

programs. Under the proposed alternative, the refuge would pursue acquiring, from willing sellers, lands within its approved acquisition boundary. The 3,300-acre Wilderness Area would remain the same size. Gross habitat acreages (until approved acquisition boundary expansion occurs) would not change appreciably from those under Alternative A, but habitats in general would be managed more intensively. The refuge would also expand existing wildlife management programs including: Focus refuge management on improving and extending the value of Lacassine Pool as a waterfowl sanctuary through adaptive management and increased emphasis on research; provide additional waterfowl food by increasing early successional wetland acreage from 300 to 500 acres and expanding the farming program; pursue opportunities to reduce erosion to refuge marshes caused by commercial navigation, wind/wave action, other natural forces, and oil and gas industry traffic/activities. The refuge would evaluate the seasonality and habitat conditions for prescribed fire in Lacassine Pool and other refuge marshes to enhance habitat for migratory birds, fish, and other wildlife; seek support to control invasive plants in the Wilderness Area and refuge-wide using approved minimum tools; continue partnerships to manage and protect the 334-acre coastal prairie on the Duralde Unit; improve quality hunting/fishing experiences; and manage oil and gas activities in accordance with Service policy. Under this alternative, levees would be constructed within Lacassine Pool, subdividing it into four units (Unit D, plus three additional units). This action would facilitate the management of the pool and lengthen its longevity by increasing the ability of refuge staff to dewater it, drawing it down to facilitate oxidation of accumulating organic sediments and more frequent use of prescribed fire. Thus, management could proceed unit-by-unit on a regular basis without having to impact the value of the entire pool to migratory birds and fisheries all at once. The six priority wildlife-dependent public uses would continue to be supported and in some cases would be expanded. This alternative would also strengthen the close working relationship in existence between the Service, the local community, conservation organizations, and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Under Alternative C, the refuge would remain at 34,724 acres but would refocus management priority to actively investigating and extending the life/

value of Lacassine Pool as a migratory waterfowl sanctuary. Due to sedimentation rates and constraints on water level management capabilities, the pool's lifespan is limited and, if nothing is done, it would gradually lose its value to both migratory waterfowl and fish populations, eventually becoming a wet meadow rather than a marshy wetland characterized by a mix of open water and emergent vegetation. Other programs dealing either with non-pool areas of the refuge or non-habitat aspects of refuge management (i.e., cooperative farming, moist-soil management, upland vegetation management, visitor services and priority public uses) would be managed at a reduced level since refuge resources would be directed to the pool. Under this alternative, levees would be constructed within the pool, subdividing it into six units over the next 10–15 years. This action would facilitate the management of the pool and lengthen its longevity by increasing the ability of refuge staff to dewater it, drawing it down to facilitate oxidation of accumulating sediments and more beneficial use of prescribed fire. Thus, management could proceed unit-by-unit on a regular basis without having to impact the value of the entire pool to fisheries and migratory birds all at once.

The Service believes that Alternative B will be the most effective one to contribute to the purpose for which the refuge was established and to the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Implementation of the goals, objectives, and strategies of Alternative B will allow the refuge to maintain freshwater marsh and upland prairie habitat; serve as a critical resting area for waterfowl in a heavily hunted area; conserve, restore, and enhance diverse habitats for migratory and native wildlife species; maintain healthy and viable native fish and wildlife populations; provide opportunities for safe, quality, compatible, wildlife-dependent public use and recreation; and protect cultural resources.

After the review and comment period for the draft plan and environmental assessment, all comments will be analyzed and considered by the Service. All comments received from individuals on the draft plan and environmental assessment become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and other Service and Departmental policies and procedures.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105–57.

Dated: October 6, 2006.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director

[FR Doc. 06–9135 Filed 11–8–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029–0057 and 1029–0087

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request approval for the collections of information under 30 CFR Part 882, Reclamation of private lands; and Form OSM–76, Abandoned Mine Land Problem Area Description form. These information collection activities were previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and assigned clearance numbers 1029–0057 and 1029–0087, respectively.

DATES: Comments on the proposed information collection must be received by January 8, 2006, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave. NW., Room 202–SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to jtrelease@osmre.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of either information collection request, explanatory information and related forms, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208–2783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8 (d)]. This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for approval. These collections are contained in (1) 30 CFR Part 882, Reclamation on private lands; and (2) Form OSM–76, Abandoned Mine Land Problem Area Description form. OSM

will request a 3-year term of approval for each information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submissions of the information collection requests to OMB.

