

cultural sites, or involve unique or unknown environmental risks;

(3) Approval of the HCP would not result in any cumulative impacts and would not result in significant adverse effects on public health or safety;

(4) The project does not require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, nor does it threaten to violate a Federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment; and

(5) Approval of this HCP would not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

We have therefore made a preliminary determination that approval of the Boise HCP qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act, as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1). Based upon this preliminary determination, we do not intend to prepare further National Environmental Policy Act documentation. We will consider public comments in making our final determination on whether to prepare such additional documentation.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act. We will evaluate the permit application, HCP, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. If we determine that the requirements are met, we will issue a permit for the incidental take of the northern spotted owl. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

#### Public Review and Comments

Individuals wishing copies of the permit application, copies of our preliminary Low Effect Determination, or copies of the full text of the HCP, including a map of the proposed permit area, references, and legal descriptions of the proposed permit area, should contact the office and personnel listed in the ADDRESSES section above.

If you wish to comment on the permit application or the HCP, you may submit your comments to the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. For internal tracking purposes, please refer to permit number TE 028219-0 when submitting comments. Comments and materials received, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review, by appointment, during normal business

hours at the address in the ADDRESSES section above and will become part of the public record, pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. Anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: April 19, 2001.

#### Don Weathers,

*Deputy Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 01-10763 Filed 4-30-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-55-P

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986; Chevron Research and Technology Co.

**AGENCY:** Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) Negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the Chevron Research and Technology Company, a division of Chevron U.S.A. Inc. for the purpose of evaluating hyperspectral remote sensing technology that permits the rapid assessment of vegetation type.

**INQUIRIES:** If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Delores Richardson, Administrative Officer, USGS National Wetlands Research Center, 700 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70506, phone (337) 266-8515.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

#### Susan Haseltine,

*Chief Scientist for Biology.*

[FR Doc. 01-10815 Filed 4-30-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-17-M

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986; Exploration Company of Delaware, Inc.

**AGENCY:** Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) Negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the Exploration Company of Delaware, Inc., to obtain and characterize various coalbeds from the Maverick Basin, in south Texas.

**INQUIRIES:** If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Charles E. Barker, USGS Denver Federal Center, Sixth Ave. and Kipling St., Building 20, MS 977, Denver, CO 80225, (303) 236-5797.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

#### P. Patrick Leahy,

*Associate Director for Geology.*

[FR Doc. 01-10816 Filed 4-30-01; 8:45 am]

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### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Geological Survey

#### Technology Transfer Act of 1986

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed cooperative research & development agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is contemplating entering into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Hamilton Operating, Inc., to obtain and characterize various coalbeds from the Eagle Pass Basin, in south Texas.

*Inquiries:* If any other parties are interested in similar activities with the USGS, please contact Charles E. Barker, USGS Denver Federal Center, Sixth Ave. and Kipling St., Building 20, MS 977, Denver, CO 80225, (303) 236-5797.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

#### P. Patrick Leahy,

*Associate Director for Geology.*

[FR Doc. 01-10817 Filed 4-30-01; 8:45 am]

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