

Sec. 11, S $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 12;
 Sec. 13, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 14, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 15, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

(No Drop Zone)

T. 12 S., R. 9 E.,
 Sec. 20, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 9 S., R. 6 E.,
 Sec. 21.
 T. 13 S., R. 4 E.,
 Sec. 4, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.

(Emitters)

T. 8 S., R. 9 E.,
 Sec. 34, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 9 S., R. 6 E.,
 Sec. 15, NW $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 11 S., R. 4 E.,
 Sec. 23, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 11 S., R. 5 E.,
 Sec. 17, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 12 S., R. 3 E.,
 Sec. 26, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 12 S., R. 10 E.,
 Sec. 30, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ within lot 4.
 T. 13 S., R. 9 E.,
 Sec. 10, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The areas described aggregate 9,673.34 acres in Owyhee County.

Six (6) public meetings are scheduled at the following dates, times, places, and addresses:

1. June 4, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Elk's Lodge, 327 S. 3rd West, Mtn. Home, Idaho
2. June 6, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Rim Rock High School, Bruneau, Idaho
3. June 10, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Boise State University, Jordan Ballroom, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho
4. June 11, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Boise State University, Jordan Ballroom, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho
5. June 13, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Three Creek School, Three Creek, Idaho
6. June 17, 1996, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., College of Southern Idaho, Fine Arts Auditorium, 315 Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, Idaho

These meetings are the first step in soliciting public comments on the proposed withdrawal. Information gathered at these meetings will be used in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Comments given at these meetings should focus on the merits of the proposal, the feasibility of the identified alternatives, the availability of other alternatives, issues which should be addressed in the EIS, any other comments the public wishes the Air Force and BLM to consider, and

any questions concerning the withdrawal proposal. Those who desire to submit written statements, should file them not later than June 3, 1996, to BLM/USAF, P.O. Box 329, Boise, Idaho 83701-0329.

Dated: April 24, 1996.

J. David Brunner,
Deputy State Director for Resource Services.
 [FR Doc. 96-10652 Filed 4-29-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-GG-M

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Gulf of Mexico Region, Proposed Louisiana Barrier Shoreline Restoration Effort

AGENCIES: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Department of the Interior; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce; State of Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to Support Phase 1 of the Louisiana Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study (Barataria-Terrebonne Basin Barrier Island Restoration Effort).

PURPOSE OF THE NOI: The NOI announces the decision to prepare an EIS and initiate the scoping process. The scoping process affords Federal, State, local government agencies, and other interested parties the opportunity to identify significant issues and alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 14, 1996.

PROPOSED ACTION: The purpose to which the Federal agencies are responding in the barrier island project and the proposed major Federal action to be considered are as follows:

Purpose: The restoration, protection, and enhancement of Louisiana coastal wetlands, and for other purposes.

Proposed Action: Restoration of the Louisiana Barrier Shoreline as Identified in Phase 1 of the Louisiana Barrier Shoreline Feasibility Study (Barataria and Terrebonne Basins).

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND ON THE PROPOSED ACTION: Under the auspices of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA), the feasibility and benefits of restoring the barrier islands of coastal Louisiana are currently being evaluated with respect to their role in wetlands protection and enhancement. A feasibility study is underway to assess and quantify wetland loss problems

linked to diminishing protection from barrier islands along the Louisiana coast, to identify solutions to these problems, and to determine the barrier configuration that will best protect Louisiana's coastal resources from environmental degradation. The feasibility study is being conducted in three phases: Phase 1, currently ongoing, encompasses the Barataria-Terrebonne island chain; Phase 2 will focus on the Chenier Plain coast; Phase 3 will focus on the Chandeleur Islands.

Within the Phase 1 study area, the State of Louisiana is proposing to renourish Isles Dernieres and Timbalier Islands using Federal offshore sand deposits. In addition to renourishment, other coastal restoration methods, such as dune building, vegetation planting, hard structures, and related actions may be employed. On April 19, 1995, the Governor of the State of Louisiana contacted the MMS to request a noncompetitive lease to use Federal sand resources from Ship Shoal for restoration of the Louisiana barrier islands. The MMS has determined that the use of Federal sand from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) areas such as Ship Shoal for barrier island restoration and subsequent wetlands protection meets the negotiated agreement requirements under Section 8(k)(2)(A)(i) of the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(k)(2)(A)(i)).

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process is initiated when Federal agencies consider major actions which may significantly affect the environment. Because the environmental consequences of barrier island restoration are not fully understood and the extraction of Federal sand for the purposes of barrier island and wetlands restoration is considered a major Federal action, an EIS will be prepared.

This specific EIS will support the Phase 1 portion of the feasibility study. Impacts associated with Phases 2 and 3 will be evaluated in subsequent NEPA documents. The EIS will be used to assist the CWPPRA Task Force in making funding decisions regarding Phase 1 restoration methods as well as aid the MMS with respect to the request for a noncompetitive lease to the State of Louisiana for the use of Federal sand. The EIS will consider all reasonable restoration methods, the environmental consequences resulting from such methods, any alternatives to using material from the Ship Shoal area, and possible mitigation measures or stipulations which could be applied on the OCS or in the renourishment areas to ensure that a balance between orderly resource development and protection of

the human, marine, and coastal environments is maintained. Alternatives not recommended in the feasibility study, but identified by various involved parties during the EIS process, may also be included for analysis. Various aspects related to the EIS cannot be definitively determined until a scoping meeting, required under 40 CFR 1501.7, is conducted in the State of Louisiana.

