

in such comments. You may mail comments to the Service's Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES**). You may also comment via the Internet to [aaron\\_valenta@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_valenta@fws.gov). Please also include your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from us that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly at either telephone number listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to either Service office listed below (see **ADDRESSES**). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the administrative record. We will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law. There may also be other circumstances in which we would withhold from the administrative record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

The area encompassed under the incidental take permits includes two individual parcels, Palazzo I and II, consisting of a total of 2.6 acres, along the beachfront of the Gulf of Mexico. The projects are located on the western portion of Perdido Key, a 16.9-mile barrier island. Perdido Key constitutes the entire historic range of the Perdido Key beach mouse.

The Perdido Key beach mouse was listed as an endangered species under the Act in 1985 (June 6, 1985, 50 FR 23872). The mouse is also listed as an endangered species by the State of Florida. Critical habitat was designated for the Perdido Key beach mouse at the time of listing (50 FR 23872). On December 15, 2005, we published a proposed revision of critical habitat for the Perdido Key beach mouse and Choctawhatchee beach mouse, and a proposed critical habitat designation for the St. Andrew beach mouse (70 FR 74426).

The Perdido Key beach mouse is one of eight species of the old-field mouse that occupy coastal rather than inland areas and are referred to as beach mice. It is one of five subspecies of beach mice endemic to the Gulf coast of Alabama

and northwestern Florida. Two other extant subspecies of beach mouse and one extinct subspecies are known from the Atlantic coast of Florida. As do other beach mouse subspecies, Perdido Key beach mice spend their entire lives within the coastal beach and dune ecosystem.

Beach mouse habitat consists of a mix of interconnected habitats, including primary, secondary, and scrub dunes, including interdunal areas. Beach mice are nocturnal and dig burrows within the dune system where vegetation provides cover. They forage for food throughout the dune system, feeding primarily on seeds and fruits of dune plants including bluestem (*Schizachyrium maritimum*), sea oats (*Uniola paniculata*), and evening primrose (*Oenothera humifusa*). Insects are also an important component of their diet.

Beach mice along the Gulf Coasts of Florida and Alabama generally live about nine months and become mature between 25 and 35 days. Beach mice are monogamous, pairing for life. Gestation averages 24 days and the average litter size is three to four pups. Peak breeding season for beach mice is in autumn and winter, declining in spring, and falling to low levels in summer. In essence, mature female beach mice can produce a litter every month and live about eight months.

The EA considers the environmental consequences of two alternatives and the proposed action. The proposed action alternative is issuance of the incidental take permit and implementation of the HCP as submitted by the Applicants. The HCP provides for: (1) Minimizing the footprint of both developments; (2) restoring, preserving, and maintaining onsite beach mouse habitat at both projects; (3) incorporating requirements in the operation of both condominium facilities that provide for the conservation of the beach mouse; (4) monitoring the status of the beach mouse at both projects post-construction; (5) donating funds initially and on an annual basis to Perdido Key beach mouse conservation efforts; (6) including conservation measures to protect nesting sea turtles and non-breeding piping plover; and (7) funding the mitigation measures.

Several subspecies of beach mice have been listed as endangered species primarily because of the fragmentation, adverse alteration and loss of habitat due to coastal development. The threat of development related habitat loss continues to increase. Other contributing factors include low population numbers, habitat loss from a

variety of reasons (including hurricanes), predation or competition by animals related to human development (cats and house mice), and the existing strength or lack of regulations regarding coastal development.

We will evaluate the HCP and comments submitted to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that those requirements are met, the ITP will be issued for the incidental take of the Perdido Key beach mouse. We will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITPs.

Dated: April 6, 2006.

