

State and local capacity to perform the core public health function of assessment and use of data for policy development and assurance; (8) responsible for management and technical assistance of the Assessment Initiative Cooperative Agreement; (9) provides program support for the development and administration of a CDC training effort in public health informatics; (10) designs curriculum and experiences for the CDC Public Health Informatics Fellowship; and (11) recruits candidates and provides supervision and oversight for the CDC Public Health Informatics Fellows.

Information Technology Branch (CB57). (1) Coordinates, designs, develops, implements, and supports CDC-wide public health, epidemiologic, scientific, and laboratory information systems, including database, informational, and communications applications, in collaboration with other CDC organizations with subject matter expertise and responsibility; (2) collaborates with CDC organizations to jointly develop, test, and implement CDC-wide public health information systems; (3) participates in the development or implementation of CDC plans for public health information systems; (4) researches and develops new and innovative approaches to public health applications development and database design; (5) determines appropriate technology architecture and methodology for Branch-developed systems; (6) maintains inventories and data dictionaries of CDC's public health data; (7) develops and recommends approaches for public health systems and interfaces between various information technologies for sharing data and performing cooperative applications processing; (8) determines, in consultation with CDC organizations and the CDC Systems Security Officer, applicable database and applications security measures in accordance with sensitivity and criticality of the data or system; (9) directly, as well as in collaboration with other CIOs, evaluates and recommends CDC-wide equipment and software acquisition for public health database and communications systems; (10) coordinates the provision of technical support and training in the use of CDC-wide public health information systems purchased or developed by the Branch; and (11) coordinates public health information resource management user groups.

Delete in their entirety the title and functional statement for the *Systems Operation and Information Branch (CB59)* and insert the following:

Surveillance Systems Branch (CB5A).

(1) Provides support, technical

assistance, and training for new, developmental systems and software for use in surveillance and epidemiology; (2) directly, as well as in collaboration with other CIOs, provides support, technical assistance, consultation, and training on computerized surveillance system development, maintenance, and operation for CDC, States, and international organizations; (3) provides service and support in the expansion of the NETSS; (4) plans and coordinates State-supported activities related to the NETSS; (5) analyzes needs and designs computer systems for use by public health professionals in the effective practice of public health surveillance and epidemiology; (6) assures user support for programs developed and released by the Division; (7) operates and maintains the NETSS, the NNDSS, and the 121 Cities Mortality Reporting System; (8) provides service and support to other CDC programs and State and local health departments to enable program-specific surveillance information to be collected and disseminated through the NETSS; (9) provides support, technical assistance, consultation, and training on surveillance system development, maintenance, and operation for CDC, States, and international organizations; (10) provides leadership and direction in the development of mainframe systems for use in surveillance and epidemiology, directly, as well as in collaboration with other CIOs; (11) plans, coordinates, and produces tables, graphs, maps, and figures for the Annual MMWR Summary of Notifiable Diseases, U.S.; (12) produces MMWR tables from NNDSS; (13) plans, coordinates and develops training and educational materials for all surveillance systems; (14) provides guidance in the development, implementation, and analysis of electronic public health data to international, State, and local groups; and (15) creates, maintains, disseminates, and archives historical public health data in an electronic format.

Dated: April 1, 1999.

Jeffrey P. Koplan,

Director.

[FR Doc. 99-9043 Filed 4-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-18-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of Giant Panda Research Reports

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of the availability of the Zoological Society of San Diego's Giant Panda Research Reports.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability of the Zoological Society of San Diego's (ZSSD) giant panda research reports. The Service issued a permit in 1995 to the ZSSD to import two giant pandas for scientific research. The ZSSD imported the pandas in September 1996. Their research is focused on investigations of the communication system of giant pandas, particularly olfaction. The ZSSD is required to submit an annual report summarizing their research results for each year. The Service is making the reports received to date available to help educate the public and to promote cooperation/collaboration in giant panda conservation efforts.

DATES: The Service will accept requests to obtain a copy of the research reports for 60 days after April 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send your requests to obtain a copy of the research reports to the Chief, Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. You may also send your request by fax at 703-358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Teiko Saito, Chief, Office of Management Authority, telephone (703) 358-2093 or fax (703) 358-2280, (see **ADDRESSES** section).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The giant panda is subject to strict protection by its listing as an endangered species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) and its inclusion in Appendix-I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The Service is responsible for protecting pandas by regulating certain activities, including whether to grant permits to allow their movement into and within the United States. In making these decisions under the ESA, the Service must determine whether the proposed activity is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the giant panda and would be for scientific research that promotes conservation of the species or enhancement of propagation or survival. Under CITES, the Service must determine if the activity would be for

purposes that are not detrimental to the survival of the species and that are not primarily commercial.