The following information is provided for the information collection: (1) Title of the information collection; (2) OMB control number; (3) summary of the information collection activity; (4) the bureau form number; and (5) frequency of collection, description of the respondents, estimated total annual responses, and the total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden for the collection of information.

Title: Reclamation on Private Lands, 30 CFR 882.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0057.

Summary: Public Law 95-87 authorizes Federal, State, and Tribal governments to reclaim private lands and allows for the establishment of procedures for the recovery of the cost of reclamation activities on privately owned lands. These procedures are intended to ensure that governments have sufficient capability to file liens so that certain landowners will not receive a windfall from reclamation.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Frequency of Collection: Once.

Description of Respondents: State governments and Indian tribes.

Total Annual Responses: 1

Total Annual Burden Hours: 16.

Title: Abandoned Mine Land Problem Area Description Form, OSM-76.

OMB Control Number: 1029-0087.

Summary: This form will be used to update the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's inventory of abandoned mine land. From this inventory, the most serious problem areas are selected for reclamation through the apportionment of funds to States and Indian tribes.

Bureau Form Number: OSM-76.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Description of Respondents: State governments and Indian tribes.

Total Annual Responses: 1,800.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,000.

Dated: November 6, 2006.

John A. Trelease,

Acting Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.

[FR Doc. 06-9141 Filed 11-8-06; 8:45am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-027-1020-PH-029H; HAG 07-0019]

Meeting Notice for the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (SEORAC) will hold a meeting Thursday, November 16 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West in Hines.

Agenda items for the 1-day meeting include updates on the Grazing Administration Rule and associated litigation, the Off-Highway Vehicle/Transportation Strategy for Oregon and Washington public lands, the Wind Energy and Energy Corridors Environmental Impact Statements, the Wild Horse Program, and the Malheur National Forest Plan. Council members will also hear a presentation on southeast Oregon's wild horses and their importance to area heritage, give liaison and sub-group reports, elect officers for the upcoming year, develop agenda items for the February meeting, and establish dates and locations for the 2007 schedule. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SEORAC may also be addressed.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may contribute during the public comment period at 1 p.m. Those who verbally address the SEORAC during the public comment period are asked to also provide a *written* statement of their comments or presentation. Unless otherwise approved by the SEORAC Chair, the public comment period will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SEORAC for a maximum of 5 minutes.

If you have information you would like distributed to RAC members, please send it to Tara Wilson at the Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, prior to the start of the meeting. If you send information or general correspondence to anyone at the Burns District Office and would like a copy given to the RAC, please write "COPY TO RAC" on the envelope and enclosed document(s).

The SEORAC consists of 15 members chartered and appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. Their diverse perspectives are represented in commodity, conservation, and general interests. They provide advice to BLM

and Forest Service resource managers regarding management plans and proposed resource actions on public land in southeast Oregon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tara Wilson, SEORAC Facilitator, Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4519, or *Tara_Wilson@blm.gov*.

Dated: November 3, 2006.

Dana R. Shuford,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. E6-19019 Filed 11-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Proposed Award; Temporary Concession Contract for Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN

SUMMARY: Public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to award a temporary concession contract that requires the operation of horseback riding stables and vending machine sales of soft drinks and bottled water, and authorizes limited souvenir sales in the Sugarlands region of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Gatlinburg, Tennessee for a term not to exceed October 31, 2007.

DATES: *Effective Date:* November 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Ben Hanslin, Concessions Management Specialist, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 100 Alabama Street, 1924 Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ben Hanslin, Concessions Management Specialist, Southeast Region, National Park Service, (404) 562-3108, extension 740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The temporary concession contract is being awarded to Smoky Mountain Stables, Inc., a qualified person, as that term is defined in 36 CFR 51.3. Following termination of the prior concession contract at Sugarlands on May 2, 2005, the National Park Service awarded a temporary concession contract to Smoky Mountain Stables, Inc. on July 6, 2005 that expires on October 31, 2006. A new concession contract cannot be awarded in time to avoid the interruption of visitor services during November 2006 and the 2007 operating season. The National Park Service has taken all reasonable and necessary steps to consider alternatives to avoid interruption of visitor services, and has determined that this award is necessary to avoid interruption of visitor services.