Bilateral Agreement for the conservation of the polar bears occurred in Moscow, Russia in September, 2009. The Scientific Working Group, which is established under this Bilateral Agreement, will make recommendations on management and research needs to the four commissioners.

Comment 9: The Service should provide an explanation as to why it believes that 2,000 can be used as the best population estimate as well as the minimum population size.

Response: The population estimate of 2,000 is based on extrapolated den data and is over 10 years old. Although this number is not considered reliable for management purposes, it is currently the best scientific information available for these calculations.

Comment 10: The Service should revise downward its estimate of the maximum net productivity rate for this population to reflect ongoing and predicted changes in polar bear habitat that will prevent polar bear stocks from achieving growth rates that might be expected in a favorable environment.

Response: See response to Comment 2 for the Southern Beaufort Sea SAR.

Comment 11: The Service should use the first meeting of the United States–Russia Polar Bear Commission to address the over harvest of this stock.

Response: This is one of the action items assigned to the Scientific Working Group, which will make recommendations to the Bilateral Commission in 2010.

Comment 12: The Service should mention that since the stock is now considered depleted under the MMPA, the Federal Government now has authority to regulate harvest levels.

Response: Although we concur with the above statement, the Service would rather work through the U.S. Russia Bilateral Agreement for the Conservation of Polar Bears to develop management and research priorities, including guidelines for determining appropriate harvest levels for this population stock. We believe that working cooperatively with our Russian colleagues will result in a more effective management strategy for this population.

Additional References Cited

Pacific Walrus

Acquarone, M., E.W. Born, and J.R. Speakman. 2006. Field metabolic rates of walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) measured by doubly labeled water method. Aquatic Mammals 32: 363–369.

Born, E. W., M. Acquarone, L.Ø. Knutsen, and L. Toudal. 2005. Homing behaviour in an Atlantic walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus rosmarus*). Aquatic Mammals 31: 23–33.

Born, E.W. and L.Ø. Knutsen. 1997. Haul-out and diving activity of male Atlantic walruses (*Odobenus rosmarus rosmarus*) in NE Greenland. Journal of Zoology 243: 381–396.

Braham H.W., J.J. Burns, G.A. Fedoseev, and B.D. Krogman. 1984. Habitat partitioning by ice-associated pinnipeds: distribution and density of seals and walruses in the Bering sea, April 1976. Pages 25–47 in F.H. Fay, G.A. Fedoseev, eds. Soviet-American Cooperative Research on Marine Mammals. Vol. 1. Pinnipeds. NOAA Technical Report. NMFS 12.

Burn, D., M.S. Udevitz, S.G. Speckman, and R.B. Benter. 2009. An improved procedure for detection and enumeration of walrus signatures in airborne thermal imagery. International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation 11:324–333.

Fay, F.H. 1957. History and present status of the Pacific walrus population. Transactions of the North American Wildlife Conference 22:431–445.

Fay, F.H., B.P Kelly, P.H. Gehnrich, J.L. Sease, and A.A. Hoover. 1986. Modern populations, migrations, demography, trophics, and historical status of the Pacific walrus. U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, Outer Continental Shelf Environmental Impact Assessment Program, Final Reports of Principal Investigators 37: 231–376. NOAA, National Ocean Service, Anchorage, Alaska.

Fay, F.H. and S.W. Stoker. 1982a. Analysis of reproductive organs and stomach contents from walruses taken in the Alaskan native harvest, spring 1980. Final Report contract 14–16–0007–81–5216. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Anchorage, Alaska. 86pp.

Fay, F.H. and S.W. Stoker. 1982b. Reproductive success and feeding habits of walruses taken in the 1982 spring harvest, with comparisons from previous years. Eskimo Walrus Commission, Nome, AK. 91pp.

Fedoseev, G.A. 1979. Material on aerovisual observations on distribution and abundance of ice forms of seals, walruses, and migrating whales in the ice of the Bering Sea in spring 1979. Pages 17–44 in Scientific Investigations of Marine Mammals in the Northern Part of the Pacific Ocean in 1978 and 1979. All-Union Scientific Investigational Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Moscow. In Russian.

