

municipal, and other uses. Currently, SRP reservoirs supply much of the water for the population of more than 2.6 million people in the cities of Phoenix, Mesa, Chandler, Tempe, Glendale, Gilbert, Scottsdale, Tolleson, and Avondale. Water deliveries are also made under specific water rights in Horseshoe and Bartlett held by the City of Phoenix, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. In addition, water is provided to irrigate agricultural lands within SRP and for satisfaction of the independent water rights of Buckeye Irrigation Company, Gila River Indian Community, Roosevelt Irrigation District, Roosevelt Water Conservation District, and others. Horseshoe, Bartlett, and the other SRP reservoirs also provide a variety of recreational uses and environmental benefits in central Arizona.

Due to dry conditions in central Arizona for the past 12 years, water levels in Horseshoe and Bartlett have been below normal. As a result, riparian trees and shrubs have grown in the Horseshoe storage space and have been colonized by a population of flycatchers, which are listed as endangered under the ESA. Thus, periodic refilling of the reservoir may adversely impact the habitat and nesting of the flycatcher as well as the cuckoo, which uses similar habitat. Also, nonnative fish produced in Horseshoe and Bartlett can adversely impact covered fish, frog, and gartersnake species through predation, competition, and alteration of habitat in the Verde River and portions of its tributaries.

### Proposed Action

The proposed action is the issuance of an ITP for the covered species for SRP's modified operation of Horseshoe and Bartlett, under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA. The requested duration of the Permit is 50 years. The areas covered by the Permit would include Horseshoe up to an elevation of 2,026 feet (ft), Bartlett up to an elevation of 1,748 ft, the Salt River from Granite Reef Dam to the Verde River, most of the Verde River upstream from the Salt River, and portions of the Verde River tributaries. The action area for the EIS and HCP also includes mitigation lands acquired as part of the HCP.

To meet the requirements of a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit, SRP has developed and will implement the HCP, which provides modified operating objectives (termed the "Optimum Operation Alternative") to support stands of tall riparian vegetation at the upper end of Horseshoe to minimize impacts to covered bird species, and to manage

Horseshoe water levels to minimize impacts to covered native fish, frog, and gartersnake species. The HCP also includes other measures to minimize and mitigate incidental take of the covered species to the maximum extent practicable, and which ensure that the incidental take will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of these species in the wild.

### Alternatives

Two other alternatives being considered by the Service include the following:

1. No Permit—No issuance of an ITP by the Service. This alternative would require SRP to do everything within its control to avoid any take of federally listed species associated with its continued operation of Horseshoe and Bartlett.

2. Modified Historical Operation—Approval by the Service of an application for an ITP authorizing incidental take of threatened and endangered species associated with the operation of Horseshoe and Bartlett by SRP using historical operating objectives for the reservoirs, along with additional measures to minimize and mitigate the potential take of covered species.

**Christopher T. Jones,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Submission of Paperwork Reduction Act Request to Office of Management and Budget

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that the Information Collection Request for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Form 4432, Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in the BIA and the Indian Health Service (IHS), OMB Control Number 1076-0160, has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The BIA is now seeking comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted by *May 30, 2008*.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent directly to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, by facsimile at (202) 395-6566 or you may send an e-mail to:

*OIRA\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov*. Send a copy of your comments to Daisy West, Chief, Division of Tribal Government Services, Office of Indian Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 4513-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; telephone (202) 513-7641.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth Colliflower, (202) 513-7627.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A 60-day notice for public comments was published in the **Federal Register** on January 29, 2008. No comments were received on the workload burden or the form itself (OMB Control No. 1076-0160) during this public comment period.

