

forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Applicant: George Kalb, Las Vegas, NV, PRT-837107.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Southern Beaufort Sea polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Applicant: Dwight Davis, Houston, TX, PRT-837238.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted prior to April 30, 1994 from the Davis Strait polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Written data or comments, requests for copies of any of these complete applications, or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received on or before January 12, 1998. Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Documents and other information submitted with the application 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 the above address within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: December 5, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 97-32403 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On September 17, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 180, Page 48880, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Daniel Currier, Fargo, ND for a permit (PRT-834123) to import a sport-hunted polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy, taken from the McClintock Channel population,

Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on November 13, 1997, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Rm 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: December 5, 1997.

MaryEllen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 97-32404 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: Fort Belknap Irrigation Project, Montana

ACTION: Notice of proposed irrigation Operation and Maintenance (O&M) rate adjustment.

SUMMARY: On October 2, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 62, Number 191, Page 51680 (62 FR 51680), by the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposing to change the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the Fort Belknap Irrigation Project for 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and subsequent years. See 62 FR 51680 for additional information concerning the proposed rate change. The notice of proposed rate adjustment provided a 30-day period for public comment. At the written request of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, Community Council, a second public comment period is being provided.

DATES: Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed rate adjustment. Comments must be submitted on or before January 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the proposed rate change must be in writing and addressed to: Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, Attn.: Irrigation and Power, MS-4513-MIB, Code 210, 1849 "C" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, Telephone (202) 208-5480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 14, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to Part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A, and memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from the Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to the Assistant Secretaries and heads of bureaus and offices.

Dated: December 3, 1997.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-32396 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Operation and Maintenance Rate Adjustment: Fort Hall Irrigation Project; Idaho

ACTION: Notice of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) rate adjustment.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is adjusting the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the Fort Hall Irrigation Project, Michaud Unit, for 1998, 1999, and subsequent years. The following table illustrates the impact of the rate adjustment.

Fort Hall Irrigation Project

Michaud Unit Irrigation Rate Per Assessable Acre

Rate category	Present rate	1998 rate	1999 rate
Basic rate	\$25.50	\$26.50	\$27.50
Pressure rate	37.50	38.50	39.50

COMMENTS: On August 25, 1997, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 62, Number 164, Page 44992, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposing to adjust the assessment rates for operating and maintaining the Fort Hall Irrigation Project, Michaud Unit, for 1998, 1999 and subsequent years. A 30-day public comment period was provided for the proposed irrigation rate adjustment. No comments were received.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland Area Office, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4169, telephone (503) 231-6702.

DATES: The new irrigation assessment rates will become effective upon publication of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 15, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with § 171.1(e) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for the fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information for BIA operated and owned irrigation projects.

The purpose of this notice is to announce an adjustment in the Michaud Unit, Fort Hall Irrigation Project, assessment rates proportionate with actual operation and maintenance costs. The change in the assessment rate is based on the electrical energy cost increase imposed by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). In September 1996 the BOR notified us they are increasing the electrical energy charge for its users. The rate was set at 12.70 mills per kilowatt hour, an increase of 19.5%. The increased electrical energy cost was absorbed by the project during the 1997 irrigation season.

The assessment rates are based on an estimate of the cost of normal operation and maintenance of the irrigation project. Normal operation and maintenance means the expenses we incur to provide direct support or benefit to the project's activities for administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation. We must include at least:

(a) Personnel salary and benefits for the project engineer/manager and our employees under his/her management control;

(b) Materials and supplies;

(c) Major and minor vehicle and equipment repairs;

(d) Equipment, including transportation, fuel, oil, grease, lease and replacement;

(e) Capitalization expenses;

(f) Acquisition expenses, and

(g) Other expenses we determine necessary to properly perform the activities and functions characteristic of an irrigation project.

Payments

The irrigation operation and maintenance assessments become due based on locally established payment

requirements. No water shall be delivered to any of these lands until all irrigation charges have been paid.

Interest and Penalty Fees

Interest, penalty, and administrative fees will be assessed, where required by law, on all delinquent operation and maintenance assessment charges as prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 4, part 102, Federal Claims Collection Standards; and 42 BIAM Supplement 3, part 3.8 Debt Collection Procedures. Beginning 30-days after the due date interest will be assessed at the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury. An administrative fee of \$12.50 will be assessed each time an effort is made to collect a delinquent debt; a penalty charge of 6 percent per year will be charged on delinquent debts over 90-days old and will accrue from the date the debt became delinquent. After 180-days, a delinquent debt will be forwarded to the United States Treasury for further action in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-134).

Dated: December 3, 1997.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-32397 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Alaska

[AK-962-1410-00-P; AA-9314]

Notice for Publication; Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Section 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 12.9 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 4 S., R. 97 W.,

Sec. 6.

T. 4 S., R. 98 W.,

Sec. 1.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land

Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 (907) 271-5960.

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until January 12, 1998 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 97-32402 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-930-1430-01; COC-12610]

Public Land Order No. 7302; Withdrawal of Public Lands for Addition to the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge; Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order withdraws from surface entry and mining 1,720 acres of public lands and transfers administrative jurisdiction to the Fish and Wildlife Service for a 50-year period. This action will allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to administer the lands as a part of the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge. The lands have been and remain open to mineral leasing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 11, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doris E. Chelius, BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7076, 303-239-3706.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public lands are hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)),