

elements of conservation design to help us identify priority conservation areas that will contribute to achieving measurable conservation targets such as population objectives. The policy ensures that when employees propose new refuges or expansions to existing refuges, they analyze and describe: (1) The project's vulnerability to climate change and other non-climate stressors (e.g., habitat fragmentation, invasive species), (2) how we will mitigate stressors to ensure the project's resiliency, (3) how the project is arranged in a geographically efficient manner to safeguard ecological processes across the landscape, and (4) how the project complements the resiliency of other conservation areas.

The policy establishes the process for sending project proposals to the Service Director and the potential outcomes of the Director's review. It also describes how designated representatives at the local level—Refuge Managers—must interact, coordinate, cooperate, and collaborate with State fish and wildlife agencies in the acquisition and management of refuges.

Summary of Comments and Changes to the Final Policy

On January 30, 2014, we announced the draft policy and requested public comment via a **Federal Register** notice (79 FR 4952). The comment period was open from January 30, 2014, through March 3, 2014. We received 35 detailed comment letters and many individual comments on the draft policy. In total, we received 236 individual comments, which were grouped into 71 comment categories. The comments were from nongovernmental organizations, individuals, States, and industry. Most of the comments expressed general support, and many addressed specific elements in the draft policy.

We considered all of the recommendations for improvement and clarification included in the comments and made appropriate changes to the draft policy. Many of the comments we received were outside the scope of this policy. We drafted this policy in a way that gives us flexibility as funding levels and resources change. The policy does not supersede any piece of legislation, regulation, or other policy.

Dated: December 11, 2014.

Dan Ashe,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[AAK6006201 156A2100DD
AOR3030.999900]

Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project, City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency intends to gather information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in connection with the Coquille Indian Tribe's (Tribe) application for a proposed 2.4-acre fee-to-trust transfer and casino project to be located in the City of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon. This notice also announces the beginning of the public scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS must arrive by February 17, 2015. The date of a public scoping meeting will be announced at least 15 days in advance through a notice to be published in the local newspaper, the Mail Tribune, and posted at www.coquilleeis.com.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or hand-deliver written comments to Mr. Stanley Speaks, Northwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4165. Please include your name, return address, and "DEIS Scoping Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project" on the first page of your written comments. The location of a public scoping meeting will be announced at least 15 days in advance through a notice to be published in the local newspaper, the Mail Tribune, and posted at www.coquilleeis.com.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. BJ Howerton, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Regional Office, 911 Northeast 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232; fax (503) 231-2275; phone (503) 231-6749.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Tribe has submitted an application to the BIA requesting that approximately 2.4 acres of land be transferred from fee to trust status (Proposed Action), upon which the Tribe would renovate an existing bowling alley to convert it into a gaming

facility. In order for the Department to fully consider and either grant or deny the Tribe's application, the Department must first comply with NEPA.

The proposed fee-to-trust property is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Medford, Oregon, adjacent to the northeastern boundary of Highway 99, between Charlotte Ann Lane and Lowry Lane. The Tribe's stated purpose of the Proposed Action is to improve the economic status of the Tribe so it can better provide housing, health care, education, cultural programs, and other services to its members. Adjacent fee land would be used for parking.

The Proposed Action encompasses the various federal approvals which may be required to implement the Tribe's proposed economic development project, including approval of the Tribe's fee-to-trust application. The EIS will identify and evaluate issues related to these approvals.

Areas of environmental concern identified for analysis in the EIS include land resources; water resources; air quality; noise; biological resources; cultural/historical/archaeological resources; resource use patterns; traffic and transportation; public health and safety; hazardous materials and hazardous wastes; public services and utilities; socioeconomics; environmental justice; visual resources/aesthetics; and cumulative, indirect, and growth-inducing effects. The range of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EIS may be expanded or reduced based on comments received in response to this notice and at the public scoping meeting. Additional information, including a map of the project site, is available by contacting the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Public Comment Availability: Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BIA address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section, during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.

