

of threats to the species, this should safeguard the species from extinction caused by highly localized events. Long-term maintenance of *ex situ* populations will also help ensure the species' survival.

Public Information Solicited

The Service solicits public comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified will be considered prior to approval of the plan. Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the Field Supervisor (see **ADDRESSES** section). Comments and materials received will be available, by appointment, for public inspection during normal business hours at the above address.

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: November 7, 2003.

Richard O. Bennett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 5, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 03-30254 Filed 12-4-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

A request extending the collection of information has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the USGS Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days; therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days in order to assure their maximum consideration. Address your comments and suggestions on the information collection requirement by either fax (202) 395-6566 or e-mail (oir_docket@omb.eop.gov) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB Control Number 1028-0060). Send copies of your comments and suggestions to the USGS Clearance

Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, Reston, VA 20192.

As required by OMB regulations at CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the USGS, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the USGS estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The utility, quality, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Mine, Development, and Mineral Exploration Supplement.

Current OMB approval number: 1028-0060.

Abstract: Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with domestic production, exploration, and mine development data on nonfuel mineral commodities. This information will be published as an Annual Report for use by Government agencies, industry, and the general public.

Bureau form number: 9-4000-A.

Frequency: Annual.

Description of respondents: Nonfuel Mineral Producers and Exploration Operations.

Annual Responses: 754.

Annual burden hours: 566.

Bureau clearance officer: John E. Cordyack, Jr., (703) 648-7313.

John H. DeYoung, Jr.,

Chief Scientist, Minerals Information Team.

[FR Doc. 03-30196 Filed 12-4-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Rate Adjustments for Indian Irrigation Facilities

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of rate adjustments.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) owns or has an interest in irrigation facilities located on various Indian reservations throughout the United States. The BIA establishes irrigation assessment rates to recover its costs to administer, operate, maintain,

and rehabilitate certain of those facilities. We are notifying you that we have adjusted the irrigation assessment rates at several of our irrigation facilities where we are required to recover our full costs of operation and maintenance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The irrigation assessment rates shown in the tables were effective on January 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For details about a particular BIA irrigation facility, please use the tables in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section to contact the regional or agency office where the facility is located.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Proposed Rate Adjustment was published in the **Federal Register** on January 9, 2003 (68 FR 1191), to adjust the irrigation rates at several BIA irrigation facilities. The public and interested parties were provided an opportunity to submit written comments during the 60-day period subsequent to January 9, 2003.

Did the BIA Receive any Comments on the Proposed Irrigation Assessment Rate Adjustments?

Written comments were received for: (a) Fort Belknap Irrigation Project, Montana; (b) Wapato Irrigation Project, Washington; and (c) Wind River Irrigation Project, Wyoming.

What Issues Were of Concern by the Commentators?

The commentators were concerned with one or more of the following three issues: (1) Consultation with stakeholders; (2) how funds collected from stakeholders are expended on operation and maintenance; and (3) the impact of an assessment rate increase on the local agricultural economy.

How Does BIA Respond to the Concern of Consultation with Stakeholders?

Consultations between stakeholders and any of the BIA irrigation facilities are ongoing through local meetings held periodically at different locations convenient to the stakeholders of the individual irrigation facilities. At these consultation meetings, any issue of concern by a stakeholder can be brought up and discussed such as water operations, facility maintenance, and financial management. Stakeholders also can contact BIA representatives at the specific facility serving them using the tables in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section to discuss issues of concern.