

## II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, section 10(a)(1)(A), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17, the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and our regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 18 require that we invite public comment before final action on these permit applications. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received. If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

## III. Permit Applications

### A. Endangered Species

*Applicant:* Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL; PRT-42506A

The applicant requests a permit to biological samples from wild Hine's emerald dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*), for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

*Applicant:* Endangered Species Propagation, Survival & Research Center, Mertzon, TX; PRT-39083A

The applicant requests a permit to authorize interstate and foreign commerce, export and cull of excess Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

*Applicant:* Forrest Simpson, Conroe, TX; PRT-115344

The applicant requests reissuance of his permit authorizing interstate and foreign commerce, export and cull of excess barashigh (*Rucervus duvauceli*) from the captive herd maintained at their facility for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

*Applicant:* Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, MA; PRT-090287

The applicant requests renewal of their permit to export and reimport nonliving museum specimens of endangered and threatened species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

*Applicant:* Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI; PRT-700877

The applicant requests renewal of their permit to export and reimport nonliving museum specimens of endangered and threatened species previously accessioned into the applicant's collection for scientific research. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

### B. Endangered Marine Mammals and Marine Mammals

*Applicant:* Matson's Laboratory, Milltown, MT; PRT-166346.

The applicant requests an amendment to the permit to increase the number of teeth to import annually from polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) which were taken by national and provincial researchers during subsistence harvests in Canada, for age analysis for the purpose of scientific research and enhancement of survival of the species. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over the remainder of the 5-year period of the permit.

Concurrent with publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**, we are forwarding copies of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

### Brenda Tapia,

*Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[LLWY922000-L51100000-GA0000-LVEMK09CK36; WYW172657]**

### Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale, Wyoming

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

**ACTION:** Notice of competitive coal lease sale.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that certain coal resources in the Caballo West Coal Tract described below in Campbell County, Wyoming, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

**DATES:** The lease sale will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2011. Sealed bids must be submitted on or

before 4 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** The lease sale will be held in the First Floor Conference Room (Room 107), of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Cashier, BLM Wyoming State Office, at the address given above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mavis Love, Land Law Examiner, or Kathy Muller Ogle, Coal Coordinator, at 307-775-6258, and 307-775-6206, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This coal lease sale is being held in response to a lease by application (LBA) filed by BTU Western Resources, Inc. (successor to Caballo Coal Company), Gillette, Wyoming. The coal resource to be offered consists of all reserves recoverable by surface mining methods in the following-described lands located approximately 8 miles south-southeast of Gillette, Wyoming and east of State Highway 59.

### T. 48 N., R. 71 W., 6th Principal Meridian

Sec. 7, lots 12 and 19;  
Sec. 8, lot 10;  
Sec. 17, lots 1 through 12 inclusive and lots 15 and 16;  
Sec. 18, lots 5, 12, and 13;  
Sec. 20, lots 1, 2, and 8; and  
Sec. 21, lots 11 and 12.

Containing 1,023.99 acres, more or less, in Campbell County, Wyoming.

The LBA tract is adjacent to Federal, private, and State of Wyoming leases along the western lease boundary of the Caballo mine and to the Belle Ayr North LBA along the south. It is adjacent to additional unleased Federal coal to the west. The tract is crossed by Bishop Road along its southern boundary.

All of the acreage offered has been determined to be suitable for mining. Features such as Bishop Road, utilities, and pipelines can be moved to permit coal recovery. In addition, several producing coal bed natural gas wells have been drilled on the tract. The estimate of the bonus value of the coal lease will include consideration of the future production from these wells. An economic analysis of the future income stream from coal mining will consider reasonable compensation to the gas lessee for lost production of the natural gas when the wells are bought out by the coal lessee. The surface estate of the tract is owned by Alpha Coal West, Inc., as well as private individuals and entities.

