

Once we grant our approval, a U.S. national nongovernmental organization is eligible to register with the Secretariat and must do so at least 6 weeks prior to the opening of CoP20 to participate in the meeting as an observer. Individuals who are not affiliated with an organization may not register as observers. An international nongovernmental organization with at least one office in the United States may register as a U.S. nongovernmental organization if it prefers.

An organization seeking approval from our office to attend CoP20 as an observer must include in their request evidence of their technical qualifications in protection, conservation, or management of wild fauna or flora, for both the organization and the individual representative(s). The request must also include copies of the organization's charter and any bylaws, and a list of representatives it intends to send to CoP20.

Organizations seeking approval for the first time should detail their experience in the protection, conservation, or management of wild fauna or flora, as well as their purposes for wishing to participate in CoP20 as an observer. An organization that we have approved within the past 5 years as an observer to a meeting of the Conference of the Parties does not need to provide as much detailed information concerning its qualifications as an organization seeking approval for the first time. Requests should be sent to the Division of Management Authority at the address provided in **ADDRESSES**, above; via email to managementauthority@fws.gov; or via fax to 703-358-2276.

Once we approve an organization as an observer, we will direct them to the location on the CITES website where they can obtain instructions for registering with the Secretariat and obtain logistical information about the meeting. A list of organizations approved for observer status at CoP20 will be available upon request from the Division of Management Authority immediately prior to the start of CoP20.

Future Actions

The Secretariat will prepare a provisional agenda for CoP20 following the submission of documents for the meeting. We will publish the CoP20 provisional agenda in the **Federal Register** and on our website at <https://www.fws.gov/international-affairs/cites/cop20>.

The United States must submit any proposals to amend Appendix I or II and any draft resolutions, decisions, or agenda items for discussion at CoP20 to

the Secretariat at least 150 days (*i.e.*, by June 27, 2025) prior to the start of the meeting. In order to meet this deadline and to prepare for CoP20, we have developed a tentative U.S. schedule. We will consider all available information and comments we receive during the comment period for this **Federal Register** notice as we decide which species proposal items warrant submission by the United States for consideration by the Parties.

Approximately 4 months prior to CoP20, we will post on our website an announcement of the species proposals, draft resolutions, draft decisions, and agenda items submitted by the United States to the Secretariat for consideration at CoP20.

Through additional notices and website postings in advance of CoP20, we will inform you about preliminary negotiating positions on resolutions, decisions, and proposals to amend the Appendices proposed by other Parties for consideration at CoP20. We will also publish an announcement of a public meeting to be held approximately 2 to 3 months prior to CoP20, to receive public input on our positions regarding CoP20 issues. The procedures for developing U.S. documents and negotiating positions for a meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES are outlined in 50 CFR 23.87. As noted in paragraph (c) of that section, we may modify or suspend the procedures outlined there if they would interfere with the timely or appropriate development of documents for submission to the CoP and of U.S. negotiating positions.

Authors

The primary authors of this notice are Thomas E.J. Leuteritz, Ph.D., Branch Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, and Anne St. John, Biologist, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Martha Williams,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GX25AC0000EXP00]

Public Meetings of the Advisory Committee for Science Quality and Integrity

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is publishing this notice to announce that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Scientific Quality and Integrity will take place and is open to members of the public.

DATES: The following meetings will be held as a webinar:

- January: Monday, January 13, 2025, from 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time; Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time
- October: Tuesday, October 7, 2025, from 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time; Wednesday, October 8, 2025, from 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time; Thursday, October 9, 2025, from 12 p.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time

The following meeting will be held in person:

- June: Tuesday, June 17, 2025, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time; Wednesday, June 18, 2025, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Eastern Time

ADDRESSES: The January 13–14, 2025, and October 7–9, 2025, meetings will be held online and via teleconference. The June 17–18, 2025, meetings will be held at the USGS National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192. The meetings are open to the public. Members of the public may attend any of the meetings, whether in person or virtually. Registration instructions for both the online and in-person meetings will be posted at <https://www.usgs.gov/office-of-science-quality-and-integrity/federal-advisory-committee-science-quality-and-integrity>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Maggie Hardy, Designated Federal Officer, by email at mhardy@usgs.gov or by telephone at 928-556-7235. Comments may be sent by email to: GS-FACSQSI@usgs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of the FACA of 1972 (5 U.S.C. Ch. 10), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR part 102-3.

