

Anticipating delisting, in June 1999 a number of state fish and wildlife agencies, through the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, proposed allowing take of nestling American peregrines for falconry. In response, in an October 4, 1999, **Federal Register** notice (64 FR 53686), we stated that we would prepare two management plans and associated environmental assessments for take of wild peregrine falcons. We further stated that we would consider a conservative take of nestling peregrines from healthy populations of American peregrine falcons in the western United States and Alaska, where recovery was most marked and where approximately 82% of the nesting pairs in the United States were found in 1998.

The States proposed allowing take of 5% of the annual production of nestlings in States west of 100° (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming). In preparing the Draft Environmental Assessment, we considered the request from the States, as well as the effects of allowing no take, and take of 10%, 15%, and 20% of annual production in those States. A sixth alternative we evaluated was lifting the current restriction on take by falconry permittees. This option would make no distinctions regarding where nestling peregrines could be taken.

Because population changes also are greatly influenced by survival of adults, we also assessed the effects of different take levels with different values for adult mortality. We concluded that 20% post-first-year mortality is a conservative and reasonable value to use. However, we also modeled population growth using 10%, 15%, and 25% annual mortality of adults.

The proposed action in the Draft Environmental Assessment is to allow take of up to 5% of the nestlings produced in western States; take of any lesser amount could be allowed by a State. The 5% level of take should still allow population growth of 3% per year if post-first-year mortality is 20% and population density does not affect reproduction or survival.

Dated: July 18, 2000.

Jamie Rappaport Clark,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 00-18693 Filed 7-24-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Science Advisory Board; Notice of Reestablishment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Science Advisory Board—Notice of Reestablishment.

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-463). Following consultation with the General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior has reestablished the Science Advisory Board.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Advisory Board is to advise and assist the Director of the Bureau of Land Management on issues pertaining to science and the application of scientific information in the management of public lands and their resources. The Advisory Board is comprised of up to nine members from among the following categories: natural resource management, energy and minerals, conservation biology, and ecology and genetics.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lee Barkow, Bureau of Land Management, Denver Federal Center, Building 50, P.O. Box 25047, Denver, Colorado 80225-0047, (303) 236-6454.

Certification

I hereby certify that the reestablishment of the Science Advisory Board is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities to manage the lands, resources and facilities administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Bruce Babbitt,

Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 00-18751 Filed 7-24-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-76305]

Utah; Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

In accordance with Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (Pub. L. 97-451), a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease UTU-76305 for lands in Grand

County, Utah, was timely filed and required rentals accruing from January 1, 2000, the date of termination, have been paid.

The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5 per acre and 16 2/3 percent, respectively. The \$500 administrative fee has been paid and the lessee has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of publishing this notice.

Having met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease UTU-76305, effective January 1, 2000, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Robert Lopez,

Chief, Branch of Minerals Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 00-18706 Filed 7-24-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-680-5101-ER-B124; CACA-41418]

Proposed Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent for plan amendment to California desert conservation area plan.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed a plan amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA) to partially exempt a proposed fiber optic cable right-of-way from a designated Energy Production and Utility Corridor for a portion of the proposed alignment.

DATES: Written scoping comments must be received no later than August 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written scoping comments should be addressed to: Becki Gonzales, Attn: Plan Amendment, Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becki Gonzales (760) 252-6029.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An approximate 235.8 mile fiber optic cable is proposed by Level 3 Communications, L.L.C., from Las Vegas, Nevada to San Bernardino, California. A major portion of the proposed route will utilize Energy