

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**Madonna Baucum,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026-07078 Filed 4-10-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333-15-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-ES-2026-1058; OMB Control Number 1018-0194; FXES111609M0000-267-FF09420000]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget; Approval Procedures for Incidental Harassment Authorizations of Marine Mammals**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are proposing to renew an information collection without change.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 13, 2026. Comments submitted electronically using the Federal eRulemaking Portal (see **ADDRESSES**, below) must be received by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on the closing date. To ensure your comment is received and considered, you must submit it using one of the methods identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document. Comments submitted through any method not authorized in this document, or sent to an address not listed here, will not be considered.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Please provide a copy of your comments on the information collection request (ICR) by one of the following methods (please reference 1018-0194 in the subject line of your comments):

- *Electronic submission:* Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <https://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-HQ-ES-2026-1058, which is the docket number for this action.

Then click the Search button. On the resulting page, you may submit a comment by clicking on “Comment.” Please ensure that you have found the correct document before submitting your comments.

- *U.S. mail:* Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Attn: Docket No. FWS-HQ-ES-2026-1058, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: PRB (JAO/3W), Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

Comments submitted through any method not authorized in this document, or sent to an address not listed here, will not be considered. We will not accept comments via email, fax, or hand delivery. We are not required to consider comments that are submitted after the comment period ends or that are submitted via a method outside of these instructions. Comments containing profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate content will not be considered. We will post all comments at <https://www.regulations.gov>. You may request that we withhold personal identifying information from public review; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Madonna L. Baucum, Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, by email at [Info\\_Coll@fws.gov](mailto:Info_Coll@fws.gov), or by telephone at (703) 468-8211. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA; 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

On December 15, 2025, we published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 58047) a notice of our intent to request that OMB approve this information collection. In that notice, we solicited comments for 60 days, ending on February 13, 2026. We also published the **Federal Register** notice on [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) (Docket No. FWS-HQ-ES-2025-0613). We received

the following comment in response to that notice:

*Comment 1:* Anonymous electronic comment (FWS-HQ-ES-2025-0613-0002) received February 9, 2026. The commenter encouraged the Service to protect marine mammals from destruction.

*Agency Response to Comment 1:* The commenter did not address the information collection requirements; therefore, no response is required.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

- (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology (*e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of response).

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your 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 review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

*Abstract:* Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior

(Secretary) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment of small numbers of marine mammals of a species or population stock by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specific geographic region for periods of not more than 1 year. The Service may authorize incidental take by harassment if statutory and regulatory procedures are followed and the Service finds: (i) take is of a small number of marine mammals of a species or stock, (ii) take will have a negligible impact on the species or stock, and (iii) take will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock for taking for subsistence uses by Alaska Natives.

The term “take” means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, any marine mammal. Harassment means any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (the MMPA defines this as “Level A harassment”), or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering (the MMPA defines this as “Level B harassment”).

The terms “negligible impact,” “small numbers,” and “unmitigable adverse impact” are defined in 50 CFR 18.27 (*i.e.*, the Service’s regulations governing small takes of marine mammals incidental to specified activities). “Negligible impact” is an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival. “Unmitigable adverse impact” means an impact resulting from the specified activity (1) that is likely to reduce the availability of the species to a level insufficient for a harvest to meet subsistence needs by (i) causing the marine mammals to abandon or avoid hunting areas, (ii) directly displacing subsistence users, or (iii) placing physical barriers between the marine mammals and the subsistence hunters; and (2) that cannot be sufficiently mitigated by other measures to increase the availability of marine mammals to allow subsistence needs to be met.

The term “small numbers” is also defined in 50 CFR 18.27. However, we do not rely on that definition here as it conflates “small numbers” with “negligible impacts.” We recognize “small numbers” and “negligible

impact” as separate and distinct considerations when reviewing requests for incidental harassment authorizations (IHA) under the MMPA (see *Natural Res. Def. Council, Inc. v. Evans*, 232 F. Supp. 2d 1003, 1025 (N.D. Cal. 2003)). Instead, for our small numbers determination, we estimate the likely number of takes of marine mammals and evaluate if that take is small relative to the size of the species or stock.

