Consistent with the Safe Harbor Agreement policy and implementing regulations, we propose to issue a permit to the Applicant authorizing them to incidentally take these endangered and threatened species, which occur on the enrolled lands, as a result of lawful activities on enrolled lands, so long as baseline conditions are maintained and terms of the Agreement are implemented. Future activities of the Applicant could result in a return to the baseline condition.

We provide this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and pursuant to implementing regulations for NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6). We will evaluate the proposed SHA, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the requirements of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act and NEPA regulations have been met. If we determine that the requirements have been met, we will sign the SHA and issue an enhancement of survival permit under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act to Santa Ana Pueblo in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and specific terms and conditions of the authorizing permit. We will not make our final decision until after the end of the 30-day comment period and will fully consider all comments received.

Susan MacMullin,
Acting Regional Director, Region 2.
[FR Doc. 03–9979 Filed 4–22–03; 8:45 am] 
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Public Meeting on the Harvest and Export of American Ginseng

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the time and place for a public meeting on American ginseng (Panax quinquefolius). In preparation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s current and future finding for the export of American ginseng, we are particularly interested in obtaining any current information on the status of American ginseng in the wild. We will discuss the Federal regulatory framework for the export of American ginseng and how these regulations control the international trade of this plant. We will also discuss the different CITES definitions as they are applied to American ginseng grown under different production systems and how these systems affect the export of ginseng roots.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on May 21, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Lexington, Kentucky.

ADDRESSES:

Public Meeting

The public meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn North, 1950 Newton Pike, Lexington, Kentucky. Directions to the meeting location can be obtained by contacting the Division of Scientific Authority or the Division of Management Authority (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, below) or by visiting our World Wide Web site: http://international.fws.gov/animals/ginindx.html. Please note that the location is accessible to the handicapped. All persons planning to attend the meeting will be required to present photo identification when entering the building. Persons planning to attend the meeting who require interpretation for the hearing impaired must notify the Division of Scientific Authority as soon as possible (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, below).

Available Information

Information from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s American ginseng workshop, held in St. Louis, Missouri, February 19–21, 2003, is available upon request from the Division of Scientific Authority or the Division of Management Authority (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, below), a copy of the workshop report will be available from our World Wide Web site http://international.fws.gov/animals/ginindx/. The purpose of the workshop was to meet with representatives of State and Federal agencies, as well as to recount the results of new research by academics, on the status and management of American ginseng and the CITES export program for the species. We worked cooperatively with representatives of these State and Federal agencies to develop recommendations to improve the management and the CITES export program of this plant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert R. Gabel, Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 750, Arlington, VA 22203; e-mail at scientificauthority@fws.gov; fax: 703–358–2276; or Dr. Peter O. Thomas, Chief, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, VA 22203; e-mail at: managementauthority@fws.gov; fax: 703–358–2298.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES or Convention) is an international treaty designed to control and regulate international trade in certain animal and plant species that are now or potentially may be threatened with extinction by international trade. These species are listed in Appendices to CITES, copies of which are available from the Division of Scientific Authority or the Division of Management Authority at the above addresses, from our World Wide Web site http://international.fws.gov, or from the official CITES Secretariat World Wide Web site: http://www.cites.org/. Currently, 161 countries, including the United States, are Parties to CITES. American ginseng (Panax quinquefolius) was listed in appendix II of CITES on July 1, 1975. The Division of Scientific Authority and the Division of Management Authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulate the export of American ginseng, including whole plants, whole roots, and root parts. To meet CITES requirements for export of American ginseng from the United States, the Division of Scientific Authority must determine that the export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species, and the Division of Management Authority must be satisfied that the American ginseng roots to be exported were legally acquired.

