

information collection and recordkeeping activities (*see* 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). We have submitted a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information for the Federal Aid Grant Application Booklet. We are requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Federal agencies may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection of information is 1018-0109.

The Federal Aid Grant Application Booklet offers the public information on how to apply for certain Federal grants. This information collection is authorized by the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777-777l), Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669-669i), Partnerships for Wildlife Act (16 U.S.C.

3741), Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3954), Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), Clean Vessel Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 777), Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), the annual Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Acts, and 50 CFR 80. This information collection covers many types of grant programs, including, but not limited to: Sport Fish Restoration, Wildlife Restoration, Coastal Wetland Restoration, Clean Vessel, Boating Infrastructure, Partnerships for Wildlife, and Endangered Species. We collect information relevant to eligibility, substantiality, relative value, and budget information from applicants in order to make awards of grants under applicable programs. We also collect financial and performance information to track costs and accomplishments of applicable

grant programs. We need the information collected to support the grant work of our Division of Federal Assistance. In this renewal request, we are proposing minimal changes to the Federal Aid Grant Application Booklet to bring it into accord with our current authorities (such as by adding "Annual DOI Appropriations Acts" to our list of authorizing Acts) and to update contact information.

Title: Federal Aid Grant Application Booklet, 50 CFR 80.

Approval Number: 1018-0109.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Description of Respondents: The 50 U.S. States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Indian Tribal Governments, and not-for-profit institutions.

TOTAL ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Completion time per form	Annual number of responses	Annual hour burden
Initial Proposal	80 hours	4,000	320,000
Amendment	2 hours	1,750	3,500
TOTALS	5,750	323,500

We again invite comments on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: December 30, 2003.

Anissa Craghead,

Information Collection Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-435 Filed 1-8-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications of Endangered Species Recovery Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We announce our receipt of applications to conduct certain activities pertaining to scientific research and enhancement of survival of endangered species.

DATES: Written comments on this request must be received February 9, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Assistant Regional Director-Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225-0486; telephone 303-236-7400, facsimile 303-236-0027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: 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 20 days of the date of publication of this notice to the address above; telephone 303-236-7400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicants have requested issuance of survival research and enhancement of survival permits to conduct certain activities with

endangered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

TE-050706

Applicant: David P. Young, Western Ecosystems Technology, Inc., Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The applicant requests renewal of a permit to take American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

TE-039100

Applicant: Rockford G. Plettner, Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, Nebraska.

The applicant requests renewal of a permit to take Interior least terns (*Sterna antillarum*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

TE-080647

Applicant: Jerald M. Powell, Wildlife Specialties, Lyons, Colorado.

The applicant requests issuance of a permit to take Southwestern willow

flycatchers (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with recovery activities throughout the species' range for the purpose of enhancing its survival and recovery.

Dated: December 30, 2003.

Ralph O. Morgenweck,

Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 04-423 Filed 1-8-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-600-04-1010-BN]

Notice of Public Meetings, Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council Meetings

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

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), Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council (RAC) meeting will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The Northwest Colorado RAC meetings will be held February 12, 2004, May 6, 2004, August 12, 2004, and November 10, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The Northwest Colorado RAC meetings will be held February 12, 2004, at the Glenwood Springs Community Center located at 100 Wulfsohn Road, Glenwood Springs, Colorado; May 6, 2004, at the Lodore Hall located on the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge in Moffat County, Colorado; August 12, 2004, at the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service Office located on the Grand County Fairgrounds in Kremmling, Colorado; and November 10, 2004, at the Holiday Inn located at 755 Horizon Drive in Grand Junction, Colorado.

The Northwest Colorado RAC meetings will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 4 p.m. Public comment periods will be at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Husband, BLM Little Snake Field Office Manager, 455 Emerson St., Craig, Colorado; Telephone (970) 826-5000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Northwest Colorado RAC advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a

variety of public land issues in Colorado.

The purpose of the February 12, 2004 meeting is to consider several resource management related topics including the Roan Plateau Draft Management Plan, BLM National Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy, and Committee Reports. Topics of discussion for all Northwest Colorado RAC meetings may include fire management, land use planning, invasive species management, energy and minerals management, travel management, wilderness, wild horse herd management, land exchange proposals, cultural resource management, and other issues as appropriate.

These meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the RACs. Each formal RAC meeting will also have time, as identified above, allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited.

Dated: January 5, 2004.

John E. Husband,

Little Snake Field Office Manager and Designated Federal Official for the Northwest Colorado RAC.

[FR Doc. 04-533 Filed 1-8-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-030-04-1610-DT]

Notice of Availability of the Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for Federal Fluid Minerals Leasing and Development in Sierra and Otero Counties, NM

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment/Final Environmental Impact Statement (RMPA/FEIS) for Federal Fluid Minerals Leasing and Development in Sierra and Otero Counties, New Mexico. The planning area encompasses approximately 1.8 million surface acres and 5 million subsurface acres of public lands managed by the Las Cruces Field Office,

located in Sierra and Otero Counties in southern New Mexico. The BLM has and will continue to work closely with all interested parties to identify management decisions that are best suited to the needs of the public. Final decisions will supersede the oil and gas decisions identified in the White Sands Resource Area RMP (1986) and provide direction for management of these fluid minerals resources on the public lands for approximately 20 years.

The BLM does have the authority to protect unique and sensitive areas through land management restrictions, for example, one such tool could be an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) designation. While this Fluid Minerals Resource Management Plan Amendment addressed only oil and gas leasing, the BLM is required to consider updating and revising RMPs if there is new data of significance to the RMP that needs to be addressed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Such data to consider has surfaced in Dona Ana, Otero, and Sierra Counties that may require BLM to consider a revision to the existing RMPs in those three counties starting in 2004 which includes looking at all public land issues including nominations for ACECs.

DATES: The Proposed RMPA/FEIS for Federal Fluid Minerals Leasing and Development in Sierra and Otero Counties, New Mexico will be available for a 30-day protest period in accordance with the BLM's land-use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2). Protests must be filed within 30 days of the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability of the FEIS.

ADDRESSES: Written protests must be submitted to Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Ms. Brenda Williams, Protests Coordinator, WO-210, P.O. Box 66538, Washington, DC 20035.

Alternatively, and to expedite delivery, you may send your protest using an express delivery service to Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Ms. Brenda Williams, Protests Coordinator, WO-210, 1620 L Street NW., Suite 1075, Washington, DC 20036.

E-mail and faxed protests will not be accepted as valid protests unless the protesting party also provides the original letter by either regular or overnight mail postmarked by the close of the protest period. Under these conditions, the BLM will consider the e-mail or faxed protest as an advance copy, and it will receive full consideration. If you wish to provide