

(1) Dedicate a combined total of approximately 23,480 acres to Conservation Areas. TNC, or a comparable third-party conservation organization, will manage in perpetuity the 22,600 acres of Conservation Areas dedicated by the Farm and protected under a permanent conservation easement with the intent of maintaining and improving the imperiled native shrub-steppe and grassland habitats for the Covered Species and other associated wildlife. The PGE Conservation Area, approximately 880 acres, would also be protected from development and managed by PGE for conservation purposes for the life of the MSCCAA.

(2) Provide a 250-foot buffer around all of the Farm Conservation Areas to further restrict land use activities that otherwise could affect the outer edges of the Farm Conservation Area.

(3) Provide funds for the preservation, management, and improvement of the Conservation Areas, including intensive noxious weed control.

(4) Provide funds for conducting extensive monitoring, surveying, notification, and reporting.

(5) Provide restrictions on grazing, ground-disturbing activities, hunting and shooting to avoid or minimize harmful impacts to the Covered Species.

(6) Develop and implement coordinated fire response plans and detailed conservation management plans for the Conservation Areas.

(7) Provide for adaptive management within the Conservation Areas to address changing habitat conditions.

A draft EA has been prepared to address the impacts of issuing ESA

assurances through the MSCCAA for the four covered species. The draft EA evaluates the environmental impacts that may result from implementation of the conservation measures described in the MSCCAA. The draft EA describes five alternatives to the proposed action including the "no action" alternative.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act, the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances standard precluding the need to list, and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The Service will evaluate the permit applications, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the permit applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act and NEPA regulations. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and will be available for review pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act. If we determine that all requirements are met, we will sign the MSCCAA and issue separate permits to the Farm, PGE, TNC, and ODFW for the take of the Covered Species (should they be listed during the term of the permits), incidental to otherwise lawful activities in accordance with the terms of the MSCCAA. The final permit decisions will be made no sooner than 45 days after the date of this notice.

Dated: July 28, 2003.

**Carolyn Bohan,**

*Acting Deputy Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Issuance of Permits

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of permits for marine mammals.

**SUMMARY:** The following permits were issued.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*), and/or the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permit(s) subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

#### Marine Mammals

Permit No.	Applicant	Receipt of application <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Permit issuance date
070536 .....	Robert E. Speegle .....	68 FR 22409; April 28, 2003 .....	August 4, 2003.
070569 .....	Marvin J. Winter .....	68 FR 22409; April 28, 2003 .....	July 15, 2003.
071569 .....	Leonard Bernstein .....	68 FR 33179; June 3, 2003 .....	August 13, 2003.
072004 .....	Alfred E. Delgreco .....	68 FR 33734; June 5, 2003 .....	August 4, 2003.
072240 .....	Michael B. Thomas .....	68 FR 33735; June 5, 2003 .....	July 17, 2003.

Dated: August 15, 2003.

**Charles S. Hamilton,**

*Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 03-21901 Filed 8-26-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Final Preassessment Screen for the Chino and Tyrone Mines, Grant County, New Mexico and the Morenci Mine, Graham County, Arizona

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has conducted a preliminary screen of existing data and

literature pertaining to injuries to natural resources from releases of hazardous chemicals from three large open-pit copper mines in southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona (the Phelps Dodge Chino, Tyrone, and Morenci mines). Information available to the Department has resulted in a determination that there is a reasonable probability of making a successful claim for natural resource injuries. This determination, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, (42 U.S.C. 9607, and Departmental regulations found at 43 CFR part 11), is