



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Alaska Regional Office

2525 Gambell Street, Room 107

Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2892

SEP 26 1994

L76(ARO-REQ)

Memorandum

To: Superintendents and Division Chiefs, Alaska Region

From: Regional Director

Subject: NPS Wetlands Compliance Approval Delegated to Regional Director

The Washington Office recently delegated the responsibility for implementing Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, to the Regional Director. The enclosed memorandum from the Director outlines the new NPS review and approval procedure. The main change is that final signature approval of wetlands Statements of Findings is now made by the Regional Director rather than the NPS Director. This is the same approval level as for floodplains Statements of Findings. For easy future reference we recommend that the enclosed memo be filed in Chapter IX of your NEPA Handbook.

The Director also highlighted the NPS policy of no net loss of wetlands. When considering projects that may impact wetlands, please bear in mind that NPS policy requires at a minimum acre-for-acre compensation of wetlands. The cost of wetlands restoration is usually borne by the project account.

Copies of the referenced report, "Protecting America's Wetlands," were previously sent to all parks. Additional copies may be obtained from Larry Wright at the Division of Environmental Quality (257-2647). Questions regarding this revised procedure should be directed to Joan Darnell, Chief of Environmental Quality, at 257-2648.

Paul R. Anderson

for Robert D. Barbee

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. Box 37127

Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:
N16(001)

Memorandum

AUG 15 1994

To: Regional Directors

From: *John Reynolds*
Director

Subject: NPS Wetlands Guideline Compliance Procedures:
Authorization of Regional Directors to Approve
Statements of Finding

National Park Service (NPS) procedures for implementing Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) are found in the NPS Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection Guidelines. While implementation of these guidelines has clearly enhanced wetlands protection throughout the NPS, the approval signature procedures appear to be causing unnecessary delay and confusion in the compliance process. At the suggestion of the Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, I am implementing a change in these guidelines that will streamline the compliance process without diminishing its effectiveness.

Under current procedures, the Regional Director forwards the NEPA documents, with the required wetlands Statement of Findings (SOF) attached, to the Director's Office with a recommendation for the Director's approval signature. These documents are routed to the Water Resources Division Chief to obtain concurrence that the information detailed in the documents is consistent with NPS wetlands guidance. Once this concurrence is obtained, the Director approves the SOF and the documents are returned to the Region.

Effective immediately, the procedures for proposed actions requiring a wetlands SOF will be as follows. Final approval of the NEPA documents, including the required SOF, is made by the Regional Director rather than the NPS Director. Prior to Regional Director approval of these documents, the SOF must be reviewed and signed by the following parties:

1. Water Resources Division: Conducts wetlands technical and policy review. WRD Chief's signature on the SOF indicates concurrence that the intent of the Executive Order and NPS wetlands guidance has been achieved.
2. Regional Compliance Chief: Reviews and provides concurring signature to ensure compliance with all pertinent laws, regulations, and guidelines.

I also want to address NPS policy regarding "no net loss" of wetlands on federal lands as it relates to the wetlands compliance process. In "Protecting America's Wetlands" (White House Office on Environmental Policy, August 24, 1993), the Clinton Administration committed to an interim "no net loss" of wetlands goal and a long-term goal of increasing the quality and quantity of the Nation's wetlands. As such, NPS will continue policies currently in place that require, as a minimum, acre-for-acre compensation (i.e., restoration of impacted wetlands) for actions which result in wetland degradation or loss. Specific plans for wetlands compensation must be outlined in the required SOFs.

Finally, I am directing the Chief of the Water Resources Division to incorporate these procedural changes into the NPS wetlands guidelines at the next revision. This revision is being delayed until President Clinton signs the revised Executive Order on Wetlands Protection outlined in "Protecting America's Wetlands." This Executive Order is expected to be signed by President Clinton in the near future.

cc: Charlie Clapper, Denver Service Center
Team Managers, Denver Service Center
Regional Planning and Compliance Chiefs
Regional Water Resource Program Managers

such investigations as are necessary to determine the existing and potential demand for the land and its resources. A report will be prepared for consideration by the Secretary of the Interior, the President, and Congress, who will determine whether or not the withdrawal will be continued and if so, for how long. The final determination on the continuation of the withdrawal will be published in the *Federal Register*. The existing withdrawal will continue until such final determination is made.

Dated: August 16, 1993.

Kathy Eaton,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 93-20641 Filed 8-25-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

Fish and Wildlife Service

Meeting: Klamath Fishery Management Council

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Klamath Fishery Management Council, established under the authority of the Klamath River Basin Fishery Resources Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 460ss *et seq.*). The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The Klamath Fishery Management Council will meet from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon on Monday, September 13, 1993.

PLACE: The meeting will be held at the Red Lion-Columbia River, 1401 North Hayden Island Drive, Portland, Oregon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ronald A. Iverson, Project Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1006, Yreka, California 96097-1006, telephone (916) 842-5763.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For background information on the Management Council, please refer to the notice of their initial meeting that appeared in the *Federal Register* on July 8, 1987 (52 FR 25639). The primary agenda item will be discussion of the Hoopa Valley Indian Tribe's proposal to temporarily raise the escapement floor (above 35,000 natural spawners) for fall chinook. The strategy, known as "deficit accounting" is recommended by the Tribe because of inadequate adult escapement in the Klamath Basin over the past 3 years. The intended action is for the Klamath Fishery Management Council to make a recommendation to

the Pacific Fishery Management Council for the 1994 Ocean Salmon Management season.

Dated: August 17, 1993.

William E. Martin,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 93-20733 Filed 8-25-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-M

Minerals Management Service

Information Collection Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information listed below has been submitted to OMB for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collections of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Officer at the telephone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made directly to the Bureau Clearance Officer and to the Office of Management and Budget; Paperwork Reduction Project (1010-0079); Washington, DC 20503, telephone (202) 395-7340, with copies to John V. Mirabella; Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch; Engineering and Technology Division; Mail Stop 4700; Minerals Management Service; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817.

Title: 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart G,

Abandonment of Wells

OMB approval number: 1010-0079

Abstract: Respondents submit this information to MMS so it can verify that the final disposition of a well is being diligently pursued and that any deviations from the approved plan and the documentation of the temporary plugging of the wellbore and marking of the location have been performed by the lessee operator.

Bureau form number: None

Frequency: Annual

Description of respondents: Federal Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lessees

Estimated completion time: 0.25 hour

Annual responses: 853

Annual burden hours: 213

Bureau Clearance Officer: Arthur Quintana (703) 787-1239

Dated: July 30, 1993.

Henry G. Bartholomew,

Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management.

[FR Doc. 93-20726 Filed 8-25-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

Management and Land Protection Plans

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: With this notice, the National Park Service is notifying the public of the availability of a revised agency guideline for floodplain management.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the revised guideline may be obtained by writing to the Chief, Water Resources Division, National Park Service, 1201 Oak Ridge Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80525.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dan B. Kimball, Chief, Water Resources Division, National Park Service, telephone (303) 225-3501.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 11, 1993, the Director, National Park Service, issued Special Directive 93-4 to establish agency-specific guidance for floodplain management, as required by Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management." This guideline replaces the National Park Service floodplain management guidance published in 45 FR 35916 and 47 FR 36718, "Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection Guidelines."

This guideline does not replace the wetlands protection guidance provided in the earlier guidelines.

The revised floodplain management guideline maintains the National Park Service policy of preserving floodplain values and minimizing potentially hazardous conditions associated with flooding. A revised procedure for implementing the guideline is provided.

Dated: August 16, 1993.

Dennis B. Fenn,

Acting Associate Director, Natural Resources.

[FR Doc. 93-20769 Filed 8-25-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

[Order No. 5, Amendment 8]

Superintendents, et al., Southwest Region; Delegation of Authority

Southwest Region Order No. 5, approved March 22, 1972, and published in the *Federal Register* of April 19, 1972 (34 FR 7722), set forth in Section 2 certain authority. This amendment changes paragraphs (d) and (e) to read as follows:

Section 2. Delegation. * * *

(d) Chief, Division of Land Resources. The Chief, Division of Land Resources is authorized to execute the land acquisition program, including contracting for acquisition of lands and related properties, and acceptance of