(PRT–840287) to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy taken prior to April 30, 1994, from the Lancaster Sound population, Northwest Territories, Canada, for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on June 4, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On March 4, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 43, Page 10931, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Jacksonville Field Office, USFWS, Jacksonville, FL, for renewal and amendment of a permit (PRT–770191) for enhancement of West Indian manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) through recovery, rehabilitation and release.

Notice is hereby given that on May 13, 1998, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On April 9, 1998, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 63, Page 17436, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA, for a permit (PRT–840350) for enhancement of two southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris nereis*) through public education.

Notice is hereby given that on June 1, 1998, the application request was withdrawn. The Service has authorized the Long Beach Aquarium to maintain these sea otters for continued rehabilitation under section 109(h) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*).

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358–2104 or Fax (703) 358–2281.

Dated: June 19, 1998.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 98–16872 Filed 6–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM–030–1220–00]

Emergency Closure of the Lordsburg Playa to Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV), Hidalgo County, NM

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

ACTION: Emergency closure.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately, the Las Cruces Field Office is implementing emergency closure of an existing OHV area known as the Lordsburg Playa. The area is closed to all vehicle use except for administrative purposes. This closure extends to both motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including landsail craft. This action is taken to aid in reducing the blowing dust from the Lordsburg Playa across Interstate Highway 10 west of Lordsburg, New Mexico. The dust storms have caused four fatalities on this portion of the Interstate and resulted in closure of the Interstate on 5 consecutive days since June 13. The authority for this emergency closure is 43 CFR 8364.1: Closure and Restriction Orders.

The following public land is affected by the closure:

T.23 S., R.20 W., NMPM
Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, all;
Section 11, W½;
Sections 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, all;
Section 26, N½;
Section 27, NE¼NE¼, W½E½, W½, SE¼SE¼;
Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, all;
Section 34, W½.

T.24 S., R.20 W., NMPM
Section 5, N½, N½S½, SW¼SW¼;
Section 6, all.

DATES: This closure is effective June 19, 1998 and shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the authorized officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim C. McCormick, Assistant Field Office Manager for Renewable Resources, or Dwayne Sykes, Multi-Resource Staff Chief, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico or call (505) 525–4300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Violations of this closure are punishable by fines not to exceed $1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year.

The purpose of this action is to reduce impacts to the soil on the Lordsburg Playa. Once the soil surface is disturbed, it is highly susceptible to wind erosion. Windy conditions this year have produced heavy dust storms in the area resulting in low visibility on nearby Interstate Highway 10. These conditions have caused 4 fatal accidents on the highway and required that the highway be closed for up to 9 hours per day for 5 consecutive days since June 13.

Copies of this closure order and maps showing the location of the area are available from the Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88005 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dated: June 19, 1998.

Josie Banegas,

Acting Field Manager, Las Cruces.

[FR Doc. 98–16899 Filed 6–24–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–VC–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM–030–1430–01; NMNM99245]

Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act Classification; New Mexico

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

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action; R&PP Act Classification.

SUMMARY: The following public land in Dona Ana County, New Mexico has been examined and found suitable for classification for lease or conveyance to Las Cruces Public Schools under the provision of the R&PP Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.). Las Cruces Public Schools propose to use the land for the K–2 Sunrise Elementary School and playgrounds.

T. 22 S., R. 3 E., NMPM
Sec. 18, Part of lot 11.
Containing 30 acres, more or less.

DATES: Comments regarding the proposed lease/conveyance or classification must be submitted on or before August 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin M. James at the address above or at (505) 525–4349.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Lease or conveyance will be subject to the following terms, conditions, and reservations:

1. Provisions of the R&PP Act and to all applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.

2. All valid existing rights documented on the official public land records at the time of lease/patent issuance.