

local agency property, the agency administering the land is consulted. When the structure is on private land, the landowner is likewise consulted about proposed removal activities. Biological and cultural assessments are conducted when the site is in a sensitive environmental setting or when required by the government agency or private landowner.

Site restoration activities include removal of demolition debris from the site, backfilling holes or depressions to existing grade and compacting the fill, stabilizing any disturbed areas, seeding the area with non-invasive species, and returning the site to pre-structure condition or equivalent to the surrounding environment.

The USGS environmental staff reviewed past activities to determine if any unanticipated impacts had occurred as a result of removing hydrologic and water-quality monitoring equipment at streams, rivers, springs, wellheads, and other sites. The staff concluded that a sufficient administrative record exists to demonstrate that hydrologic and water-quality monitoring structure and equipment removal, including site restoration, normally would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

The USGS proposes to clarify the current category by re-characterizing the current list of structures as “hydrologic and water-quality monitoring structures and equipment” and by providing examples of typical structures being installed, maintained, and removed. The revised text is intended to more accurately reflect how the category has been interpreted and used by USGS personnel by describing the actions taking place, in lieu of describing current technologies, which may change over time.

Over the past two decades the types of monitoring structures have changed substantially. Advances in technology have produced water monitoring equipment with smaller environmental footprints. For example, the current generation of surface-water monitoring structures commonly being installed consists of an aluminum box with a nominal size of 3 feet by 3 feet by 1 foot mounted to or near a bridge structure. Inside the enclosure are a variety of electronic instruments used to measure and record water levels and water-quality conditions. In contrast, legacy surface-water monitoring equipment consists of concrete or metal stilling wells with mechanical floats located along stream banks or at bridge sites; these wells measure up to 5 ft. in diameter. Installation and removal of the new generation of surface-water

monitoring stations has less potential for environmental impacts.

### Public Comments

To be considered, any comments on these proposed revisions to the list of categorical exclusions in the Departmental Manual must be received by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments received after that date will be considered only to the extent feasible. Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be part of the public record and available for public review at the USGS address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section, during business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, telephone 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 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.

### Text of Proposed Revisions to 516 DM 9, Section 9.5 Categorical Exclusions

E. Operation, construction, installation, and removal—including restoration of sites to the pre-structure condition or equivalent of the surrounding environment—of hydrologic and water-quality monitoring structures and equipment including but not limited to weirs, cableways, streamgaging stations, groundwater wells, and meteorologic structures.

I. Digging and subsequent site restoration of exploratory trenches not to exceed one acre of surface disturbance.

Dated: July 24, 2014.

**Willie R. Taylor,**

*Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-AM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[K00621 1314 R3B30]

### Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Samish Indian Nation Trust Acquisition and Casino Project, City of Anacortes, Skagit County, Washington

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs as lead agency, with the Samish Indian Nation and the City of Anacortes, serving as cooperating agencies, intends to file a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Samish Indian Nation Trust Acquisition and Casino Project, City of Anacortes, Skagit County, Washington. The DEIS is now available for public review and a public hearing will be held to receive comments.

**DATES:** The date of the public hearing will be announced at least 15 days in advance through notices in the following newspapers: *Anacortes American* and the *Skagit Valley Herald* and on the following Web site: [www.samisheis.com](http://www.samisheis.com). Written comments on the DEIS must arrive 45 days after EPA publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail or deliver written comments to Mr. Stanley Speaks, Northwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232. The public hearing will be held at the Fidalgo Bay Resort Community Center, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes, Washington, 98221. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice for addresses where the DEIS is available for review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. B.J. Howerton, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232; fax (503) 231–2275; phone (503) 231–6749.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and in this situation public review of the DEIS, is part of the administrative process for the evaluation of tribal applications pursuant to section 5 of Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) (25 U.S.C. 465). Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1506.10), the

publication of the Notice of Availability by the EPA in the Federal Register initiates the 45-day public comment period.

The proposed project consists of the following components: (1) Acquisition in trust of three parcels totaling 11.41 acres, more or less, in accordance with section 5 of the IRA and the procedures in 25 CFR part 151; (2) the Secretary of the Interior's issuance of a reservation proclamation pursuant to section 7 of the IRA (25 U.S.C. 467); and (3) development of a casino facility within the project site. At full build-out, the proposed casino facility would have approximately 48,100 square feet of gaming floor. Access to the project site would be provided via driveways along Thompson Road and Stevenson Road.

The following alternatives are considered in the DEIS: (1) Proposed project; (2) Reduced intensity casino development; (3) Non-gaming alternative; (4) Fidalgo Bay Resort Flats site; and (5) No action. Environmental issues addressed in the DEIS include geology and soils, water resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice), transportation and circulation, land use, public services, noise, hazardous materials, aesthetics, cumulative effects, and indirect and growth inducing effects.

The BIA held a public scoping meeting for the project on September 14, 2011, at the Fidalgo Bay Resort, Anacortes, Washington.

**Directions for Submitting Comments:** Please include your name, return address, and the caption: "DEIS Comments, Samish Indian Nation Trust Acquisition and Casino Project," on the first page of your written comments.

**Locations where the DEIS is Available for Review:** The DEIS will be available for review at the Anacortes Public Library located at 1220 10th Street, Anacortes, Washington, 98221, and the Samish Indian Nation Administration Office located at 2918 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes, Washington, 98221. The DEIS is also available online at: <http://www.samisheis.com>. To obtain a compact disc copy of the DEIS, please provide your name and address in writing or by voicemail to Dr. B.J. Howerton, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Regional Office. Contact information is listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individual paper copies of the DEIS will be provided only upon payment of applicable printing expenses by the requestor for the number of copies requested.

**Public Comment Availability:** Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BIA address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. 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 ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.

**Authority:** This notice is published in accordance with section 1503.1 of the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500 et seq.) and the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR part 46) implementing the procedural requirements of the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and in accordance with the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by part 209 of the Department Manual.

Dated: July 29, 2014.

**Kevin K. Washburn,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LWO220000.L10200000.PH0000.00000000]

#### Renewal of Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** 30-day notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has submitted an information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to continue the collection of information from applicants for grazing permits and leases, and from holders of grazing permits and leases. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) previously approved this information collection activity, and assigned it control number 1004-0041.

**DATES:** The OMB is required to respond to this information collection request within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration,

written comments should be received on or before September 22, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit comments directly to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB #1004-0041), Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, fax 202-395-5806, or by electronic mail at [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov). Please provide a copy of your comments to the BLM via mail, fax, or electronic mail.

**Mail:** U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street NW., Room 2134LM, Attention: Jean Sonneman, Washington, DC 20240.

**Fax:** to Jean Sonneman at 202-245-0050.

**Electronic mail:** [Jean\\_Sonneman@blm.gov](mailto:Jean_Sonneman@blm.gov).

Please indicate "Attn: 1004-0041" regardless of the form of your comments.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kimberly Hackett, at 202-912-7216. Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, to leave a message for Ms. Hackett. You may also review the information collection request online at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521) and OMB regulations at 5 CFR part 1320 provide that an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond. In order to obtain and renew an OMB control number, Federal agencies are required to seek public comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d) and 1320.12(a)).

As required at 5 CFR 1320.8(d), the BLM published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** on January 10, 2014 (79 FR 1884), and the comment period ended on March 11, 2014. The BLM received one comment. The comment was a general invective about the Federal government, the Department of the Interior, the BLM, and Federal employees. It did not address, and was not germane to, this information collection. Therefore, we have not changed the collection in response to the comment.

The BLM now requests comments on the following subjects:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the BLM, including