Since the inclusion of American ginseng in CITES appendix II, the Divisions of Scientific Authority and Management Authority have issued findings on a State-by-State basis. To determine whether or not to approve exports of American ginseng, the Division of Scientific Authority has annually reviewed available information from various sources (other Federal agencies, State regulatory agencies, industry and associations, nongovernmental organizations, and academic researchers) on the biology and trade status of the species. After a thorough review, the Division of Scientific Authority makes a non-detriment finding and the Division of Management Authority makes a legal acquisition finding on the export of American ginseng to be harvested during the year in question. As of 1999, the Division of Scientific Authority has included in its non-detriment findings for the export of wild (including wild-simulated) American ginseng roots an age-based restriction (i.e., plants must be at least 5 years old).
States with harvest programs for wild and/or cultivated American ginseng include: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

During the week of February 17, 2003, the Divisions of Scientific Authority and Management Authority hosted an American ginseng workshop in St. Louis, Missouri, with representatives of State and Federal agencies that regulate the plant to discuss the status and management of American ginseng and the CITES export program for the species. The workshop provided an important opportunity for representatives of the States and Federal agencies to work cooperatively to develop recommendations to improve the management and the CITES export program of this plant. In anticipation of this year’s and future findings, we are now seeking public input on the wild status, production, and export of American ginseng. In particular, we are most interested in any new information on wild ginseng, and the production and export of wild-simulated and woods-grown American ginseng.

Author

The primary author of this notice is Patricia Ford, the Division of Scientific Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dated: March 27, 2003.

Marshall P. Jones Jr.,
Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 03–9987 Filed 4–22–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Submission to OMB for Approval of Tribal Self-Governance Program Information Collection

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is submitting a request for an extension of an information collection from potential Self-Governance Tribes, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The information collected under OMB Clearance Number 1076–0143 will be used to establish requirements for entry into the pool of qualified applicants for self-governance, to provide information for awarding planning and negotiation grants, and to meet reporting requirements of the Self-Governance Act.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 23, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be sent to: The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503. A copy should be sent to William Sinclair, Office of Self-Governance, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 2548 MIB, Washington, DC 20240.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Register notice of proposed information collection activities was published in the Federal Register on November 27, 2002 (67 FR 70964). No comments were received. You are advised that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB clearance number. For the Self-Governance collection of information, the response is voluntary, to obtain or retain a benefit, depending upon the parts of the program being addressed.

The Self-Governance program was authorized by the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994, Public Law 103–413, as amended. Tribes interested in entering into Self-Governance must submit certain information as required by Public Law 103–413, as amended, to support their admission into Self-Governance. In addition, those tribes and tribal consortia who have entered into self-governance compacts will be requested to submit certain information as described in the negotiated rules published in final form on December 15, 2000 (65 FR 78688). This information will be used to justify a budget request submission on their behalf and to comport with section 405 of the Act that calls for the Secretary to submit an annual report to the Congress. You may submit comments about the collection to evaluate the following:

(a) The accuracy of the burden hours, including the validity of the methodology used and assumptions made;

(b) The necessity of the information for proper performance of the bureau functions, including its practical utility;

(c) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Suggestions to reduce the burden including use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please submit your comments to the persons listed in the ADDRESSES section. Please note that comments, names and addresses of commentators, will be available for public review during regular business hours. If you wish your name and address withheld from the public, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law.

OMB is required to make a decision concerning this information collection request between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the Federal Register. Therefore, a comment will receive the best consideration by OMB if it is submitted early during this comment period.

Type of review: Renewal.

Title: Tribal Self-Governance Program—25 CFR 1000.

OMB Control No.: 1076–0143.

Affected Entities: Tribes and tribal consortia wishing to enter into a self-governance compact.

Size of Respondent Pool: 95.

Number of Annual Responses: 213.

Average Hours per Response: 48 hours.

Yearly Hour Burden: 10,498 hours.

Annual Non-Hourly Burden Cost: $16,000.


Aurene M. Martin,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 03–10071 Filed 4–22–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–W8–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Public Meeting: Resource Advisory Council to the Lower Snake River District


ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lower Snake River District Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held May 21, 2003 at the Marsing Community