Authority: This notice is published in accordance with sections 1503.1 and 1506.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4345 *et seq.*), and the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 1–6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.1.

Dated: January 8, 2015.

Kevin K. Washburn,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2015–00550 Filed 1–14–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[156A2100DD.AADD001000]

Advisory Board for Exceptional Children Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is announcing that the Advisory Board for Exceptional Children (Advisory Board) will hold its next meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The purpose of the meeting is to meet the mandates of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) for Indian children with disabilities.

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, March 26, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, March 27, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting and orientation will be held at the Manuel Lujan, Jr. Indian Affairs Building, 1011 Indian School Road NW., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104; telephone number (505) 563–5383.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sue Bement, Designated Federal Official, Bureau of Indian Education, Albuquerque Service Center, Division of Performance and Accountability, 1011 Indian School Road NW., Suite 332, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104; telephone number (505) 563–5274.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app.), the BIE is announcing that the Advisory Board will hold its next meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Advisory Board was established under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (20 U.S.C. 1400

et seq.) to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, on the needs of Indian children with disabilities. The meetings are open to the public.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- Introduction of Advisory Board members;
- Appointment of Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair;
- Report from Ms. Gloria Yepa, Supervisory Education Specialist, BIE, Division of Performance and Accountability;
- Report from BIE Director's Office;
- Report from Dr. Jeffrey Hamley, Associate Deputy Director of the Division of Performance and Accountability;
- Stakeholder input on BIE Annual Performance Report and State Systemic Improvement Plan;
- Public Comment (via conference call, March 26, 2015, meeting only *); and
- BIE Advisory Board-Advice and Recommendations.

* During the March 26, 2015 meeting, time has been set aside for public comment via conference call from 1:30–2:00 p.m. Mountain Time. The call-in information is: Conference Number 1–888–417–0376, Passcode 1509140.

Dated: January 6, 2015.

Kevin K. Washburn,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2015–00549 Filed 1–14–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–IMR–LAMR–16527;
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Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Texas

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan (Plan), Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Texas. The Plan/FEIS evaluates the impacts of four alternatives that address off-road vehicle (ORV) management in the national recreation area.

DATES: The NPS will execute a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication by the

Environmental Protection Agency of its Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: The Plan/FEIS is available in electronic format online at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/LAMR>. Hard copies of the Plan/FEIS are available at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument Offices, 419 E. Broadway, Fritch, Texas 79036–1460, by phone at 806–857–3151.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Maguire, Superintendent, Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, P.O. Box 1460, Fritch, Texas 79036–1460, by phone at 806–857–3151, or by email at Robert_Maguire@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Plan/FEIS responds to, and incorporates agency and public comments received on the Draft Environment Impact Statement (DEIS) and Plan, which was available for public review from January 25, 2013, to March 26, 2013. Public meetings were held on March 19 and 20, 2013, to gather input on the EIS and Plan. Over 116 pieces of correspondence were received during the public review period. Agency and public comments and NPS responses are provided in Appendix B of the FEIS/Plan.

The purpose of this Plan/FEIS is to manage ORV use in the national recreation area for visitor enjoyment and recreation opportunities, while minimizing and correcting damage to resources. By special regulation (Title 36, Section 7.57 of the Code of Federal Regulations), the national recreation area allows the use of ORVs in two areas: Blue Creek and Rosita Flats. The Plan/FEIS evaluates four alternatives to manage ORV use in the national recreation area: a No Action Alternative (A) and three Action Alternatives (B, C, and D (preferred)). When approved, the Plan will guide the management of ORV use for the next 15–20 years.

Alternative A: No Action—The national recreation area would continue to operate under the 2007 Interim ORV Management Plan where ORVs are allowed below the 3,000 foot elevation line in Rosita Flats and from cutbank to cutbank at Blue Creek. Limited facilities are supplied. No additional management tools such as zoning, permits, or use limits would be implemented.

Alternative B: Under this alternative, ORV use would be managed through a zone system. Uses would be separated into the following zones: camping, hunting, resource protection, low speed, and beginner. At Rosita Flats, two areas