

(2) *Mail.* Submit written comments to DHS, USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20529–2140.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, Samantha Deshombres, Chief, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20529–2140, telephone number 202–272–8377 (This is not a toll-free number. Comments are not accepted via telephone message). Please note contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. It is not for individual case status inquiries. Applicants seeking information about the status of their individual cases can check Case Status Online, available at the USCIS website at <http://www.uscis.gov>, or call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 800–375–5283 (TTY 800–767–1833).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Comments**

You may access the information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information by visiting the Federal eRulemaking Portal site at: <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter USCIS–2007–0029 in the search box. Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to consider limiting the amount of personal information that you provide in any voluntary submission you make to DHS. DHS may withhold information provided in comments from public viewing that it determines may impact the privacy of an individual or is offensive. For additional information, please read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) 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 technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Overview of This Information Collection**

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Affidavit of Support under Section 213A of the Act.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection:* Form I–864; I864A; I–864EZ; USCIS.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* *Primary:* Individuals or households; The data collected on Form I–864 will be used by the USCIS to determine whether the sponsor has the ability to support the sponsored alien under section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act. This form serves the purpose of standardizing the evaluations of the sponsor's ability to support the sponsored alien and ensures that basic information required to assess eligibility is provided by petitioners.

The Form I–864A is a contract between the sponsor and the sponsor's household members. It is only required if the sponsor used income of his or her household members to reach the required 125 percent of the Federal poverty guideline. The contract holds these household members jointly and severally liable for the support of the sponsored immigrant. The information collection required on Form I–864A is necessary for public benefit agencies to enforce the Affidavit of Support in the event the sponsor used income of his or her household members to reach the required income level and the public benefit agencies are requesting reimbursement from the sponsor.

The Form I–864EZ will be used by the USCIS in exactly the same way as Form I–864, however, the USCIS will collect less information from the sponsors as less information will be needed from those who qualify in order to make a thorough adjudication.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The estimated total number of respondents for the information

collection I–864 is 453,345 and the estimated hour burden per response is 6.5 hours; the estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I–864A is 215,800 and the estimated hour burden per response is 2.25 hours; the estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I–864EZ is 100,000 and the estimated hour burden per response is 3 hours.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 3,732,293 hours.

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$135,569,525.

Dated: October 8, 2019.

**Samantha Deshombres,**

*Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. 2019–22375 Filed 10–11–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9111–97–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS–R1–ES–2019–N133;  
FXES11140100000–190–FF01E00000]

**Renewal of Safe Harbor Agreement for OX Ranch, Adams County, Idaho**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received a written request from Hixon Properties Incorporated to renew an existing Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA). The participants in the SHA are OX Ranch (Hixon Properties Incorporated and affiliated business entities doing business collectively), the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Service. Continued implementation of the SHA is intended to benefit the recovery of the federally listed threatened northern Idaho ground squirrel in Adams County, Idaho. The Service is making the proposed SHA renewal and our draft environmental action statement (EAS) available for public review and comment.

**DATES:** All comments from interested parties must be received on or before November 14, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** To request further information, obtain copies of documents, or submit written comments, please use one of the following methods. Please include your name and return address in your comments and refer to the “Safe Harbor Agreement for Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel”:

- **Internet:** Documents may be viewed on the internet at <http://www.fws.gov/Idaho>.

- **Email:** [ifwo@fws.gov](mailto:ifwo@fws.gov). Include “Safe Harbor Agreement for Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel” in the subject line of the message.

- **U.S. Mail:** State Supervisor, Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Suite 368, Boise, ID 83709.

- **In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pickup:** Documents will be available for public inspection, by appointment, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office.

- **Fax:** Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office, 208–378–5262, Attn: Safe Harbor Agreement for Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Greg Burak, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**), telephone 208–378–5243, or email [ifwo@fws.gov](mailto:ifwo@fws.gov). If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf, please call the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received a written request dated May 30, 2019, from Hixon Properties Incorporated to renew an existing Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) for an additional 5 years beyond its current expiration date of September 28, 2019. The existing enhancement of survival permit (permit) associated with the SHA was issued August 13, 2009, pursuant to the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and is in effect until September 28, 2024. Renewing the SHA for an additional 5 years would make the expiration date the same as the expiration date of the permit. The SHA is between Hixon Properties Incorporated (owner), Rocky Comfort Cattle Company, LLC (lessee), and affiliated business entities doing business as the OX Ranch collectively, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), and the Service. Renewing the SHA is intended to benefit the recovery of the federally listed threatened northern Idaho ground squirrel (*Urocyonotellus brunneus*) on 7,783 acres (ac) of privately owned land in Adams County, Idaho. The SHA management actions to benefit the northern Idaho

ground squirrel include habitat maintenance and enhancement, predator/competitor control, shooting prohibitions, outreach, surveys, monitoring, and research. The activities implemented under this SHA will aid in increasing the current range of the covered species, restoring this species to part of its historic range, and increasing the total population of the species, thus contributing to its overall recovery. The Service is making the proposed SHA renewal and our draft EAS available for public review and comment, including the submission of written data. The draft EAS supports our preliminary determination that the proposed SHA renewal is eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

### Background

Section 9 of the ESA prohibits the take of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened under section 4 of the ESA. Under the ESA, the term “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct (16 U.S.C. 1532(19)). The term “harm,” as defined in our regulations, includes significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering (50 CFR 17.3). The term “harass” is defined in our regulations as an intentional or negligent act or omission which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral patterns, which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding, or sheltering (50 CFR 17.3). Under specified circumstances, however, we may issue permits that authorize take of federally listed species, provided the take is incidental to, but not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing permits for threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.32.

