

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species and/or marine mammals.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by July 11, 2003.

ADDRESSES: 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 within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following application(s) for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (address above).

Applicant: Wildlife Conservation Society, Bronx, New York, PRT-070315.

The applicant requests a permit to export one female captive born snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*) to the Calgary Zoo, Alberta, Canada for the purpose of enhancement of the species through captive propagation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has information collection approval from OMB through March 31, 2004, OMB Control Number 1018-0093. Federal Agencies may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number.

Dated: May 30, 2003.

Michael S. Moore,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 03-14711 Filed 6-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision To Authorize Issuance of a Section 10 Permit to the Salt River Project for Incidental Take of Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Yuma Clapper Rail, Bald Eagle, and Yellow-Billed Cuckoo in Gila and Maricopa Counties, AZ

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), this notice advises the public that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has issued an incidental take permit (ITP), pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), to the Salt River Project (SRP). The permit authorizes the incidental take of the following federally listed and candidate species: Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) (flycatcher), Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) (clapper rail), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and the yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (cuckoo). The authorized take will occur in Gila and Maricopa counties, Arizona, as a result of management actions allowing Roosevelt Lake to fill, causing inundation of occupied habitat. The Service issued an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluated the impacts of alternatives considered prior to issuance of the ITP. SRP submitted the Roosevelt Habitat Conservation Plan (RHCP) and Implementing Agreement with their permit application. These documents describe measures to minimize and mitigate the effects of the taking of listed and candidate species and the habitats upon which they depend.

The Record of Decision became effective on February 27, 2003. It states that the preferred alternative, as described in the Final EIS, will be implemented, and discusses all factors leading to the decision.

ADDRESSES: The Record of Decision for the SRP can be accessed on the Internet at <http://southwest.fws.gov/htopic.html> or viewed at the following locations (by appointment at government offices):

- Department of the Interior, Natural Resources Library, 1849 C. St. NW., Washington, DC 20240.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 110 S. Church, Suite 3450, Tucson, AZ 85701.

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

- Salt River Project, 1521 Project Drive, Tempe, AZ 85281.

- Globe Public Library, 339 S. Broad St., Globe, AZ 85501.

- Government Document Service, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287.

- Payson Public Library, 328 N. McLane Road, Payson, AZ 85541-4340.

- Phoenix Public Library (Burton Barr Central), 1221 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004.

- Tonto Basin Library, 1 School St., Tonto Basin (Punkin Center), AZ 85553.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sherry Barrett, Assistant Field Supervisor, Tucson Suboffice, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 110 S. Church, Suite 3450, Tucson, AZ 85701 at 520/670-4617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice advises the public that the Service gathered the information necessary to (1) determine impacts and formulate alternatives for the EIS, related to the issuance of an ITP to SRP; and (2) develop and implement the RHCP, which describes measures to minimize and mitigate the effects of the incidental take of federally listed species to the maximum extent practicable.

The Notice of Availability for the draft EIS, Application for the ITP, draft RHCP, and draft Implementing Agreement was published in the **Federal Register** on July 19, 2002 (67 FR 47564).

The Notice of Availability for the Final EIS, Final RHCP, and Implementing Agreement was published in the **Federal Register** on November 29, 2002 (67 FR 71193).

Background: Roosevelt is operated by SRP in conjunction with three other reservoirs on the Salt River and two reservoirs on the Verde River as integral features of the Salt River Reclamation Project, authorized by the Reclamation Act of 1902, and pursuant to a 1917 contract with the United States. Since completion in 1911, Roosevelt has provided water for power generation, irrigation, municipal and other uses. Currently, SRP reservoirs supply water to more than 1.6 million people in the cities of Phoenix, Mesa, Chandler, Tempe, Glendale, Gilbert, Scottsdale, Tolleson, and Avondale. In addition, water is provided to irrigate agricultural lands within SRP and for other uses. Also, water is delivered to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Fort McDowell Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, Buckeye

Irrigation Company, Roosevelt Irrigation District, Roosevelt Water Conservation District, and others. Roosevelt and the other SRP reservoirs also provide a variety of recreational uses and environmental benefits in central Arizona. Due to dry conditions in central Arizona for the past six years, the water level at Roosevelt has been below normal. As a result, riparian vegetation has invaded and flourished in the portion of Roosevelt historically used by SRP to store water for use in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Animals that use riparian habitat have followed the vegetation growth and now occupy areas within the reservoir. In particular, a population of flycatchers now occupies habitat within the storage space at Roosevelt. Thus, periodic refilling of the reservoir may adversely affect habitat used by the flycatcher, clapper rail, bald eagle, and cuckoo.

