

available at the following website:  
<http://www.fws.gov/angered/laws-policies/regulations-and-policies.html>.

### Proposed Action

The applicant has submitted a draft SHA for the Amargosa vole that covers approximately 467 acres of land (enrolled property) in Inyo County, California, within historical but currently unoccupied habitat of the Amargosa vole. The enrolled property comprises marsh habitat in areas irrigated by water from Shoshone Spring or other sources, interspersed trees of various species, open meadow, various degrees of undisturbed and disturbed salt scrub desert, and developed areas. Development within the enrolled property includes the Shoshone Trailer RV Park (camping sites, picnic areas, walking trails, and a swimming pool), various parking areas, and unpaved trails and roads. The broader Enrolled Property is bisected by Old State Highway CA 127 and State Highway CA 127, and lies adjacent to land owned by the Death Valley Unified School District. Within the enrolled property is a core area comprising three connected marsh sites where intensive habitat restoration activities have been implemented by the applicant, the Service, and other cooperators.

The permit and implementation of management activities described in the SHA will enable the translocation and reintroduction of wild Amargosa voles, which will expand the species' current range into historical habitat where it had previously been extirpated. Management activities will also include ongoing restoration in the core area to support this newly established population. The re-establishment of Amargosa vole populations within their historical range is a high-priority recovery action. Management activities in the SHA have been developed to support recovery actions for the Amargosa vole by restoring and protecting suitable habitat, and by implementing habitat management plans. The Service anticipates that implementation of these activities will produce the following net conservation benefits to the Amargosa vole:

- Re-establish Amargosa vole populations at the northern extent of the subspecies' range, in its historical type locality;
- Provide areas where suitable habitat for the Amargosa vole will be maintained, protected, and remain relatively undisturbed;
- Increase population redundancy within the subspecies' range; and
- Reduce the potential for local extirpation and extinction due to

stochastic events (e.g., wildfire and disease) within the species' limited existing occupied habitat.

### Species Information

The current range of the Amargosa vole is confined to 36 marshes in the Lower Amargosa River Valley in the vicinity of Tecopa Hot Springs and the northern end of the Amargosa Canyon. The Amargosa vole obligately depends upon, and is closely associated with, wetland vegetation dominated by Olney's three-square bulrush (*Schoenoplectus americanus*), where it generally occurs in isolated and disjunct marshes surrounded by saltgrass-dominated habitats or more xeric desert scrub or barren areas. Although not all of the mechanisms that drive habitat selection are fully understood, plausible explanations for habitat preference may include the presence of standing and flowing water, reliance on Olney's three-square bulrush as a vital food source, and utilization of bulrush litter layers (up to 3.3 feet in depth) for thermoregulation, nesting, and predator avoidance.

### National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

The development of the draft SHA and the proposed issuance of an enhancement of survival permit are Federal actions that trigger the need for compliance with the NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). We have prepared a draft EAS to analyze the impacts of permit issuance and implementation of the SHA on the human environment in comparison to the no-action alternative. We have made a preliminary determination that issuing the permit and implementing the SHA would have minor or negligible impacts to the environment, and thus the proposed SHA and permit actions are eligible for categorical exclusion under NEPA. The basis for our preliminary determination is contained in the EAS, which is available for public review (see **ADDRESSES**).

### Next Steps

We will evaluate the permit application, associated documents, and comments we receive to determine whether the permit application meets the requirements of the ESA, NEPA, and their implementing regulations. If we determine that all requirements are met, we will sign the proposed SHA and issue a permit under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA to the applicant. We will not make our final decision on the permit application until after the end of the public comment period, and we will

fully consider all comments we receive during the comment period.

### 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 the entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made 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.

### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32), and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6; 43 CFR part 46).

### Scott Sobiech,

*Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, Pacific Southwest Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[201D0102DR/DS5A300000/  
DR.5A311.IA000118]

### Land Acquisitions; Osage Nation, Bartlesville Property, Oklahoma

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 125 acres, more or less, of land in trust for the Osage Nation for gaming and other purposes on June 26, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Mailstop 3543, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 26, 2020, the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to accept land into trust for the Osage Nation under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 25 U.S.C. 5108. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs also determined that the Osage Nation meets the requirements of the Indian Gaming

Regulatory Act's "Oklahoma exception," 25 U.S.C. 2719(a)(2)(A)(i), to the general prohibition contained in 25 U.S.C. 2719(a) on gaming on lands acquired in trust after October 17, 1988.

The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, will immediately acquire title to the Bartlesville Property, 125 acres, more or less, in the name of the United States of America in trust for the Osage Nation, upon fulfillment of all Departmental requirements. The 125 acres, more or less, are described as follows:

### Legal Description of Property

#### Surface Only

The SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and the W $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, Township 26 North, Range 12 East, of the Indian Base and Meridian, Osage County, Oklahoma, according to the U.S. Government Survey thereof.