Purpose of the Meeting: The Advisory Committee advises the Department of

the Interior through the Director of the USGS on matters relating to the responsibilities of the Office of Science Quality and Integrity (OSQI) including monitoring and enhancing the integrity, quality, and health of all USGS science through executive oversight and development of strong practices, policy, and supporting programs. Functional areas in the OSQI include Scientific Integrity; Science Quality; Fundamental Science Practices; Office of Tribal Relations; Youth and Education in Science (YES); Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM); Laboratories; Postdoctoral Research; and Research and Equipment Development Grade Evaluations of USGS scientists. Additional information about the Advisory Committee is available at: Federal Advisory Committee for Science Quality and Integrity, U.S. Geological Survey.

Agenda Topics:

- Charter Focus Areas
 - Identification of key science quality and integrity processes to advance the USGS mission.
 - Effective mechanisms for engaging the next generation USGS workforce and others through the YES program and with other federal agencies in STEM and underserved communities.
 - The nature and effectiveness of mechanisms to provide oversight of science quality within USGS laboratories.
 - Mechanisms that may be employed by the USGS to ensure high standards of science quality and integrity in its programs and products.

- *Subcommittee:* Recommendation to form a Subcommittee on Laboratory Quality.

- Public Comment

Meeting Accessibility/Special

Accommodations: Please make requests in advance for sign language interpreter services, assistive listening devices, language translation services, or other reasonable accommodations. We ask that you contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting to give the USGS sufficient time to process your request. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis. Seating for in person attendees may be limited due to room capacity. Webinar/conference line instructions will be provided to registered attendees prior to the meeting.

Public Disclosure of Comments: There will be an opportunity for public comment during each day of the meeting. Depending on the number of

people who wish to speak and the time available, the time for individual comments may be limited. Written comments may also be sent to the Advisory Committee for consideration. To allow for full consideration of information by Advisory Committee members, written comments must be provided to Maggie Hardy (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section) at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. Any written comments received will be provided to Advisory Committee members before the meeting.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10.

Margaret Hardy,

Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee for Science Quality and Integrity.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[256A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900]

Indian Gaming; Approval by operation of Law Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compacts in the State of California

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the approval by operation of law of Tribal-State gaming compacts (Compacts) governing the operation and regulation of class III gaming activities between the State of California and the Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation, California; Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, California; La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the La Posta Indian Reservation, California; Table Mountain Rancheria, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe; Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, California.

DATES: The Compacts takes effect on December 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Washington,

DC 20240, *IndianGaming@bia.gov*; (202) 219–4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*, (IGRA) provides the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) with 45 days to review and approve or disapprove any Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of class III gaming activity on the Tribe's Indian lands. See 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8). If the Secretary does not approve or disapprove a Tribal-State compact within the 45 days, IGRA provides the Tribal-State compact is considered to have been approved by the Secretary, but only to the extent the compact is consistent with IGRA. See 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(D). The IGRA also requires the Secretary to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. See 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(D). The Department's regulations at 25 CFR 293.4 require all compacts and amendments to be reviewed and approved by the Secretary prior to taking effect.

The Secretary took no action on the Compacts between the State of California and the Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation, California; the Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, California, the La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the La Posta Indian Reservation, California; the Table Mountain Rancheria; the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe; and the Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, California, within the 45-day statutory review period. Therefore, the Compacts are considered to have been approved, but only to the extent they are consistent with IGRA. See 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(C).

Bryan Newland,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[256A2100DD/AAKC001030/
A0A501010.999900]

Rate Adjustments for Indian Irrigation Projects

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.