The ZSSD applied for and was granted a permit in 1995 to import two giant pandas for scientific research. They imported the pandas in September 1996. Conditions of the permit require the ZSSD to submit an annual report summarizing the research they conducted for that year. The ZSSD's research is primarily focused on investigating the communication system of giant pandas, particularly the olfactory modality. Their investigations on captive pandas can have implications for management of pandas in the wild. Olfactory signaling plays a key role in mate location, maintaining community social structure and spatial regulation. The ZSSD's panda research has four basic goals: (1) to develop new methodologies for assessing population trends and habitat use in China's spatially restricted reserves; (2) to increase the understanding of physiology, behavior, and reproductive biology, in particular those aspects that would assist in the management of the wild population; (3) to contribute to a more viable collaborative structure for international research efforts in all spheres where giant pandas are found; and (4) to contribute to the process of educating governments, conservation NGOs and the general public on the giant panda's attributes and vulnerability to extinction.

The ZSSD is addressing these goals through a series of studies that have specific aims. The reports reflect the progress that the ZSSD has made toward these goals.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

Teiko Saito,

Chief, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 99-9028 Filed 4-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-065-1220-00]

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Upper Columbia-Salmon Clearwater Districts, Idaho.

ACTION: Notice of Closure and Restriction Order for BLM Lands in Fiddle Creek Area, Order No. ID-060-14.

SUMMARY: By order, the following closures and restrictions apply to the area known as "Fiddle Creek," described as all public land administered by the Bureau of Land

Management in T.25N., R.1E., sections 22, 23, and 27, Idaho County, Idaho.

(1) Camping is prohibited.

(2) The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited.

For the purpose of this closure, camping is defined as erecting a tent or shelter, preparing a sleeping bag or other bedding material for use, parking a motor vehicle, motor home or trailer for the apparent purpose of overnight occupancy.

The authority for establishing these closures and restrictions is Title 43, CFR, Section 8364.1.

The closures and restrictions are in effect from April 15, 1999 through April 20, 1999.

The closures and restrictions do not apply to:

(1) Any Federal, State, or local law enforcement, rescue or fighting force while in the performance of an official duty.

(2) Any Bureau of Land Management employee, agent, or contractor while in the performance of an official duty.

The closures and restrictions are necessary to protect persons, property, public lands and resources. Persons abusing alcohol cause a public disturbance, particularly at night, and create a risk to other persons on public lands.

Violation of this order is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Yuncevich, Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Cottonwood Field Office, Route 3, Box 181, Cottonwood, ID 83522.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Fritz U. Rennebaum,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-8956 Filed 4-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-070-99-1030-00]

Notice of Realty Action: Lease

AGENCY: Butte Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action, proposal to lease Public Land in Lewis & Clark County, Montana.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management proposes to issue a non-competitive lease on the following described public land to resolve an unintentional occupancy trespass:

Principal Meridian, Montana

T. 12 N., R. 6 W., Sec. 36, a Metes and Bounds tract within Lot 35; comprising 0.90 acres.

The public land is located near Marysville, Montana approximately 20 miles northwest of Helena, Montana.

The lease would be issued under Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976: 43 U.S.C. 1732, and subsequent regulations found at 43 CFR Part 2920. The lease would be issued for a term of 30 years with the right of renewal. Fair market rental will be collected on 5 year intervals subject to reappraisal at the beginning of each period. A final determination on the lease of the public land will be made after completion of the environmental assessment.

DATES: For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested parties may submit comments to the Butte Field Manager, P.O. Box 3388, Butte, Montana 59702.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Beals, Realty Specialist, P.O. Box 3088, Butte, Montana 59702; telephone 406-494-5059.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

Merle Good,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-9032 Filed 4-9-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV030-5700-77; N-49077]

Notice of Realty Action: Amendment to Airport Lease; Lyon County, Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management has received a request to amend an airport lease for the Tiger Field Airport (BLM Public Airport Lease N-49077) pursuant to the Act of May 24, 1928 (49 U.S.C. 211-214) to extend the lease term for a 10-year period (October 19, 1999 through October 18, 2009), to partially assign the lease so that it is held by Sheri Hill and Toybox Enterprises, Inc. and to add 84.68 acres to the lease. The amended lease area would include the following described lands:

All that certain land situated in a portion of section 36, Township 20 North, Range 24 East, Mount Diablo Meridian, Lyon County, Nevada; beginning at the south 1/4 corner of section 36, thence from said point of