DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Plants; Receipt of Application for Enhancement of Survival Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a permit application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), invite the public to comment on an application for a permit to conduct enhancement of survival activities with an endangered species.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by March 31, 2011.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Belluomini, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by telephone (503–231–6131) or fax (503–231–6243).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicant has applied for a recovery permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). We are soliciting review of and comments on this application by local, State, and Federal agencies and the public.

Permit No. TE–30445A

Applicant: Benjamin Blonder, Tucson, Arizona.

The applicant requests a permit to remove/reduce to possession Argyroxiphium kaenaense (Mauna Loa silversword) at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii Island, Hawaii, in conjunction with scientific studies for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Public Comments

We are soliciting public review and comment on this recovery permit application. Submit written comments to the Program Manager, Endangered Species (see address above). Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Please refer to the permit number for the application when submitting comments. All comments and materials we receive in response to this request will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Dated: January 11, 2011.

Richard R. Hannan,
Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Tribal—State Class III Gaming Compact taking effect.

SUMMARY: Notice is given that the Tribal-State Compact for Regulation of Class III Gaming between the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon and the State of Oregon is considered to have been approved and is in effect.

DATES: Effective Date: March 1, 2011.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) Public Law 100–497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register notice of any compact that is approved, or considered to have been approved, for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The compact authorizes up to 2,000 video lottery terminals, up to 70 table games, and establishes the Oregon Benefit Fund to receive payments from the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation based upon certain percentages of net win. The gaming facility authorized by this Compact shall be located on certain lands in Cascade Locks, Oregon, but only if all of the following occur: (1) The Cascade Locks lands are acquired in trust by the Secretary for the tribe; and (2) the Secretary issues a favorable “two-part determination,” under Section 20 of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. 2719(b)(1)(A), finding that gaming on the Cascade Locks lands is in the best interest of the tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community; and (3) the Governor of the State of Oregon concurs with the Secretary’s two-part determination within 180 days of receiving the Secretary’s request for his concurrence. See 25 CFR 292.23. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through his delegated authority, did not approve or disapprove the compact within 45 days after the date the compact was received. Therefore, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(7)(C), the compact is considered to have been approved, but only to the extent it is consistent with IGRA.

Dated: February 17, 2011.

Donald Laverdure,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.
at 307–775–6258, and 307–775–6487, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This coal lease sale is being held in response to a lease by application (LBA) filed by Antelope Coal LLC, Gillette, Wyoming. The coal resource to be offered consists of all reserves recoverable by surface mining methods in the following described lands located north of the Campbell/Converse county line approximately 2–5 miles east of State Highway 59 and adjacent to the western and northern lease boundary of the Antelope Mine.

T. 41 N., R. 71 W., 6th Principal Meridian, Sec. 9, lots 9 through 16 inclusive; Sec. 10, lots 11 through 16 inclusive; Sec. 11, lot 13; Sec. 12, lots 3 and 4; Sec. 15, lots 1 through 5 inclusive, and lots 12 and 13; Sec. 20, lots 14 through 16 inclusive; Sec. 21, lots 1 through 16 inclusive; Sec. 22, lots 7, 8, and lots 14 through 16 inclusive; Sec. 27, lots 6 through 11 inclusive; Sec. 28, lots 1 through 8 inclusive; and Sec. 29, lots 1 through 3 inclusive, and lots 6 through 8 inclusive. Containing 2,837.63 acres, more or less in Campbell County, Wyoming.

The tract is adjacent to Federal leases to the east and south and surrounds a State of Wyoming lease, all controlled by the Antelope Mine. It is adjacent to additional unleased Federal coal to the west and north.

All of the acreage offered has been determined to be suitable for mining except for the mainline railroad right-of-way in the far northeast portion of the tract. Features such as utilities and pipelines can be moved to permit coal recovery. A possible alluvial valley floor crosses the tract along Horse Creek, but is unlikely to be significant for farming and so will be available for mining with appropriate reclamation. In addition, numerous producing coal bed natural gas wells have been drilled on the LBA tract. The estimate of the bonus value of the coal lease will include consideration of the future production from these wells. An economic analysis of the future income stream from coal mining will consider reasonable compensation for lost production of coal bed natural gas when the wells are bought out by the coal lessee. Mining will eliminate the gas reservoir. The surface estate of the tract is owned by Antelope Coal Company or private individuals and other entities.

The tract contains surface mineable coal reserves in the Wyodak-Anderson coal, only being recovered in the adjacent, existing mine. On the LBA tract, there are generally two recoverable seams, the shallower Anderson and the deeper Canyon. On the LBA tract, both seams are generally continuous, although a thin split off the bottom of the Anderson occasionally occurs. This split can usually be recovered with the main Anderson seam. The Anderson seam varies from 35 to 42 feet thick while the Canyon seam varies from 32 to 36 feet thick. The interburden varies significantly and can be as thin as 12 feet to as thick as 95 feet but is usually in the 65 to 75 foot thick range. Overburden depths to the Anderson seam range from about 250 to 440 feet thick on the LBA tract.

The tract contains an estimated 350,263,000 tons of mineable coal. This estimate of mineable reserves includes both of the main seams and the thin split mentioned above, but does not include any tonnage from localized seams or splits where the coal is less than 5 feet thick. It does not include the coal in the State of Wyoming coal lease, although these reserves are expected to be recovered in conjunction with the LBA tract. It also excludes coal within and along the railroad right-of-way since this coal cannot be recovered using typical mining practices. The total mineable stripping ratio of the coal in bank cubic yards per ton is approximately 4.6:1. Potential bidders for the LBA tract should consider the recovery rate expected from thick seam and multiple seam mining. The West Antelope II North LBA coal is ranked as subbituminous C. The overall average quality on an as-received basis is 8,967 British Thermal Units per pound containing approximately 0.23 percent sulfur. The average quality of these coal reserves are equal to some of the best quality coal currently being mined in the Wyoming portion of the Powder River Basin.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. There are qualified surface owners as defined in the regulations at 30 CFR 206.250. Bidding instructions for the LBA tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are available from the BLM Wyoming State Office at the address above. Case file documents, WYW163340, are available for inspection at the BLM Wyoming State Office.

Donald A. Simpson, State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Rasmussen Valley Mine and Reclamation Plan, Caribou County, ID


ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, notice is hereby given that the