

Agreement and Consent Decree entered into by the United States of America and the State of Alaska on August 27, 1991, and approved by the United States District Court for the District of Alaska in settlement of *United States of America v. State of Alaska*, Civil Action No. A91-081 CV. The agenda for the public hearing is the proposed Fiscal Year 2001 Work Plan for the restoration of resources and services injured by the T/V Exxon Valdez oil spill of 1989. The public meeting agenda will feature a discussion of the Work Plan, as well as the status of habitat protection measures in the spill impact area, and plans for the long-term Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring Program.

Willie R. Taylor,

Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 00-14920 Filed 6-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-RG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

North American Wetlands Conservation Act: Request for Small Grants Proposals for Year 2001

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council), are currently entertaining proposals that request match funding for wetland and wetland-associated upland conservation projects under the Small Grants program. Projects must meet the purposes of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, as amended. We will give funding priority to projects from new grant applicants with new partners, where the project ensures long-term conservation benefits. However, previous Act grantees are eligible to receive funding and can compete successfully on the basis of strong project resource values.

DATES: Proposals must bear postmarks no later than Friday, December 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Address proposals to: North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 110, Arlington, Virginia 22203, Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Keith A. Morehouse, Small Grants Coordinator, or Ms. Heather Poindexter,

Office Secretary, North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, 703.358.1784; facsimile 703.358.2282.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The purpose of the 1989 North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 4401 *et seq.*) is, through partnerships, to promote long-term conservation of North American wetland ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend upon such habitats. Principal conservation actions supported by NAWCA are acquisition, enhancement and restoration of wetlands and wetlands-associated uplands habitat.

Initiated in 1996, the underlying objective of the Small Grants program is to promote long-term wetlands conservation activities through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who may not otherwise be able to compete in the regular grants program. We also hope that successful participants in the Small Grants program will be encouraged to participate in the NAWCA-based Standard Grants program. Over the first five years of the program, about 386 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$12.6 million competed for funding. Ultimately, 77 projects were funded over this period. For 2001, with the approval of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, we have again made the Small Grants program operational at a base level of \$1.0 million. Up to \$1.0 million in quality Small Grants projects may be funded.

To be considered for funding in the 2001 cycle, proposals must have a grant request no greater than \$50,000. We will accept all wetland conservation proposals that meet the requirements of the Act. However, considering appropriate proposal resource values, we will give funding priority to projects from new grant applicants (individuals or organizations who have never received a NAWCA grant) with new partners, where the project ensures long-term conservation benefits. This priority system does not preclude former NAWCA grant recipients from receiving Small Grants funding; ultimately, project resource value is the critical factor in deciding which projects receive funding. Too, projects are likely to receive a greater level of attention if they are part of a broader related or unrelated effort to bring or restore wetland or wetland-associated upland conservation values to a particular area or region.

In addition, proposals must represent on-the-ground projects, and any overhead in the project budget must

constitute 10 percent or less of the grant amount. The anticipated magnitude of wetlands and wildlife resources benefits that will result from project execution is an important factor in proposal evaluation, and there should be a reasonable balance between acreages of wetlands and wetland-associated uplands. Mitigation-related projects may be precluded from consideration, depending upon the nature of the mitigation application.

Please keep in mind that NAWCA and matching funds may be applied only to wetlands acquisition, creation, enhancement, and/or restoration; they may not be applied to signage, displays, trails or other educational features, materials and equipment, even though the goal of the project may ultimately be to support wetland conservation education curricula. Projects oriented toward education are not ordinarily eligible for NAWCA funding because education is not a primary purpose of the Act. However, useful project outcomes can include educational benefits resulting from conservation actions. Research is also not a primary purpose of the Act, and research proposals are not considered for funding.

Even though we require less total information for Small Grants than we do for the Standard Grants program, Small Grant proposals must have clear explanations and meet the basic purposes given above and the 1:1 or greater non-Federal matching requirements of the NAWCA. Small Grants projects must also be consistent with Council-established guidelines, objectives and policies. All non-Federal matching funds and proposed expenditures of grant funds must be consistent with Appendix A of the Small Grants instructions, "Eligibility Requirements for Match of NAWCA Grant and Non-Federal Funds." Applicants must submit a completed Standard Form 424, Application For Federal Assistance. Small Grants instructional booklets contain forms and instructions for the Standard Form 424; booklets are available at the address provided under **ADDRESSES**.

