNM-102567] A Direct Sale of Public Land to Florise Martinez, Santa Fe, NM.

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of realty action.

**SUMMARY:** The following public land has been found suitable for direct sale under section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713) and at no less than the estimated fair market value. The land will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date of this notice.

#### New Mexico Principal Meridian

T. 17 N., R. 9 E.,  
section 31, lot 25.

The subject public land containing 1.33 acres, more or less will be sold to Florise Martinez of Santa Fe, NM. The sale is for the purpose of resolving unauthorized, inadvertent use of the land for forty years. The proposed sale is for surface rights only. The disposal is consistent with the Taos Resource Area Management Plan dated October 1988, state and local government programs, plans, and applicable regulations.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Interested parties may submit comments on the direct sale on or before April 24, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Taos Field Office Manager, BLM, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Hal Knox, BLM, Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Rd., Taos, NM 87571, or at (505) 758-8851.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The direct sale will be subject to:

1. A reservation to the United States of a right-of-way for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States in accordance with the Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. All minerals shall be reserved to the United States, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals. A more detailed description of this reservation, which will be incorporated in the patent document or other document of conveyance is available for review at this BLM office.

Publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** will segregate the public land from appropriations under the public land laws including the mining laws but not the mineral leasing laws. This segregation will terminate upon the issuance of a patent or other document of conveyance, 270 days from date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or upon publication of Notice of Termination, which ever occurs first.

Any adverse comments will be evaluated by the State Director who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any objections, this realty action will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior.

Dated: February 17, 2000.

**Ron Huntsinger,**

*Field Office Manager.*

[FR Doc. 00-5711 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-AG-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Civil Penalties

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS).

**ACTION:** Notice Summarizing OCS Civil Penalties Paid, January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides a listing of civil penalties paid January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, for violations of the OCS Lands Act. The goal of the MMS OCS Civil Penalties Program is to assure safe and clean operations on the OCS. Through the pursuit, assessment, and collection of civil penalties and referrals for the consideration of criminal penalties, the program is designed to encourage compliance with OCS statutes and regulations. The purpose of publishing the penalties summary is to provide information to the public on violations of special concern in OCS operations

and to provide an additional incentive for safe and environmentally sound operations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Greg Gould (Program Coordinator), (703) 787-1591.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) strengthened section 24 of the OCS Lands Act Amendments of 1978. Subtitle B of OPA 90, titled "Penalties," increased the amount of the civil penalty from a maximum of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$20,000 per violation for each day of noncompliance. More importantly, in cases where a failure to comply with applicable regulations constitutes or constituted a threat of serious, irreparable, or immediate harm or damage to life (including fish and other aquatic life); property; any mineral deposit; or the marine, coastal, or human environment; OPA 90 provided the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) with the authority to assess a civil penalty without regard to the requirement of expiration of a period of time allowed for corrective action.

On August 8, 1997 (62 FR 42668), MMS published new regulations implementing the civil penalty provisions of the OCS Lands Act. Written in "plain English," the new question-and-answer format provides a better understanding of the OCS civil penalty process. In addition, the provisions of OPA 90 require the Secretary to adjust the maximum civil penalty to reflect any increases in the Consumer Price Index. The new rule increased the maximum civil penalty to \$25,000 per day, per violation. Please note, subsequent to publishing the new regulations, MMS made several corrections and amendments, including the appeals procedures. These were published at 63 FR 42711, 8/11/98; 64 FR 9066, 2/24/99; 64 FR 9065, 2/24/99 and 64 FR 26257, 5/13/99.

Between August 18, 1990, and January 31, 2000, MMS initiated 297 civil penalty reviews. The MMS assessed 186 civil penalties and collected \$3,539,520 in fines. Thirty-six cases were dismissed, 2 cases were merged, and 73 are under review.

On September 1, 1997, the Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management issued a notice informing lessees and operators of Federal oil, gas, and sulphur leases on the OCS that MMS will annually publish a summary of OCS civil penalties paid. The annual summary will highlight the identity of the party, the regulation violated, and the amount paid. The following table provides a listing of the penalties paid between January 1, 1999, and December