

absence surveys for the following federally-listed species occurring on lands administered by the BLM:

Fish: Gila topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis*) desert pupfish

(*Cyprinodon macularius macularius*) razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*)

Birds: southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*)

Mammals: lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuena*)

Permit No. TE-819473

Applicant: Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to monitor the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) and the California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) in Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona.

Permit No. TE-24789

Applicant: Colby Henley, Tucson, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*) in southern Arizona.

Permit No. TE-24791

Applicant: Freese and Nichols, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*), and red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) within Texas.

Permit No. TE-24792

Applicant: Deborah L. Brewster, Pine, Arizona.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in Arizona and New Mexico.

Permit No. TE-4439

Applicant: Albuquerque Biological Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests authorization for scientific research and recovery purposes to collect, hold, spawn, and release the Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*) and also collect from all river drainages in New Mexico, and hold for public display the following federally-listed fish species: Gila trout (*Oncorhynchus gilae*) Colorado pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucius*)

razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) Pecos gambusia (*Gambusia nobilis*) Gila topminnow (*Poeciliopsis occidentalis*)

Permit No. TE-799099

Applicant: Eagle Environmental, Inc.

Applicant requests authorization for recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys for the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum*) in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

DATES: Written comments on these permit applications must be received on or before May 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Legal Instruments Examiner, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, Ecological Services, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Endangered Species/Permits, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when requesting copies of documents. Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents on or before May 1, 2000, to the address above.

Susan MacMullin,

Programmatic Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-340-1220-PC-02-24 1A]

Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection, OMB Approval Number 1004-0165

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the

Bureau of Land Management (BLM), acting for the Department of the Interior, announces its intention to request approval to collect certain information from those people submitting nominations for significant caves under the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 and those people requesting confidential cave information on federal lands administered by the Secretary of the Interior. This information is needed to: (1) Determine which caves will be listed as significant and (2) decide whether to grant access to confidential cave information.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by May 30, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Regulatory Affairs Group (WO-630), Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C St., NW, Mail Stop 401 LS, Washington, DC 20240.

Comments may be sent via the Internet to: WOCComment@blm.gov. Please include "ATTN: 1004-0165" and your name and return address in your Internet message.

Comments may be hand delivered to: The Bureau of Land Management Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L St., NW, Washington, DC.

Comments will be available for inspection at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 am to 4:15 pm), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Goodbar, BLM, Carlsbad, New Mexico Field Office, (505) 234-5929.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.12(a), the BLM, on behalf of the Department, is required to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information contained in published current rules to solicit comments on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of collecting the information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. BLM will receive and

analyze comments sent in response to this notice and include them in the request for approval from the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Nominations of Significant Caves

The Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988, 102 Stat. 4546, 16 U.S.C. 4301, requires identifying, protecting and maintaining, to the extent possible, significant caves on lands managed by the Department of the Interior. The implementing regulations are found at 43 CFR 37—Cave Management. The regulations were issued on October 1, 1993. Federal agencies must consult with “cavers” and other interested parties and develop a listing of significant caves. The regulations establish criteria for identifying significant caves and integrate cave management into existing planning and management processes to protect cave resource information. Protecting the information will prevent vandalism and disturbance of significant caves.

The public and other government agencies provide (a) names and addresses, (b) name and phone number of a key contact, (c) cave name, (d) cave location, (e) topographic and/or cave maps, (f) name of the administering federal agency and agency filed office name and address where the cave is located, (g) description of the cave, and (h) description of the applicable criteria significant caves, such as biota, cultural, geologic/mineralogic/paleontologic, hydrologic, recreational, and/or educational or scientific. If the Department did not collect the information, it could not identify, manage, and protect significant caves in accordance with the law.

This collection of information is short, simple, and limited to the information necessary for efficient operation of the program. The information collected is a voluntary, non-recurring submission necessary to receive a benefit. There is no other source for the information, and failure to submit the necessary information could result in a significant cave not receiving appropriate protection. Respondents already maintain this information for their own recordkeeping purposes and need only compile it for submission.

Based on the Department’s experience in administering cave resources as described above, the public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 3 hours per response. The estimate includes the time for research, time to transcribe and audit the data, and time to prepare the nomination. The

number of responses is estimated to be about 200 per year. The frequency of response is once per nomination. The estimated total annual burden on new respondents is 600 hours.

Access to Confidential Cave Information

Other federal or state agencies, bona fide educational or research institutes, or individuals or organizations assisting the land management agencies with cave management activities may request access to confidential cave information. The written request should include: (a) name, address and telephone number of the person responsible for the security of the information, (b) a legal description of the cave location, (c) a statement of the purpose of the request, and (d) written assurance that the requesting party will maintain the confidentiality of the information and protect the cave and its resources. The Department uses the information provided to determine whether disclosure will create a substantial risk to cave resources. If the Department did not collect the information, it could not identify, manage or protect significant caves in accordance with the laws.

The collection of information is short, simple and convenient to the applicant. The information collected is a voluntary, non-recurring submission necessary to receive a benefit. The respondents already maintain this information for their own recordkeeping purposes and need only compile it.

Based on the Department’s experience administering cave resources as described above, the information collection burden for confidential cave information requests is about 1 hour per request. The number of requests per year is ten. The frequency of response is once per request. The estimated total annual burden on new respondents is 10 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will also be a matter of public record.

Dated: March 27, 2000.

Carole Smith,

BLM Information Collection Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-2822-JL-J787; Closure Notice No. NV-030-00-001]

Emergency Closure and Vehicle Restriction on Federal Lands

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain public lands south of Hungry Ridge and northwest of Spanish Springs Valley, Washoe County, Nevada, are closed to all motorized vehicles. This closure is necessary due to unauthorized construction of a motorcross track in a rehabilitated materials pit, and off-road vehicle use which is causing considerable adverse effects to soils and vegetation. In addition, motorized vehicle use is restricted to existing roads and trails on all public lands under the jurisdiction of the Carson City Field Office which were burned during the 1999 fire season. These fires were identified by the following names: (1) Sand Springs/Fairview; (2) Cold Springs; (3) Stillwater Complex; (4) Shoshone; (5) New Pass; (6) Cemetery; (7) Fish; (8) Wilcox; (9) Reservoir; (10) Red Rock; (11) Pah Rah; and (12) Sutro. This restriction is necessary in order to allow for recovery and revegetation of these lands.

DATES: This closure becomes effective immediately and these restrictions will go into effect on March 20, 2000, and will remain in effect until the Manager, Carson City Field Office, determines they are no longer needed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John O. Singlaub, Manager, Carson City Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, Nevada 89701. Telephone (775) 885-6100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authorities for the closure and restrictions are 43 CFR 8341.2, 43 CFR 8342.3 and 43 CFR 8364.1. Any person who fails to comply with a closure or restriction order is subject to arrest and fines in accordance with applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

This order applies to all motorized vehicles excluding (1) any emergency or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes, and (2) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized in writing by the Manager, Carson City Field Office.

The public lands affected by the closure order are located approximately one mile west of Nevada Highway 445 at the south end of Hungry Ridge, and include all lands being used as an unauthorized motorcycle race course within: