

needs and developing information products; (6) provides technical assistance to Bureau program managers in information and communications product packaging, desktop publishing, and media relations; (7) produces reports, articles, briefings, speeches, exhibits and other multi-media communications on Bureau programs; (8) develops and implements new and innovative communication strategies including utilization of automated methods and electronic media in carrying out its responsibilities including managing and maintaining content of the Bureau's electronic web site, and liaison with the HRSA webmaster for technical support and design; and participation, coordination and content development in use of technologies such as satellite transmission and distance learning; (9) functions as media advisor to the Bureau Associate Administrator and other senior program staff; (10) reviews federal, state, and local legislation, issues, programs and policies and their impact on health care organization financing and service delivery to special populations served by Bureau programs; (11) identifies issues and problems and conducts appropriate analyses and studies in order to develop technical assistance products, presentations, seminars, and communications for the information and service needs of the intended audience; and (12) serves as principal liaison on behalf of MCHB in coordinating with HRSA's Office of Communications; through appropriate channels with other agency information, communications, and/or clearinghouses; with national constituency organizations such as the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, the American Academy of Pediatrics; with international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization, and with health planners, service providers, and consumers, with respect to the development and dissemination of information on current and emerging health care issues, trends and problems affecting the services, program and populations served by the MCHB.

#### Delegations of Authority

All delegations and redelegations of authority which were in effect immediately prior to the effective date hereof have been continued in effect in them or their successors pending further redelegations.

This reorganization is effective upon date of signature.

Dated: October 12, 2000.

**Claude Earl Fox,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 00-29843 Filed 11-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4160-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the Harding Property, Douglas County, CO

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that Susan K. Harding (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended. The Service proposes to issue a 3-year permit to the Applicant that would authorize the incidental take of the Preble's meadow jumping mouse (Preble's) (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*), federally listed as threatened, and loss and modification of its habitat associated with construction of a single-family residence in Douglas County, Colorado. Construction of the single family residence will result in the loss of up to 0.294 acres of grassland that provides potential foraging and hibernation habitat for the mouse. The permit application includes a combined Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP), which is available for public review and comment. The HCP fully describes the proposed project and the measures the Applicant would undertake to minimize and mitigate project impacts to the Preble's.

The Service requests comments on the EA/HCP for the proposed issuance of the incidental take permit. We provide this notice pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). All comments on the EA and permit application will become part of the administrative record and will be available to the public.

**DATES:** Written comments on the permit application and EA/HCP should be received on or before December 22, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments regarding the permit application or the EA/HCP, or

requests for the documents, should be addressed to LeRoy Carlson, Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Field Office, 755 Parfet Street, Suite 361, Lakewood, Colorado 80215. Comments may be sent by facsimile to (303) 275-2371. Please reference permit number PRT-TE035844-0 in any comments submitted.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kathleen Linder, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Colorado Field Office, telephone (303) 275-2370.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Document Availability

Individuals wishing copies of the EA/HCP and associated documents for review should immediately contact the above office. Documents also will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

##### Background

Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act and Federal regulation prohibit the "take" of a species listed as endangered or threatened (take is defined under the Endangered Species Act as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct). However, the Service may issue permits to authorize "incidental take" (defined by the Endangered Species Act as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity) of listed species under limited circumstances. Regulations governing permits for threatened species are promulgated in 50 CFR 17.32. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are promulgated in 50 CFR 17.22.

The proposed action is the issuance of a permit under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act to allow the incidental take of Preble's during the construction of a single family residence at the site. The proposed project will directly affect approximately 0.294 acres of potential habitat for Preble's. An HCP has been developed as part of the preferred alternative. The proposed HCP will allow for the incidental take of the Preble's by permitting a single family residence to be constructed in an area that may be periodically used as foraging or hibernation habitat. Construction will result in about 0.12 acres of permanent habitat loss and another 0.18 acres of temporary effects to the habitat associated with this localized disturbance.