The tract contains surface mineable coal reserves in the Wyodak-Anderson

coal zone currently being recovered in the adjacent, existing mine. On the LBA tract, there is one recoverable seam, the Wyodak, which averages approximately 75 feet thick and is continuous over the entire tract with no outcrops or subcrops. Overburden depths to this seam average approximately 285 feet on the LBA.

The tract contains an estimated 130,196,000 tons of mineable coal. This estimate of mineable reserves includes the main seam mentioned above but does not include any tonnage from localized seams or splits that are less than 5 feet of coal. Also, it does not include the adjacent private and State of Wyoming leases although these leases are expected to be mined in conjunction with the LBA tract. The total mineable stripping ratio of the coal in bank cubic yards per ton is approximately 4.2:1. Potential bidders for the LBA tract should consider the recovery rate expected from thick seam coal mining. The Caballo West LBA coal is ranked as subbituminous C. The overall average quality on an as-received basis is 8,501 British Thermal Units per pound containing about 0.33 percent sulfur. This quality places these coal reserves in the lower part of the range of coal quality currently being mined in the Wyoming portion of the Powder River Basin.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. There are qualified surface owners as defined in the regulations at 43 CFR 3400.0-5. Consent granted by the qualified surface owners has been filed with and verified by the BLM. The LBA tract lands included in the consent are:

**T. 48 N., R. 71 W., 6th Principal Meridian**

Sec. 7, lots 12 and 19; and  
Sec. 18, lot 5.

Containing 123.77 acres, more or less, in Campbell County, Wyoming.

The purchase price of the consent as stated in the consent document is “\* \* \* a royalty of ten cents (\$.10) per ton (2,000 pounds) of merchantable coal or one percent (1%) of the gross sale price of such coal F.O.B. the mine, whichever is greater.”

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid meets or exceeds the BLM's estimate of the fair market value (FMV) of the tract. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand delivered. The BLM Wyoming State Office Cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-

delivered bid. Bids received after 4 p.m. local time on Tuesday, August 16, 2011, will not be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent FMV. The FMV of the tract will be determined by the Authorized Officer after the sale. The lease that may be issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof, and a royalty payment to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal produced by surface mining methods and 8 percent of the value of the coal produced by underground mining methods. The value of the coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.250.

Pursuant to the regulation at 43 CFR 3473.2(f), the applicant for the Caballo West Tract, BTU Western Resources, Inc., has paid a total case-by-case cost recovery processing fee in the amount of \$78,660. The successful bidder for the Caballo West Tract, if someone other than the applicant, must pay to the BLM the \$78,660 previously paid by BTU Western Resources, Inc. Additionally, the successful bidder must pay all processing costs the BLM will incur after the date this sale notice is published in the **Federal Register**, which are estimated to be \$17,400.

Bidding instructions for the LBA tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are available from the BLM Wyoming State Office at the address above. Case file documents, WYW172657, are available for inspection at the BLM Wyoming State Office.

**Donald A. Simpson,**

*State Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

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LXSS024D0000 4500021867]

**Notice of Public Meeting, Boise District Resource Advisory Council, Idaho**

**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) Boise District Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will hold a meeting as indicated below.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held July 13, 2011 at the Boise District Office, located

at 3948 S. Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho, beginning at 9 a.m. and adjourning at 4:30 p.m. Members of the public are invited to attend. A public comment period will be held.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** MJ Byrne, Public Affairs Officer and RAC Coordinator, BLM Boise District, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705, Telephone (208) 384-3393.

**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 southwestern Idaho. Items on the agenda include reports by the RAC's Resource Management Plan Subgroup on its collaborative actions following the RAC Symposium. Discussion on draft sections of the Four Fivers Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Bruneau RMP, provided before the meeting will be held. Also included are updates on actions related to implementation of the Owyhee Public Lands Management Act and actions in each field office. Agenda items and location may change due to changing circumstances. The public may present written or oral comments to members of the Council. At each full RAC meeting, time is provided in the agenda 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 should contact the BLM Coordinator as provided above. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

Dated: June 9, 2011.

**Arnold L. Pike,**

*Acting District Manager.*

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