Fedoseev, G.A., E.V. Razlivalov, and G.G. Bobrova. 1988. Distribution and abundance of ice forms of pinnipeds on ice of the Bering Sea in April and May 1987. Pages 44–70 in Scientific Investigations of Marine Mammals in the Northern Part of the Pacific Ocean in 1986 and 1987. All-Union Scientific Investigational Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Moscow. In Russian.

Garlich-Miller, J.L., L.T. Quakenbush, and J.F. Bromaghin. 2006. Trends in age structure and productivity of Pacific walruses harvested in the Bering Strait region of Alaska, 1952–2002. Marine Mammal Science 22:880–896.

Gol'tsev, V.N. 1976. Aerial surveys of Pacific walrus in the Soviet sector during fall 1975. Procedural Report TINRO, Magadan, USSR. 22 pp. Translated by J.J. Burns and the U.S. State Department.

Gjertz, I., D. Griffiths, B.A. Krafft, C. Lydersen, and Ø Wiig. 2001. Diving and haul-out patterns of walruses *Odobenus rosmarus* on Svalbard. Polar Biology 24: 314–319.

Jay, C.V., S.D. Farley, and G.W. Garner. 2001. Summer diving behavior of male walruses in Bristol Bay, Alaska. Marine Mammal Science 17:617–631.

Krogman, B.D., H.W. Braham, R.M. Sontag, and R.G. Punsley. 1979. Early spring distribution, density, and abundance of the Pacific walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus divergens*). Final Report, Contract No. R7120804, NOAA Outer Continental Shelf, Environmental Assessment Program, Juneau Project Office, Juneau, AK. 47 pp.

Lydersen, C., J. Aars, and K.M. Kovacs. 2008. Estimating the number of walruses in Svalbard from aerial surveys and behavioral data from satellite telemetry. Arctic 61:119–128.

NMFS. 2005. Revisions to Guidelines for Assessing Marine Mammals Stocks. 24 pp. Available at: *http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/gamms2005.pdf*.

Ovsyanikov, N.G., L.L. Bove, and A.A. Kochnev. 1994. Causes of mass mortality of walruses on coastal haulouts. Zoologichesky Zhurnal 73:80–87.

Speckman, S.G., V.I. Chernook, D.M. Burn, M.S. Udevitz, A.A. Kochnev, A. Vasilev, C.V. Jay, A. Lisovsky, R.B. Benter, and A.S. Fischbach. In prep. Estimated size of the Pacific walrus population, 2006.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et al.*).

Dated: December 14, 2009.

Sam Hamilton,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. E9–30908 Filed 12–29–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLMTB07900 09 L10100000.PH0000 LXAMANMS0000]

Notice of Public Meeting, Western Montana Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of

Land Management (BLM), the Western Montana Resource Advisory Council will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The Western Montana RAC will meet Feb. 10, 2010 at 9 a.m. The public comment period for the meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting is expected to adjourn at approximately 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Butte Field Office, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Abrams, Western Montana Resource Advisory Council Coordinator, Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana 59701, telephone 406–533–7617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in western Montana. At the February meeting, agenda items include: The BLM's Access Manager Program and a review of Forest Service fee proposals.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below.

Richard M. Hotaling,

District Manager, Western Montana District.

[FR Doc. E9–31028 Filed 12–29–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–$$–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing or related actions in the National Register were received by the National Park Service before December 12, 2009. Pursuant to section 60.13 of 36 CFR part 60 written comments concerning the significance of these properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation may be forwarded by United States Postal Service, to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW., 2280, Washington, DC 20240; by all other carriers, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service,1201 Eye St., NW., 8th floor, Washington DC 20005; or by fax, 202–371–6447. Written or faxed comments should be submitted by January 14, 2010 .

J. Paul Loether,

Chief, National Register of Historic Places/ National Historic Landmarks Program.