The term “least practicable adverse impact” is not defined in the MMPA or its enacting regulations. The Service ensures the least practicable adverse impact through mitigation measures that are effective in reducing the impact of project activities but are not so restrictive as to make project activities unduly burdensome or impossible to undertake and complete.

If the requisite findings are made, the Service issues an IHA, which may set forth the following: (i) Permissible methods of taking; (ii) other means of effecting the least practicable impact on the species or stock and its habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of the species or stock for taking for subsistence uses by coastal dwelling Alaska Natives (if applicable); and (iii) requirements for monitoring and reporting such take by harassment.

Applicants seeking to conduct activities may request an IHA for the specified activity. If the IHA is issued, the applicants must submit on-site monitoring reports and a final report of the activity to the Secretary.

This is a non-form collection. Applicants seeking an IHA must submit the following information to the Service as part of the IHA application process, which is also described in the regulations at 50 CFR 18.27:

- Describe the specific activity or class of activities that can be expected to result in incidental taking of marine mammals, and
- Provide the dates and duration of such activity and the specific geographical region where it will occur.
- Based on the best available scientific information, each applicant must also:

—Estimate the species and numbers of marine mammals likely to be taken, by age, sex, and reproductive conditions, and the type of taking (*e.g.*, disturbance by underwater sound, disturbance by aircraft, injury, etc.) and the number of times such taking is likely to occur;

—Describe the status, distribution, and seasonal distribution (when applicable) of the species or stocks likely to be affected by such activities;

—Describe the anticipated impacts of an activity upon the species or stocks;

—Discuss the anticipated impact of the activity on the availability of the species or stocks for subsistence uses;

- Discuss the anticipated impact of the activity upon the habitat of the marine mammal populations and the likelihood of restoration of the affected habitat;
- Describe the anticipated impact of the loss or modification of the habitat on the marine mammal population involved;
- Describe availability and feasibility (economic and technological) of equipment, methods, and manner of conducting such activity or other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact upon the affected species or stocks, their habitat, and, where relevant, on their availability for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance;
- Discuss the suggested means of accomplishing the necessary monitoring and reporting which will result in increased knowledge of the species through an analysis of the level of taking or impacts, and suggested means of minimizing burdens by coordinating such reporting requirements with other schemes already applicable to persons conducting such activity; and
- Suggest means of learning of, encouraging, and coordinating research opportunities, plans, and activities relating to reducing such incidental taking from such specified activities, and evaluating their effects.

The Service uses the information to draft the proposed IHA, including proposed determinations and mitigation measures to ensure the least practicable adverse impacts on the species or stock and its habitat. Upon IHA issuance, applicants must submit monitoring and final reports indicating the nature and extent of all takes of marine mammals that occurred incidentally to the specified activity. The purpose of monitoring requirements is to assess the effects of project activities on the species or stock, ensure that take is consistent with that anticipated in the negligible impact and subsistence use analyses, and detect any unanticipated effects on the species or stock. Because the length of project activities varies by project (a few weeks to months), some projects require weekly reports during project activities.

OMB previously approved information collection requirements associated with incidental take regulations (ITRs) and letters of authorization (LOAs) contained in 50 CFR 18, subparts J (Beaufort Sea) and L

(Gulf of Alaska) under OMB Control Number 1018–0070. Because the ITRs and associated LOAs authorize specific entities to incidentally take marine mammals while engaged in specified activities within a specific geographic region for periods of not more than 5 years, the Service maintains a separate OMB control number for information collection requirements associated with IHAs.

*Title of Collection:* Approval Procedures for Incidental Harassment Authorizations of Marine Mammals.

*OMB Control Number:* 1018–0194.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Private sector and State/local/Tribal government.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:* 15.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 56.