**Bud Oliveira,**

*Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Indian Health Service

#### Renewal of Agency Information Collection for Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Contracts

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, and Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

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**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services announce a request for comments concerning renewal of OMB Control Number 1076-0136, the Information Collection Request used for Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance actions. The information collection will be used to process contracts, grants or cooperative agreements for award by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended, and as set forth in 25 CFR part 900. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human

Services invite comment on the information collection described below.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 23, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments to Terry Parks, Office of Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., Mail Stop 320-SIB, Washington, DC 20240. You may telefax comments on this information collection to (202) 208-5113. You may also hand deliver written comments or view comments at the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terry Parks, (202) 513-7625. You may obtain a copy of this information collection document at no charge by a written request to the same address, by telefaxing a request to the above number, or by calling (202) 513-7625. Please identify the information collection by the number 1076-0136.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services developed a joint rule, 25 CFR part 900, to implement section 107 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended, and Title I, Public Law 103-413, the Indian Self-Determination Contract Reform Act of 1994. Section 107(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Indian Self-Determination Contract Reform Act requires the joint rule to permit contracts and grants to be awarded to Indian tribes without the unnecessary burden or confusion associated with two sets of rules and information collection requirements when there is a single program legislation involved.

The information requirements for this joint rule differ from those of other agencies. Both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service let contracts for multiple programs, whereas other agencies usually award single grants to tribes. Under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended, and the Indian Self-Determination Contract Reform Act of 1994, tribes are entitled to contract and may renew contracts annually with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service, whereas other agencies provide grants on a discretionary or competitive basis.

The proposal and other supporting documentation identified in this information collection are used by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services to determine applicant eligibility, evaluate applicant capabilities, protect the service

population, safeguard Federal funds and other resources, and permit the Federal agencies to administer and evaluate contract programs. Tribal governments or tribal organizations provide the information by submitting Public Law 93-638 contract or grant proposals to the appropriate Federal agency. No third-party notification or public disclosure burden is associated with this collection.

#### Request for Comments

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services request comments on this information collection concerning:

(1) The necessity of the information collection for the proper performance of the agencies' functions;

(2) Whether this information collection duplicates a collection elsewhere by the Federal Government;

(3) Whether the burden estimate is accurate or could be reduced using technology available to all respondents;

(4) If the quality of the information requested ensures its usefulness to the agencies; and

(5) If the instructions are clear and easily understood, leading to the least burden on the respondents.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or request, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section, room 320-SIB, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., EST Monday through Friday except for legal holidays. If you wish to have your name and/or address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request according to the requirements of the law. All comments from organizations or representatives will be available for review. We may withhold comments from review for other reasons.

#### Information Collection Abstract

*OMB control number:* 1076-0136.

*Type of review:* Renewal.

*Title:* Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act Programs, 25 CFR 900.

*Brief Description:* Each respondent is required to respond from 1 to 12 times per year, depending upon the number of programs it contracts from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service. In addition, each subpart concerns information collection for different parts of the contracting process. For example, subpart C relates to initial contract proposal contents.

Information collection for subpart C would be unnecessary when contracts are renewed. Subpart F describes minimum standards for the management systems used by Indian tribes or tribal organizations under these contracts. Subpart G addresses the negotiability of all reporting and data requirements in the contract.

*Respondents:* Tribes or tribal organizations.

*Total number of respondents:* 550.

*Estimated number of responses:* 5507.

*Estimated annual burden:* 191,174 hours.

Dated: April 14, 2006.

**Debbie L. Clark,**

*Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.*

Dated: February 17, 2006.

**Mary Lou Stanton,**

*Deputy Director, Indian Health Policy, Department of Health and Human Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Community Development on the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Tribe Reservation, Clark County, NV

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in cooperation with the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Tribe (Tribe), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), intends to gather information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The proposed Federal actions by the BIA and cooperating agencies include approval of a lease, issuance of rights-of-way grants, permits, and/or other agreements between Federal agencies, the Tribe and the LasCal Development Group, LLC (LasCal Development) for the construction, operation and maintenance of residential and commercial development, as well as the necessary infrastructure, on the Las Vegas Paiute Indian Reservation (Reservation) in Clark County, Nevada. The purpose of this project is to provide an expanded economic base for the Tribe while simultaneously providing needed housing for tribal and non-tribal