ADDRESSES: Individuals wishing copies of any of the above permits and associated decision documents should contact the Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Consultation and Conservation Planning, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, 4th Floor East, Portland, Oregon 97232.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Hill, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address; telephone (503) 231–6241.

Dated: June 8, 1998.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 98–16621 Filed 6–22–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Letters of Authorization to Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations [50 CFR 18.27(f)(3)], notice is hereby given that Letters of Authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities have been issued to the following companies:

Company	Activity	Date issued
BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc	Exploration	June 8, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362–5148 or (907) 786–3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rules and Regulations ''Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specific Activities (58 FR 60402; November 26, 1993); modified and extended (60 FR 42805; August 17, 1995).

Dated: June 11, 1998.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 98–16306 Filed 6–22–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO–050–1620–00]

Closure of a Road on Public Lands; Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Closure order for a road in Fremont County, CO.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that, effective June 25, 1998, the BLM non-system road between the Upper and Lower Grape Creek Wilderness Study Areas will be closed to all types of motorized vehicle access and travel. The purpose of this closure is to prevent further disturbance to soils and vegetation in and near the riparian area, reduce sedimentation into Grape Creek and reduce the development of unauthorized user-created trails into the Upper and Lower Grape Creek Wilderness Study Areas. Authority for this action is found in 43 CFR 8364.1 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The 3 mile (approximate) road closure is specifically identified as follows: Fremont County, Colorado.

Begin closure on the BLM system road 6227, located approximately 2/10 of a mile east of Grape Creek in T 20S, R71W Section 8. The road closure continues in a westerly direction along the BLM non-system road through section 7 and T 20S, R72W Sections 12 and 11, and ends at the public/private boundary on the north boundary of the NE of the NE of Section 11.

DATES: Effective June 25, 1998 and shall remain in effect unless revised, revoked, or amended.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Royal Gorge Resource Area, 3170 East Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212; Telephone (719) 269–8500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Levi Deike, Area Manager or Diana Kossnar, Outdoor Recreation Planner at the Royal Gorge Resource Area at the above address and phone number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This closure does not apply to emergency, law enforcement, and federal or other government vehicles while being used for official or emergency purposes, or to any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized or otherwise officially approved by BLM. Violation of this order is punishable by fine and/or imprisonment as defined in 43 CFR 8340 and subparts thereof. A copy of this **Federal Register** Notice and a map of the road closure is posted in the Canon City District Office.

Donnie R. Sparks,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98–16660 Filed 6–22–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–JB–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ–020–05–3809–00; AZA 29237]

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Yarnell Mining Project, Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability and Notice of Public Hearings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environment Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix Field Office, has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) that describes the impacts of a proposed surface gold mine and ore processing facility, known as the Yarnell Mining Project, that would be located on public, private, and state lands near the town of Yarnell in Yavapai County in central Arizona.

DATES: The DEIS is available for public review and comment for the next 60 days. Written comments on the DEIS must be postmarked on or before August 25, 1998. Public hearings will be held on July 28, 29, and 30, 1998, at the times and locations listed under Supplementary Information.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Project Manager for the Yarnell Mining Project EIS, Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix Field Office, 2015 West Deer Valley Road, Phoenix, AZ 85027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Stone, EIS Project Manager, (602) 580–5517.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS was prepared in response to a proposed mining plan of operations submitted by the Yarnell Mining Company, a subsidiary of Bema Gold (U.S.) Inc. The impact analysis in the DEIS includes proposed mitigation measures and alternatives to the proposed project. The Environmental Protection Agency,

Region IX, is serving as a cooperating agency.

Description of the Proposed Action

The proposed project facilities would include an open pit mine, two waste rock dumps, ore crushing and cyanide heap leaching facilities, laboratories, an office, and a water supply system of four wells or well fields and two pipelines. Facilities would be constructed on 118 acres of BLM-administered land, 75 acres of private land, and 8 acres of state land that would be part of the water supply system. The mine would operate for 6 years, followed by a 7-year period of closure and reclamation.

Alternatives Analyzed

The following three alternatives to the proposed action were analyzed: (1) No Action alternative; (2) Alternative 2—Elimination of the South Waste Rock Dump and Consolidation of Waste Rock Into the North Waste Rock Dump; and (3) Alternative 3—Elimination of the North Waste Rock Dump and Consolidation of Waste Rock Into the South Waste Rock Dump.

Other Relevant Information

Copies of the DEIS have been mailed to all individuals and organizations that requested them, and executive summaries have been mailed to all on the project mailing list. A copy of the DEIS or summary may be obtained upon request by contacting Connie Stone at the BLM Phoenix Field Office. PublicUnited States reading copies are also being kept at the BLM Phoenix Field Office, the BLM Arizona State Office (222 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix), and the Public Libraries in Yarnell, Wickenburg, and Prescott.

Public Hearings

Three public hearings will be held, the location and schedules for which are as follows:

July 28, 1998, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Wickenburg Community Center, 160 N. Valentine St., Wickenburg, Arizona.

July 29, 1998, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Yarnell Senior Center, 136 Broadway St., Yarnell, Arizona.

July 30, 1998, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Prescott Resort Conference Center, 1500 Highway 69, Prescott, Arizona.

Public Input Requested

Comments on the alternatives and the adequacy of the impact analyses are most useful when they address one or more of the following:

- Errors in the analysis,
- New information affecting the analysis,
- Misinformation that could affect the outcome of the analysis,
- Requests for clarification,
- A substantive new alternative that differs from any of the existing alternatives.

Dated: June 17, 1998.

Michael A. Taylor,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98–16617 Filed 6–22–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–32–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and other federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of a currently approved collection of information, Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 86–128 for certain transactions involving employee benefit plans and securities broker-dealers. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before August 24, 1998. The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
- 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 responses.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments regarding the collection of information of any or all of the Agencies. Send comments to Mr. Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N–5647, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 219–4782 (this is not a toll-free number).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

I. Background

Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 86–128 permits persons who serve as fiduciaries for employee benefit plans to effect or execute securities transactions on behalf of employee benefit plans. The exemption also allows sponsors of pooled separate accounts and other pooled investment funds to use their affiliates to effect or execute securities transactions for such accounts in order to recapture brokerage commissions for benefit of employee benefit plans whose assets are maintained in pooled separate accounts managed by the insurance companies. In the absence of the exemption, certain aspects of these transactions might be prohibited by section 406(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and from the taxes imposed by section 4975(a) and (b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code) by reason of Code section 4975(c)(1)(E) or (F).

II. Current Actions

The Office of Management and Budget's approval of this ICR will expire on September 30, 1998. This existing collection of information should be continued because without the relief provided by this exemption, broker-fiduciaries who provide research and investment management services to accounts for which they also effect transactions for the purchase or sale of