Bryan Arroyo,
Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region.
[FR Doc. 03-14677 Filed 6-10-03; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-78953]

Notice of Coal Lease Offering

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of coal lease offering by sealed bid, South Crandall Canyon Tract.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that at 1 p.m., June 12, 2003, certain coal resources in lands hereinafter described in Emery County, Utah will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid of \$100.00 per acre or more to the qualified bidder submitting the highest bonus bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (41 Stat. 437). However, no bid will be accepted for less than fair market value as determined by the authorized officer. A company or individual is limited to one sealed bid. If a company or individual submits two or more sealed bids for this tract, all of the company's or individual's bids will be rejected.

Authority: 43 CFR 3422.2(a).

This lease is being offered for sale under the provisions set forth in the regulations for Leasing on Application at 43 CFR part 3425.

The lease sale will be held in the Bureau of Land Management Fourth Floor Conference Room, 324 South State

Street, Suite 400, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 1 p.m. on June 12, 2003. At that time, the sealed bids will be opened and read. No bids received after 10 a.m., June 12, 2003, will be considered.

Coal offered: The coal resources to be offered consist of all recoverable reserves available in the following described lands located in Emery County, Utah, approximately 10 miles northwest of Huntington, Utah on public land located in the Manti-LaSal National Forest:

- T. 16 S., R. 7 E., SLM, Utah;
 - Sec. 4, W2SW, S2SWNW;
 - Sec. 5, SE, S2SENE;
 - Sec. 8, E2, NENW, S2NW;
 - Sec. 9, NW.
- Containing 880.00 acres.

The tract has two potentially minable coal seams, the Blind Canyon and the Hiawatha. The minable portions of the seams in this area are from 6 to 8 feet in thickness. This tract contains more than 7.63 million tons of recoverable high volatile C bituminous coal.

The estimated coal quality using weighted averages of samples on an as-received basis is:

BTU/lb.	12,790
Percent moisture	5.26
Percent sulphur	0.61
Percent ash	4.68
Percent fixed carbon	45.88
Percent volatile matter	44.18

(Totals do not equal 100% due to rounding).

Rental and Royalty: A lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre or fraction thereof and a royalty payable to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal mined by surface methods, and 8 percent of the value of coal mined by underground methods. The value of coal shall be determined in accordance with BLM Manual 3070.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Bidding instructions are included in the Detailed Statement of Lease Sale. A copy of the detailed statement and the proposed coal lease are available by mail at the Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, PO Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155 or in the Public Room (Room 400), 324 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. All case file documents and written comments submitted by the public on Fair Market Value or royalty rates except those portions identified as proprietary by the commentator and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, are available for public inspection in the Public Room (Room 400) of the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: May 13, 2003.

Kent Hoffman,

Deputy State Director, Lands and Minerals.

[FR Doc. 03-14734 Filed 6-9-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-200-0777-XM-241A]

Notice of Meeting, Front Range Resource Advisory Council (Colorado)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Front Range Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held on July 16 and 17, 2003 at the Holiday Inn, 333 Sante Fe in Alamosa, Colorado and will begin at 9:30 a.m. on July 16. The public comment period will begin at approximately 9:45 a.m. and the meeting will end for the day at 4:30 p.m. On July 17 the meeting will reconvene at the same location at 8 a.m. for the field trip and will adjourn at 4 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15 member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in the Front Range Center, Colorado. Planned agenda topics include:

July 16

Manager reports
Update on Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area Overview of the Fuels Management and Travel Management Program.

July 17

Sites visited on the Field Trip will include Blanca Wetlands and the Rio Grande Corridor.

All meetings are open to the public. The public can make oral statements to the Council at 9:45 a.m. or written statements may be submitted for the Council's consideration. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Summary minutes for the Council Meeting will be maintained in the Front Range Center Office and will be available for public inspection and