ARKANSAS

Boone County

Twelve Oaks, 7210 AR 7 S, Harrison, 09001237

Carroll County

Sanitarium Lake Bridges Historic District, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) Carroll Co. Rd. 317, approx. .5 mi. S. of Greenwood Hollow Rd., Eureka Springs, 09001238

Clark County

DeGray Creek Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) Co. Rd. 50 over DeGray Creek, Arkadelphia, 09001239

Columbia County

Cross and Nelson Hall Historic District, (New Deal Recovery Efforts in Arkansas MPS) Southern Arkansas University Campus at 100 E. University, Magnolia, 09001240

Crawford County

Lee Creek Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) W. of W. Rena Rd. over Lee Creek, Van Buren, 09001241

Old U.S. 64—Van Buren Segment, (Arkansas Highway History and Architecture MPS) Oak Ln. N. of US 64, Van Buren, 09001242

Crittenden County

Riverside Speedway, 151 Legion Rd., West Memphis, 09001243

Wilson Power and Light Company Ice Plant, 120 E. Broadway St., West Memphis, 09001244

Desha County

McGehee Post Office, 201 N. Second St., McGehee, 09001245

Garland County

Malco Theatre, 817 Central Ave., Hot Springs, 09001246

Hempstead County

Southwestern Proving Ground Building No. 5, (World War II Home Front Efforts in Arkansas, MPS) 259 Hempstead Co. Rd. 279, Hope, 09001247

Independence County

Central Avenue Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) AR 69 over Polk Bayou, Batesville, 09001248

Miller Creek Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) Co. Rd. 86 over Miller Creek, Batesville, 09001249

Jefferson County

Taylor Field, (New Deal Recovery Efforts in Arkansas MPS) 1201 E. 16th St., Pine Bluff, 09001250

Lawrence County

Commandant's House, (World War II Home Front Efforts in Arkansas, MPS) 264 McClellan Dr., Walnut Ridge, 09001251

Logan County

Liberty Schoolhouse, 12682 Spring Lake Rd., Corley, 09001252

Marion County

Crooked Creek Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) US 62 Spur N. over Crooked Creek, Pyatt, 09001253

Miller County

Beech Street Historic District, Roughly Beech St. between 14th and 23rd Sts., Texarkana, 09001254

Newton County

Jasper Commercial Historic District, Roughly bounded by Sycamore St., E. Elm St., N. Spring St., and Clark St., Jasper, 09001255

Ouachita County

Washington Street Historic District, 404–926 W. Washington, 619–816 Graham, 116–132 N. Cleveland, 131–139 N. Agee and 132 N. California, Camden, 09001256

Poinsett County

Poinsett Lumber and Manufacturing Company Manager's House, 512 Poinsett Ave., Trumann, 09001257

Pulaski County

Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery, 2101 Barber St., Little Rock, 09001258

Seed Warehouse No. 5, (Cotton and Rice Farm History and Architecture in the Arkansas Delta MPS) SW corner of US 165 and AR 161, Scott, 09001259

Van Buren County

Middle Fork of the Little Red River Bridge, Co. Rd. 125 over the Middle Fork of the Little Red River, Shirley, 09001260

Washington County

Cane Hill Road Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) AR 170 over the Little Red River, Prairie Grove, 09001261

Goff Farm Stone Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) Goff Farm Rd. approx. ½ mi. E. of Dead Horse Mountain Rd., Fayetteville, 09001262

Yell County

Petit Jean River Bridge, (Historic Bridges of Arkansas MPS) Co. Rd. 49 over the Petit Jean River, Ola, 09001263

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

District of Columbia

Fort View Apartments, (Apartment Buildings in Washington, DC, MPS) 6000–6020 and 6030–6050 13th Place, N.W., Washington, 09001264

MISSOURI

St. Louis Independent city

Central Carondelet Historic District (Boundary Increase III), Roughly bounded by Bates St. on the N., Interstate 55 on the W., S. Broadway on E. and Holly Hills on S., St. Louis, 09001265