

minimization, and mitigation for each species that is coordinated on a landscape level that provides increased benefits to the covered species.

### Scoping Period and Meeting

The purpose of scoping is to provide an early and open process to determine concerns to be addressed and to identify potentially significant issues related to the proposed action. The publication of this notice initiates a 30-day scoping period, during which stakeholders and the public are encouraged to provide input and recommendations to the Service. Specifically, the Service seeks to identify people or organizations interested in the proposed action, any potentially significant issues to be analyzed, gaps in data or information, and alternatives to the proposed action that should be considered.

The Service will host an open house and public scoping meeting that will provide an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide comments and information on the scope of issues and alternatives to be considered. Comments can also be submitted electronically or at the address above at any time during the scoping period.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs with your request by close of business at least 3 working days prior to the meeting date to Mr. Adam Zerrenner, Field Supervisor, Austin Ecological Services Field Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758-4460; telephone 512/490-0057; facsimile 512/490-0974; or email [Adam\\_Zerrenner@fws.gov](mailto:Adam_Zerrenner@fws.gov), TTY 800-877-8339.

### Alternatives

The alternative actions will be compared to the No-Action alternative in the draft EA. The No-Action alternative represents the estimated future conditions under the existing management and use, to which the alternative action's estimated future conditions can be compared. The Service seeks comments and recommendations from stakeholders and the public regarding the alternatives under consideration and others that should be considered.

#### No-Action Alternative

Under the No-Action alternative, the management and use of the Aquifer will continue regardless of whether an Incidental Take Permit is sought or issued. The District, and those covered by the proposed permit, would continue

to be subject to the take prohibitions of the Act. Where potential impacts could not be avoided and where a Federal nexus exists, measures designed to minimize and mitigate for impacts would be addressed through individual formal or informal consultation with the Service. In the absence of a Federal nexus, parties engaging in actions that would affect protected species would comply with the Act by obtaining individual section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permits on a project-by-project basis.

#### Alternative Number One: Proposed Issuance of an Incidental Take Permit

The proposed action is issuance of an incidental take permit based upon an HCP developed by the District. Texas counties that may be included in the proposed permit are those within the District's jurisdiction, including portions of Caldwell, Hays, and Travis Counties. The District has indicated their preference for a permit duration of 20 years.

The actions to be covered under the requested incidental take permit have yet to be determined, but may include activities associated with the ongoing groundwater management and use of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer, and actions to protect spring flow at the multiple spring outlets located at Barton Springs.

The alternative could allow for a comprehensive mitigation approach for unavoidable impacts to listed species while reducing permit processing effort for the Service.

#### Alternative Number Two: Water Demand Reduction

Under this alternative, the District would create regulatory mechanisms that reduce pumping of fresh water from the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer during periods of drought. If such regulatory demand reductions could avoid adverse impacts to the listed species and their habitats, then no Incidental Take Permit would be required and none would be issued. If demand reduction regulatory programs could not avoid take of listed species, the District would develop an HCP that would minimize and mitigate impacts within their authorities to the maximum extent practicable and seek an Incidental Take Permit.

#### Alternative Number Three: Water Supply Augmentation and Substitution

Under Alternative Number Three, supplies of freshwater pumped from the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer would be augmented or substituted with alternative supplies

during periods of drought. If such enhancement or substitution actions could avoid take of the listed species, no Incidental Take Permit would be required and none would be issued. If these measures were not able to avoid all such take, the District would develop an HCP that would minimize and mitigate the impacts of such take to the maximum extent practicable and seek an Incidental Take Permit.

### Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Before including your address, phone number, email 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 request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22) and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4721 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

### Joy E. Nicholopoulos

Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[AAK4004200/A0R5C4040.999900/134A2100DD]

### Proclaiming Certain Lands as Reservation for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe of Washington State

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Reservation Proclamation.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public that the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs proclaimed approximately 20.16

acres, more or less, as an addition to and becoming a part of the Reservation of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe on 2/24/14.