Scoping Process: This notice constitutes the beginning of the public scoping process. Interested individuals, organizations, and other agencies are encouraged to provide written comments within 45 calendar days of this notice to the address below. Respondents should mark their submittal "Comments Regarding Preparation of a Louisiana Barrier Island Restoration EIS." The MMS will review all comments received for the purpose of determining the scope of the EIS.

As of the writing of this notice, a public scoping meeting was scheduled to be held May 14, 1996, beginning at 7:00 P.M., at the Municipal Auditorium in Houma, Louisiana. Written notice providing final details on the location, date, and times of this meeting will be published in local and regional newspapers, as appropriate. Persons interested in attending the scoping meeting may also call the number below for exact details and final arrangements.

Comments and Questions: Please direct written comments and written or verbal questions on the proposed action and EIS to Mr. Barry S. Drucker, Project Coordinator, U. S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4030, Herndon, Virginia, 22070. Phone: (703-787-1300), Fax: (703-787-1284).

Dated: April 22, 1996.

Cynthia Quarterman,

Director, Minerals Management Service.

[FR Doc. 96-10595 Filed 4-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Policy Committee of the Minerals Management Advisory Board; Notice and Agenda for Meeting

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

SUMMARY: The OCS Policy Committee of the Minerals Management Advisory Board will meet at the McLean Hilton in McLean, Virginia on May 21-22, 1996.

The agenda will cover the following principal subjects:

- 5-Year Proposed Program
- National Resource Assessment
- Marine Minerals Panel

- Can the Gulf of Mexico Remain the Backbone of the U.S. Natural Gas Deliverability?
- Advances in Technology on the OCS
- Alaska Regional Stakeholders Task Force Report
- G&G Data Preservation and its Application to Policy

The meeting is open to the public. Upon request, interested parties may make oral or written presentations to the OCS Policy Committee. Such requests should be made no later than May 10, 1996, to the Office of Advisory Board Support, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, MS-4110, Herndon, Virginia, 22070, Attention: Terry Holman.

Requests to make oral statements should be accompanied by a summary of the statement to be made. For more information, call Terry Holman at (703) 787-1211.

Minutes of the OCS Policy Committee meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at the Minerals Management Service in Herndon, Virginia.

DATES: Tuesday, May 21 and Wednesday, May 22, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The McLean Hilton at Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102; (703) 847-5000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Holman at the address and phone number listed above.

Authority: Federal Advisory Committee Act, P.L. No. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 1, and the Office of Management and Budget's Circular No. A-63, Revised.

Thomas Gernhofer,

Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

Dated: April 19, 1996.

[FR Doc. 96-10572 Filed 4-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

Niobrara National Scenic River Advisory Commission

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets the schedule for the forthcoming meeting of the Niobrara Advisory Commission. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463).

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, May 8, 1996; 1:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: American Legion Hall, Bassett, Nebraska.

The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may make oral/

written presentation to the Commission or file written statements. Requests for time for making presentations may be made to the Superintendent prior to the meeting or to the Chairman at the beginning of the meeting. In order to accomplish the agenda for the meeting, the Chairman may want to limit or schedule public presentations.

The meeting will be recorded for documentation and a summary in the form of minutes will be transcribed for dissemination. Minutes of the meeting will be made available to the public after approval by the Commission members. Copies of the minutes may be requested by contacting the Superintendent. An audio tape of the meeting will be available at the headquarters office of the Niobrara/Missouri National Scenic Riverways in O'Neill, Nebraska.

Agenda Topics Include

1. Final review of the Niobrara National Scenic River draft general management plan and environmental impact statement.

2. Review of written comments submitted during the public review period for the draft plan.

3. Discussion and preparation of advisory commission comments to be included with the plan when it is submitted for final selection of the management alternative.

4. The opportunity for public comment and proposed agenda, date, and time, of the next advisory group meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Commission was established by the law that established the Niobrara National Scenic River, Public Law 102-50. The purpose of the group, according to its charter, is to advise the Secretary of the Interior on matters pertaining to the development of a management plan and management and operation of the Scenic River. The Niobrara National Scenic River includes the 40-mile segment from Borman Bridge southeast of Valentine, Nebraska to its confluence with Chimney Creek; and the 30-mile segment from the confluence with Rock Creek downstream to State Highway 137.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Warren Hill, Superintendent, Niobrara/Missouri National Scenic Riverways, P.O. Box 591, O'Neill, Nebraska 68763-0591 or telephone 402-336-3970.

Dated: April 6, 1996.

David N. Given,

Acting Field Director, Midwest Field Area.

[FR Doc. 96-10612 Filed 4-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M