*Estimated Completion Time per Response:* Varies from 10 hours to 120 hours, depending on activity.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 1,680.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

*Frequency of Collection:* On occasion.

*Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:* None.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**Madonna Baucum,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026–07095 Filed 4–10–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4333–15–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[A2407–014–004–065516, #0259–014–004–12522; LLWY]

**Realty Action: Direct Sale of Public Lands in Converse County, WY**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of realty action.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes a non-competitive (direct) sale of nine parcels of BLM-managed public lands in Wyoming to resolve some of the land jurisdiction patterns found in the Casper Field Office as well as the uneconomic management of these public lands due to private property surrounding the isolated parcels and lack of public access. The parcels, located in Converse

County, contain an aggregate of 800 acres and, if approved, would be sold to Kristi Bohlander. The sale would be subject to the applicable provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, and BLM land sale regulations. The surface estate would be sold for no less than the appraised fair market value of \$540,000.

**DATES:** Interested parties must submit written comments, postmarked, or delivered no later than May 28, 2026.

The land would not be offered for sale until after June 12, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail written comments to Larry Sandoval, Field Manager, BLM Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Dr., Casper, WY 82604. Comments may also be emailed to [BLM\\_WY\\_Casper\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_WY_Casper_WYMail@blm.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amelia Savage, Acting Assistant Field Manager, BLM Casper Field Office, phone: 307–261–7541, or email: [alsavage@blm.gov](mailto:alsavage@blm.gov). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM will consider a direct sale in accordance with applicable provisions of section 203 of the FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1713) and BLM land sale regulations.

**Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming**

- T. 39 N., R. 74 W.,  
 sec. 1, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 2, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 3, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 4, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 8, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and  
 NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 9, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 10, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
 T. 40 N., R. 74 W.,  
 sec. 33, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
 sec. 34, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, and  
 SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

The areas described contain 800 acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land on file with the BLM.

There is known mineral value in the parcels; therefore, the mineral estate would not be conveyed in accordance with section 209 of FLPMA. The mineral estate will remain in Federal ownership. The proposed sale is in conformance with the BLM Casper Resource Management Plan approved in

July 2007. The BLM prepared a parcel-specific Environmental Assessment (EA), document number DOI–BLM–WY–P060–2025–0010–EA, in connection with this realty action. It can be viewed online at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2035724/510>.

Regulations at 43 CFR 2710.0–3(a) and 43 CFR 2711.3–3(a) authorize the BLM to utilize a direct sale of public land when a competitive sale is not appropriate, such as when the lands offered for sale are surrounded by lands in private ownership with no public access. The BLM parcels are adjacent to the property of Mrs. Kristi Bohlander, who controls the access to the public land. Additionally, the only other adjacent private landowner has provided a written waiver of interest to the sale of these parcels. The subject parcels have been determined to meet FLPMA section 203(a) sale criteria. The parcels are difficult and uneconomic to manage as part of the public lands and are not suitable for management by another Federal department or agency.

Pursuant to the requirements of 43 CFR 2711.1–2(d), publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** will segregate the land from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, except for the sale provisions of FLPMA. Until completion or rejection of the sale, the BLM will no longer accept land use applications affecting the public land. The effect of this segregation will terminate upon issuance of a patent, publication in the **Federal Register** of a termination of the segregation, or 2 years after the date of publication in the **Federal Register**, unless extended by the BLM Wyoming State Director in accordance with 43 CFR 2711.1–2(d) prior to the termination date. The BLM will publish this notice in *The Casper Star-Tribune* newspaper once a week for 3 consecutive weeks.

The conveyance document, if issued, will include the following terms, conditions, and reservations:

1. A reservation to the United States for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States under the Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945);

2. All minerals in the lands, including, without limitation, substances subject to disposition under the general mining laws, the Mineral Leasing Act, the Materials Act and the Geothermal Steam Act, and to the United States, its permittees, licensees, lessees, and mining claimants, the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals owned by, acquired by, or vested in the United States under