This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by part 209 of the Departmental Manual.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Matthew Kirkland, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Real Estate Services, MS-4639-MIB, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 208-3615.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A proclamation was issued according to the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 986; 25 U.S.C. 467), for the tract of land described below. The land was proclaimed to be an addition to and part of the Reservation of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe for the exclusive use of Indians on that reservation who are entitled to reside at the reservation by enrollment or tribal membership.

**Reservation of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe**

*King County, Washington*

The legal description of the property including 20.16 acres is:

The east 957 feet of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter; LESS the south 480 feet of the east 40 feet; AND LESS that portion lying south of State Highway #5; AND LESS the north 456 feet of the east 957 feet, ALL in the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 35, Township 21 north, Range 5 east, W.M.; LESS county roads, ALL in King County, Washington. and

The North 456 feet of the East 957 feet of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of the Section 35, Township 21 North, Range 5 East, W.M., in King County, Washington; Except the East 191 feet thereof; and Except the North 30 feet thereof for South 376th Street.

This proclamation does not affect title to the land described above, nor does it affect any valid existing easements for public roads and highways, public utilities and for railroads and pipelines and any other rights-of-way or reservations of record.

Dated: February 24, 2014.

**Kevin K. Washburn,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Ocean Energy Management [MMAA104000]**

**Environmental Documents Prepared for Oil, Gas, and Mineral Operations by the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of the availability of environmental documents prepared for OCS mineral proposals by the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

**SUMMARY:** BOEM, in accordance with Federal regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), announces the availability of NEPA-related Site-Specific

Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI). These documents were prepared during the period October 1, 2013, through December 31, 2013, for oil, gas, and mineral-related activities that were proposed in the Gulf of Mexico, and are more specifically described in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Attention: Public Information Office (GM 250E), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Room 250, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, or by calling 1-800-200-GULF.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** BOEM prepares SEAs and FONSI for certain proposals that relate to exploration, development, production, and transport of oil, gas, and mineral resources on the Federal OCS. These SEAs examine the potential environmental effects of proposed activities and present BOEM conclusions regarding the significance of those effects. Each SEA is used as a basis for determining whether or not approval of the proposal constitutes a major Federal action that significantly affects the quality of the human environment in accordance with NEPA Section 102(2)(C). A FONSI is prepared in those instances where BOEM finds that approval will not result in significant effects on the quality of the human environment. The FONSI briefly presents the basis for that finding and includes a summary or copy of the SEA.

This notice constitutes the public notice of availability of environmental documents required under the NEPA regulations.

Activity/operator	Location	Date
EPL Oil & Gas, Inc., Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-153 ..	South Pass, Block 28, Lease OCS 00353, located 4 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/1/2013
Apache Corporation, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-097	Eugene Island, Block 273, Lease OCS-G 00987, located 56 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/2/2013
Statoil Gulf Properties Inc., Exploration Plan, SEA N-9711 .....	DeSoto Canyon, Blocks 143, 187, & 231, Leases OCS-G 33771, 33774, & 33780, located 100 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/3/2013
Statoil Gulf of Mexico LLC, Exploration Plan, SEA N-9721 .....	Mississippi Canyon, Block 718, Lease OCS-G 34456, located 48 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/3/2013
Stone Energy Corporation, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-152.	Ship Shoal, Block 146, Lease OCS-G 22705, located 21 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/15/2013
Stone Energy Corporation, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-140.	South Marsh, Block 108, Lease OCS-G 00792, located 69 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/15/2013
Petroleum Geo Services, Geological & Geophysical Survey, SEA T13-004.	Central & Western Planning Areas of the Gulf of Mexico .....	10/21/2013
SandRidge Energy Offshore, LLC, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-032.	Ship Shoal, Block 188, Lease OCS-G 22712, located 31 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/23/2013
Apache Corporation, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-172	Eugene Island, Block 105, Lease OCS-G 00797, located 17 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/29/2013
Sojitz Energy Venture, Inc., Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-168.	Vermilion, Block 86, Lease OCS-G 22613, located 20 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/30/2013
Apache Corporation, Structure Removal, SEA ES/SR 13-176	Eugene Island, Block 105, Lease OCS-G 00797, located 18 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	10/31/2013