Under a SHA, participating landowners voluntarily undertake management activities on their property to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefiting species listed under the ESA. SHAs, and the subsequent permit issued to participating landowners pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA, encourage private and other non-Federal property owners to implement conservation actions for federally listed species by assuring the landowners that they will not be subjected to increased property use restrictions as a result of

their efforts to either attract listed species to their property, or to increase the numbers or distribution of listed species already on their property. Enrolled landowners may make lawful use of the enrolled property during the permit term and may incidentally take the listed species named on the permit. Application requirements and issuance criteria for permits associated with SHAs are found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.22(c) and 17.32(c). As provided for in the Service’s final Safe Harbor Policy (64 FR 32717; June 17, 1999), SHAs provide assurances that allow the property owner to alter or modify their enrolled property, even if such alteration or modification results in the incidental take of a listed species, to such an extent that the property is returned back to the originally agreed upon baseline conditions. Private landowners may voluntarily terminate an SHA at any time and in accordance with 50 CFR 13.26. If this occurs, landowners must relinquish the associated incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA.

### Safe Harbor Agreement

The private lands covered under the existing SHA and permit consist of 7,783 ac on the OX Ranch, and are located just north of Bear, in Adams County, Idaho. Northern Idaho ground squirrels currently occupy 610 ac of the covered area. The 610 ac is considered the baseline. When the existing permit expires on September 28, 2024, the OX Ranch is allowed to return their property to baseline.

The expected net conservation benefit to the northern Idaho ground squirrel as a result of the SHA is the maintenance of the 610-ac baseline area, allowing researchers affiliated with the Service or IDFG to access OX Ranch property; requiring notification of the Service and IDFG prior to activities that will result in “take” of the species so that they may capture and relocate affected individuals if appropriate; allowing the Service and IDFG personnel access to the property to conduct ground squirrel conservation activities approved by the applicant such as habitat maintenance and enhancement, ground squirrel surveys, and translocation of ground squirrels; and establishing some limits on the conduct of chemical rodent control in the squirrel management area. In addition, the applicant may also work with the Service and others to implement timber-related habitat enhancement measures that will potentially increase habitat for squirrels within the covered area. The biological goal of northern Idaho ground squirrel

conservation measures in the SHA is to expand this species' population within and beyond the 610-ac baseline area by reducing threats and enhancing habitat for the species. The SHA is intended to contribute to the recovery of the northern Idaho ground squirrel by reducing threats, expanding and increasing the viability of the ground squirrel population at this site, improving habitat conditions, and potentially facilitating translocation of ground squirrels to other sites in need of population supplementation, as appropriate.

The SHA management actions to benefit the northern Idaho ground squirrel include habitat maintenance and enhancement, predator/competitor control, shooting prohibitions, outreach, surveys, monitoring, and research.

The OX Ranch has met obligations outlined in the 2009 SHA. For example, they have carried out habitat enhancement projects on their land and have participated in multiple habitat enhancement studies by providing access to their property for research purposes (*i.e.*, Suronen and Newingham 2013, Goldberg 2018). They have allowed the installation of no-shooting signs on their property, conducted outreach, allowed needed surveys and monitoring to be carried out on an annual basis by the IDFG (*i.e.*, Wagner and Evans Mack 2019), and have allowed limited predator control to be carried out on their property on an as-needed basis. Renewing the SHA for an additional 5 years will provide continued conservation benefits on OX Ranch lands for the northern Idaho ground squirrel.

#### National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

The renewal of the SHA is a Federal action that triggers the need for compliance with NEPA. The Service has made a preliminary determination that the proposed SHA renewal is eligible for categorical exclusion under NEPA, based on the following criteria: (1) Implementation of the SHA would result in minor or negligible adverse effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the SHA would result in minor or negligible adverse effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts of the SHA, considered together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects, would not result, over time, in cumulative adverse effects to environmental values or resources which would be considered significant. We explain the basis for this

determination in more detail in an EAS that is also available for public review.

#### Public Comments

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. We request data, comments, new information, or suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, Tribes, industry, or any other interested party on our proposed Federal action.

#### Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, 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 us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we use in preparing the EAS, will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours, at our Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### Authority

We provide this notice in accordance with the requirements of section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and their implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22, and 40 CFR 1506.6, respectively).

#### Rolland G. White,

*Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[201A2100DD/AAKC001030/  
A0A501010.999900 253G]

#### Advisory Board of Exceptional Children

**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 will hold its next meeting in

Albuquerque, NM, November 13–15, 2019. 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:** On Wednesday, November 13, 2019 and Thursday, November 14, 2019 and Friday, November 15, 2019 all Advisory Board members will meet in-session from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time. The Advisory Board will hold an orientation session for members only on Friday, November 15, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time. The public commenting session will occur on Friday, November 15, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The orientation and public meetings will be held at the 1011 Indian School Rd. NW, 3rd floor in the Large Conference in Albuquerque, NM 87104; telephone number (602) 240-8597.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Davis, Designated Federal Officer, Bureau of Indian Education, 2600 N Central Ave., Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85004, email at [Jennifer.davis@bie.edu](mailto:Jennifer.davis@bie.edu) or telephone number (602) 240-8597.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 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 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 meeting is open to the public.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- Report from Tony Dearman, Director, BIE Director's Office
- Report from Dr. Jeffrey Hamley Associate Deputy Director, BIE, Division of Performance and Accountability (DPA)
- Report from Donald Griffin, Supervisory Education Specialist, BIE/DPA/IDEA
- Report from BIE Associate Deputy Directors—discuss topics related to students with disabilities
- Finalize the 2019 Annual Report
- An orientation session will be provided to new Advisory Board members
- Public Comments (via teleconference call, Friday, November 15, 2019 meeting only \*)

\* During the November 15, 2019 meeting, time has been set aside for