### I. Abstract

The purpose of the Indian Preference Form is to encourage qualified Indians to seek employment with the BIA and the IHS by offering preferential treatment to qualified candidates of Indian heritage. BIA collects information under the proposed regulations to ensure compliance with Indian preference hiring requirements. The information collection relates only to individuals applying for employment with the BIA and the IHS. The tribe's involvement is limited to verifying membership information submitted by the applicant. The collection of information allows certain persons who are of Indian descent to receive preference when appointments are made to vacancies in positions with the BIA and IHS as well as in any unit that has been transferred intact from the BIA to a Bureau or office within the Department of the Interior or the Department of Health and Human Services and that continues to perform the functions formerly performed as part of the BIA and IHS. You are eligible for preference if (a) You are a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe; (b) you are a descendant of a member and you were residing within the present boundaries of any Indian reservation on June 1, 1934; (c) you are an Alaska Native; or (d) you possess one-half degree Indian blood derived from tribes that are indigenous to the United States. The information is submitted in order to retain a benefit, namely, preference in employment with the BIA and IHS.

### II. Request for Comments

The Department of the Interior invites comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the BIA, indicating whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the BIA's estimate of the burden (including the hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumption used;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to 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 collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Office of Management and Budget has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days; therefore, comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted to OMB within 30 days in order to assure their maximum consideration. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personally identifiable information, be advised that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be made public at any time. While you may request that we withhold your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We do not consider anonymous comments. All comments from representatives of businesses or organizations will be made public in their entirety.

Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless a currently valid OMB control number is displayed. You may request copies of the information collection forms and our submission to OMB from the person listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

### III. Data

*Title:* Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in the BIA and IHS, 25 CFR 5.

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

*Description of respondents:* Qualified Indians who are seeking preference in employment with the BIA and IHS. Approximately a total of 5,000 applications for preference in

employment are received annually by the BIA field offices.

*Frequency:* On occasion as needed.

*Estimated completion time:* The average burden of submitting an Indian Preference Form is 30 minutes including time for reviewing instructions, searching data sources and assembling the information needed.

*Total Annual Burden:* 5,000 × 1/2 hour = 2,500 hours.

*Estimated cost:* There are no costs to consider, except postage and the cost of duplicating the original verification form. The form will be used by an applicant to seek documentation of Indian descent or membership from either a tribal official or the BIA.

Dated: April 25, 2008.

**Sanjeev "Sonny" Bhagowalia,**

*Chief Information Officer—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. E8-9526 Filed 4-29-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[F-14922-A, F-14922-A2; AK-964-1410-HY-P]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

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

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Cully Corporation Inc. The lands are in the vicinity of Point Lay, Alaska, and are located in:

#### Umiat Meridian, Alaska

T. 3 N., R. 44 W.,

Secs. 1 to 7, inclusive.

Containing approximately 3,541 acres.

T. 3 N., R. 45 W.,

Secs. 24 and 25;

Secs. 32 to 36, inclusive.

Containing approximately 4,342 acres.

Aggregating approximately 7,883 acres.

The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to Arctic Slope Regional Corporation when the surface estate is conveyed to Cully Corporation Inc. Notice of the decision will also be published four times in The Arctic Sounder.

**DATES:** The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until May 30, 2008 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7504.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Bureau of Land Management by phone at 907-271-5960, or by e-mail at [ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov](mailto:ak.blm.conveyance@ak.blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunication device (TTD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact the Bureau of Land Management.

**Michael Bilancione,**

*Land Transfer Resolution Specialist, Land Transfer Adjudication I.*

[FR Doc. E8-9461 Filed 4-29-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

[Docket No. MMS-2008-OMM-0020]

#### Notice of Nominations Received and Proposed Limited Alternative Energy Leases on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and Initiation of Coordination and Consultation; Correction

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice; Correction.

**SUMMARY:** The MMS published a Notice in the **Federal Register** on Friday, April 18, 2008 (73 FR 21152), announcing proposed areas of the OCS for limited alternative energy leasing and requesting indications of competitive interest in such proposed lease areas. That original Notice also requested public comment on the areas proposed for limited leasing. This correction Notice corrects the table in the original Notice identifying the proposed lease areas for alternative energy resource data collection and technology testing activities on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

**DATES:** This correction is effective immediately upon publication of this Notice. The 30-day and 60-day comment periods identified in the original Notice shall be deemed to commence upon the publication of this correction Notice.