Less and except Tracts A and B located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, Township 26 North, Range 12 East, fdescribed as follows:

#### Tract A

Commencing at the northwest corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, thence South 01°57'28" East along the westerly line thereof 98.19 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 01°57'28" East along the westerly line thereof for 126.98 feet; thence South 89°09'03" East for 285.22 feet; thence North 81°13'42" East for 188.48 feet; thence North 0°09'01" West for 103.64 feet; thence South 89°50'59" West for 475.54 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.357 acres, more or less.

#### Tract B

Commencing at the northeast corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, thence South 01°00'03" East along the easterly line thereof for 49.07 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 01°00'03" East continuing along the easterly line thereof for 126.70 feet; thence North 89°09'06" West for 283.38 feet; thence North 00°50'57" East for 6.50 feet; thence North 00°09'01" West for 115.24 feet; thence North 89°50'57" East for 281.34 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.805 acre, more or less.

Containing 125.48 acres, more or less.

**Authority:** This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 Departmental Manual 8.1, and is published to comply with the requirements of 25 CFR

151.12 (c)(2)(ii) that notice of the decision to acquire land in trust be promptly provided in the **Federal Register**.

**Tara Sweeney,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[201D0102DR/DS5A300000/  
DR.5A311.IA000118]

### Land Acquisitions; Osage Nation, Pawhuska Property, Oklahoma

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to acquire 63.1 acres, more or less, of land known as the Pawhuska Property in Osage County, Oklahoma, in trust for the Osage Nation for gaming and other purposes on June 26, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Mailstop 3543, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 26, 2020, the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs made a final agency determination to accept land into trust for the Osage Nation under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 25 U.S.C. 5108. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs also determined that the Osage Nation meets the requirements of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act's "Oklahoma exception," 25 U.S.C. 2719(a)(2)(A)(i), to the general prohibition contained in 25 U.S.C. 2719(a) on gaming on lands acquired in trust after October 17, 1988.

The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, will immediately acquire title to the Pawhuska Property, 63.1 acres, more or less, in the name of the United States of America in Trust for Osage Nation upon fulfillment of all Departmental requirements. The 63.1 acres, more or less, are described as follows:

### Legal Description of Property

A parcel or tract of land in the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ) and part of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter (S $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Two (2),

Township Twenty-five (25) North, Range Nine (9) East of the Indian Base and Meridian, Osage County, Oklahoma, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the S $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence N 01°06'02" W along the Westerly line of said S $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  for 611.20 feet; thence N 82°51'58" E for 182.05 feet to the point of beginning of said tract of land, thence continuing N 82°51'58" E for 47.95 feet; thence N 73°16'58" E for 430.00 feet; thence N 88°51'58" E for 1272.93 feet to a point at the centerline of Bird Creek; thence S 47°23'50" W along said centerline for 134.88 feet; thence S 39°43'47" W along said centerline for 306.80 feet to a point of curve; thence Southwesterly, Southerly and Southeasterly along said centerline on a curve to the left having a central angle of 113°05'30", a radius of 130.00 feet, a chord bearing of S 16°48'58" E, and a chord distance of 216.93 feet for an arc length of 256.60 feet to a point of tangency; thence S 73°21'43" E along said centerline for 386.38 feet to a point of curve; thence Southeasterly along said centerline on a curve to the right having a central angle of 20°49'19", a radius of 550.00 feet, a chord bearing of S 62°57'03" E, and a chord distance of 198.78 feet for an arc length of 199.88 feet to a point on the Southerly line of said S $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence S 88°38'24" W along said Southerly line for 901.32 feet to the Northeast corner of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence S 00°58'53" E along the Easterly line of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  for 1313.82 feet to the Southeast corner of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence S 88°41'32" W along the Southerly line of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  for 1264.28 feet to a point, said point being N 88°41'32" E a distance of 51.32 feet from the Southwest corner of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence N 04°03'46" E for 1318.54 feet to a point on the Northerly line of said NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , said point being N 88°38'24" E a distance of 166.56 feet from the Southwest corner of said S $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence N 04°00'06" E for 153.36 feet; thence N 00°59'56" W for 476.83 feet to the point of beginning of said tract of land, containing 63.100 acres, more or less. SURFACE ONLY.

### Authority

This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 Departmental Manual 8.1, and is published to comply with the requirements of 25 CFR 151.12(c)(2)(ii) that notice of the decision to acquire land in trust be promptly provided in the **Federal Register**.

**Tara Sweeney,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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