Alternatives considered in addition to the proposed action were; building at an alternate location, waiting for the

Douglas County Regional 10(a)(1)(B) Permit, and no action. The draft EA analyzes the onsite, offsite, and cumulative impacts of the proposed project and all associated development and construction activities and mitigation activities on the Preble's, other threatened or endangered species, vegetation, wildlife, wetlands, geology/soils, land use, water resources, air and water quality, or cultural resources. None of the proposed impacts occur within the riparian corridor. All of the proposed impacts are in upland areas outside of the 100-year floodplain. The Applicant, using the Service's definition of Preble's habitat, has determined that the proposed project would impact approximately 0.294 acres of potential Preble's habitat. The mitigation for the identified impacts may provide a net benefit to the Preble's and other wildlife by improving riparian habitat through planting of additional shrub vegetation.

The Preble's is the only known federally listed species that occurs on site and has the potential to be directly affected by the proposed project. The Applicant has agreed to implement the following measures to minimize and mitigate impacts that may result from incidental take of Preble's:

In order to compensate for the loss of Preble's habitat, a 0.59-acre area in the northeast corner of the property will be preserved and enhanced at a ratio of 2.0 to 1 by planting shrubs.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act. The Service will evaluate the permit application, the EA/HCP, and comments submitted therein to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act. If it is determined that those requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of Preble's. The final permit decision will be made no sooner than December 22, 2000.

Dated: November 15, 2000.

**Elliott Sutta,**

*Acting Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

[FR Doc. 00-29830 Filed 11-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AK-023-00-1310-MQ-029L-241A]

#### Establishment of the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska Research and Monitoring Advisory Team

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Establishment of the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska Research and Monitoring Advisory Team

**SUMMARY:** This notice is published in accordance with section 9(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-463). Following consultation with the General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior has established the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska Research and Monitoring Advisory Team. The purpose of the Team will be to advise and assist the Manager of the Bureau of Land Management's Northern Field Office on issues pertaining to the adequacy and appropriateness of mitigative stipulations established in the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, Record of Decision of 1998.

The Team will be comprised of 11 members from the Bureau of Land Management; Minerals Management Service; Department of Energy, Office of Fossil Energy; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; U.S. Geological Survey—Biological Resources Division; Alaska Department of Fish and Game; North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management; oil and gas, or related, industry; nationally or regionally recognized environmental or resource conservation organization; academicians employed in natural resource management or the natural sciences; and the public at large.

The duties of the Team will include identification of research and monitoring needs; recommendations on priorities for these needs; recommendations on standards and guidance as to what constitutes acceptable, valid studies; review of proposals for studies or actions to meet identified needs; review and evaluation of results and interpretations of ongoing and recently completed studies; synthesis of information gained; review of the BLM's mitigation plan for effectiveness and appropriateness; recommendations to the BLM on mitigation plan improvement; and evaluation of the adequacy of compliance with stipulations, determination of the reasons for observed inadequacies, and recommendations for change to the BLM.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. David A. Yokel, Bureau of Land Management, Northern Field Office, 1150 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709, (907) 474-2314.

**Certification Statement:** I hereby certify that the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska Research and Monitoring Advisory Team is in the public interest in connection with the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities to manage the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska, administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: November 6, 2000.

**Bruce Babbitt,**

*Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 00-29922 Filed 11-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-056-1430-ES; N-60868]

#### Notice of Realty Action: Segregation Terminated, Lease/Conveyance for Recreation and Public Purposes

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

**ACTION:** Segregation terminated, recreation and public purpose lease/conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** The following described public land in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada was segregated for exchange purposes on September 10, 1991 under serial number N-54981; on September 9, 1993 under serial number N-57773; on October 19, 1995 under serial number N-60073; on July 23, 1997 under serial number N-61855; and on July 23, 1997 under serial number N-66364. These exchange segregations will be terminated on November 22, 2001. The land has been examined and found suitable for lease/conveyance for recreational or public purposes under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). Clark County School District proposes to use the land for a high school.

#### Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 22 S., R. 61 E.,

Sec. 34, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Containing 45.0 acres, more or less, located at Bermuda Road and W. Maryland Parkway.

The land is not required for any federal purpose. The lease/conveyance is consistent with current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest. The lease/patents, when issued, will be subject to the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, and will