Small Grants proposals may be submitted prior to the due date but must bear postmarks no later than Friday, December 1, 2000. Address submitted proposals as follows: North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 110, Arlington, VA 22203, Attn: Small Grants Coordinator.

Applicants must submit *complete* grant request packages to the North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office (NAWWO), including *all* of the

documentation of partners (partner letters) with funding pledge amounts. Information on funding in partner letters, i.e., amounts and description regarding use, must correspond with budget amounts in the budget table and any figures provided in the narrative.

With the volume of proposals received, we are not usually able to contact proposal sources to verify and/or request supplemental data and/or materials. Thus, those proposals lacking required information or containing conflicting information are subject to being declared ineligible and not further considered for funding.

For more information, and/or to request the Small Grants instructional booklet, call the NAWWO office secretary at 703.358.1784, facsimile 703.358.2282, or send E-mail to R9ARW_NAWWO@FWS.GOV. Small Grant application instructions may be available by E-mail as a WordPerfect® file, upon request.

In conclusion, we require that, upon arrival in the NAWWO, proposal packages must be complete with regard to the information requested, in the format requested, and on time.

The Service has submitted information collection requirements to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. On May 26, 1999, OMB gave its approval for this information collection and confirmed the approval number as 1018-0100. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The information collection solicited: is necessary to gain a benefit in the form of a grant, as determined by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council and the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission; is necessary to determine the eligibility and relative value of wetland projects; results in an approximate paperwork burden of 80 hours per application; and does not carry a premise of confidentiality. The information collections in this program will not be part of a system of records covered by the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)).

Dated: April 12, 2000.

Paul R. Schmidt,

*Assistant Director—Refuges and Wildlife,
Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-15010 Filed 6-13-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

A request revising and extending the collection of information listed below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the USGS Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 60 days directly to the USGS Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, Reston, VA 20192.

As required by OMB regulations at CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the USGS, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the USGS estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The utility, quality, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Production Estimate, Construction Sand and Gravel and Crushed and Broken Stone.

Current OMB approval number: 1028-0065.

Abstract: This collection is needed to provide data on mineral production for annual reports published by commodity for use by Government agencies, industry, education programs, and the general public. One publication is the "Mineral Commodity Summaries," the first preliminary publication to furnish estimates covering the previous year's nonfuel mineral industry.

Bureau form numbers: 9-4042-A and 9-4124-A.

Frequency: Quarterly and Annually.

Description of respondents: Producers of industrial minerals and metals.

Annual Responses: 3,450.

Annual burden hours: 742.

Bureau clearance officer: John Cordyack, 703-648-7313.

John H. DeYoung, Jr.,

Chief Scientist, Minerals Information Team.

[FR Doc. 00-14997 Filed 6-13-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-00-1020-24]

Sierra Front/Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council; Notice of Cancellation of Scheduled Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Cancellation of Scheduled Meeting for the Sierra Front/Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council, Nevada.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), notice is hereby given of cancellation of a previously scheduled June 14, 2000, meeting of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Sierra Front/Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC), Nevada. The topic of discussion was to be a review of the Black Rock Management Plan being prepared by the Winnemucca Field Office; the meeting will be rescheduled at a future date.

DATE AND TIME: The council was scheduled to meet on Wednesday, June 14, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Best Western Inn-Fernley, 1405 East Newlands Drive, Fernley, Nevada. The meeting has been cancelled due to BLM staffing changes and associated time delays related to completing the Black Rock Management Plan. A review of the plan will be rescheduled at a future RAC meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Holbert, Associate Field Manager, Winnemucca Field Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445. Telephone (775) 623-1500.

Dated: June 5, 2000.

Mark Struble,

*Public Affairs Officer/RAC Coordinator,
Carson City Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 00-14998 Filed 6-13-00; 8:45 am]

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