

Dated: April 13, 2016.

**Noah Matson,**

*Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

Dated: April 13, 2016.

**Samuel D. Rauch, III,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2016-10479 Filed 5-3-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R1-R-2015-N020; FF01R05000-FVRS8451-0100000]

#### **Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Northern Islands Submerged Lands Transfer to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Draft Environmental Assessment**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

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

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of a draft environmental assessment (Draft EA) for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument (Monument) Northern Islands Submerged Lands (submerged lands) Transfer to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), for public review and comment. The Draft EA describes our proposal for the Secretary of the Interior to convey specific submerged lands within the Monument from the United States to the CNMI Government under the authority of the Territorial Submerged Lands Act (TSLA), 48 U.S.C. 1705, *et seq.*

**DATES:** To ensure consideration of your comments, please send your written comments by June 6, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** You can download the Draft EA from our Web site: [www.fws.gov/marianastrenchmarinemonument/](http://www.fws.gov/marianastrenchmarinemonument/), and review printed copies of it at the locations listed under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Submit comments on the Draft EA and requests for more information by any of the following methods.

*Email:* [fw1\\_sltransfer\\_cnmi@fws.gov](mailto:fw1_sltransfer_cnmi@fws.gov). Include "Submerged Lands Transfer" in the subject line of the message.

*Fax:* Attn: Charles Houghten, (503) 231-6161.

*U.S. Mail:* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region, Attn: Charles

Houghten, Chief, Lands Division, 911 NE 11th Ave., Portland, OR 97232.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charles Houghten, (503) 231-6207 (phone).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Introduction**

With this notice, we are announcing the availability of our Draft EA developed in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the CNMI Government, and in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508); other Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those laws and regulations. We are also requesting public comments on the Draft EA, and will review and consider all comments as part of our NEPA process.

##### **Background**

The subject of our EA is the Northern Islands submerged lands surrounding the islands of Farallon de Pajaros (Uracas), Maug, and Asuncion in the CNMI, which include lands permanently or periodically covered by tidal waters up to the mean low water line, and extending three miles seaward from the mean high tide line of each of these islands.

The submerged lands are among some of the most biologically diverse in the Western Pacific Ocean, with relatively pristine coral reef ecosystems that have been proclaimed objects of scientific interest and reserved for protection as part of the Monument's Islands Unit, by Presidential Proclamation 8335 of January 6, 2009.

The submerged lands and associated waters were excepted from transfer to the CNMI Government by operation of the TSLA in Presidential Proclamation 9077 of January 15, 2014. Proclamation 9077 also provided that it did not affect the authority of the Secretary of the Interior granted under the TSLA, to convey the submerged lands after an agreement has been entered for coordination of management that ensures the protection of the Monument.

##### **The Draft EA**

The purpose of the Draft EA is to analyze alternatives for the proposed conveyance of the Northern Islands submerged lands and associated waters to the CNMI Government. We identify two alternatives in the Draft EA.

Alternative 1 is our Current Land Status Alternative (No Action); under it,

the Department of the Interior (DOI) would not convey the submerged lands, including mineral rights, to CNMI. The Service and NOAA would continue to coordinate management of the submerged lands and associated waters, including fishery-related activities of the Islands Unit, in consultation with the CNMI Government. We would manage the Monument in accordance with the directives of Presidential Proclamation 8335, and implement activities to address priority management needs based on agency-specific authorities and an integrated management plan.

Under our preferred alternative, Alternative 2 (or Northern Islands Submerged Lands Conveyance alternative), DOI would convey the submerged lands, including mineral rights, to the CNMI Government through a patent with a reserved easement. Consistent with the requirements of Proclamation 9077, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) would also be implemented to outline the roles and responsibilities of the CNMI Government, the Service, and NOAA, for ensuring protection of the Monument, and managing and conducting activities within the submerged lands and associated waters.

Upon the conveyance of the NISL to CNMI and pursuant to the MOA, the Service and NOAA would, at no additional cost to the CNMI, continue managing the conveyed submerged lands, for the benefit of and in consultation with the CNMI Government, until such time that the CNMI Government notifies the Secretaries of Interior and Commerce of its intent to assume either all or a portion of the management responsibilities of the conveyed submerged lands.

Alternative 2 would allow the CNMI Government to assume primary responsibility for managing and protecting the Northern Islands submerged lands and associated waters consistent with the purposes and requirements of Proclamations 8335 and 9077, and in coordination with the Service and NOAA, at such time as the CNMI Government notifies the Secretaries of Interior and Commerce of its desire to do so. Consistent with the Proclamations 8335 and 9077, this management would include the benthic and living marine resources of the associated water column, and subterranean of the submerged lands, and the associated mineral rights within.

**Public Availability of the Draft EA**

Printed copies of the Draft EA are available for review at the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Gualo Rai Center, Chalan Pale Arnold–Middle Road, Saipan, MP 96950, and the following libraries.

- Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Beach Road and Insatto St., Saipan, MP 96950.
- Tinian Public Library, San Jose Village, Tinian, MP 96952.
- Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Library, Tatchogh Village, Rota, MP 96951.

**Public Availability of Comments**

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 us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Robyn Thorson,**

*Regional Director, Pacific Region, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 2016–09955 Filed 5–3–16; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Geological Survey**

[GX16LR000F60100]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of a renewal of a currently approved information collection (1028–0059).

**SUMMARY:** We (the U.S. Geological Survey) will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collection (IC) described below. This collection consists of 1 form. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, and as part of our continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this IC. This collection is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2016.

**DATES:** To ensure that your comments are considered, we must receive them on or before July 5, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); (703) 648–7197 (fax); or *gs-info\_collections@usgs.gov* (email). Please reference ‘Information Collection 1028–0059, Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in all correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lori E. Apodaca, National Minerals Information Center, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 989, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); 703–648–7724 (phone); or *lapodaca@usgs.gov* (email). You may also find information about this ICR at *www.reginfo.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

The collection of this information is required by the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and will, upon request, provide the CTBT Technical Secretariat with geographic locations of sites where chemical explosions greater than 300 tons TNT-equivalent have occurred.

**II. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 1028–0059.  
*Form Number:* USGS Form 9–4040–A.  
*Title:* Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.  
*Type of Request:* Renewal of existing information collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or Other-For-Profit Institutions: U.S. nonfuel minerals producers.

*Respondent's Obligation:* None. Participation is voluntary.

*Frequency of Collection:* Annually.  
*Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses:* 2,500.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 15 minutes.  
*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 625 hours.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping “Non-Hour Cost” Burden:* There are no “non-hour cost” burdens associated with this IC.

*Public Disclosure Statement:* The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number and current expiration date.

**III. Request for Comments**

We are soliciting comments as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether

the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your personal mailing address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personally identifiable information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personally identifiable information from public view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Michael J. Magyar,**

*Associate Director, National Minerals Information Center, U.S. Geological Survey.*

[FR Doc. 2016–10379 Filed 5–3–16; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs**

[167 A2100DD/AAKC001030/A0A501010.999900]

**Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes the current list of 567 Tribal entities recognized and eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) by virtue of their status as Indian Tribes. The list is updated from the notice published on January 29, 2016 (81 FR 5019).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Laurel Iron Cloud, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Tribal Government Services, Mail Stop 4513–MIB, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240. Telephone number: (202) 513–7641.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to Section 104 of the Act of November 2, 1994 (Pub. L. 103–454; 108 Stat. 4791, 4792), and in exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs under 25 U.S.C. 2 and 9 and 209 DM 8.