

is contained in an Environmental Action Statement which also is available for public review.

DATES: All comments from interested parties must be received on or before February 11, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Please address written comments to Patrick Leonard, Field Supervisor, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room #3-122, Honolulu, HI 96850. You may also send comments by facsimile at (808) 792-9580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Newman, Assistant Field Supervisor (see **ADDRESSES**), telephone (808) 792-9400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

Copies of the draft documents and permit applications are available for public inspection, by appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**). You may also request copies of the documents by contacting the Service's Pacific Island Fish and Wildlife Office (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). We are furnishing this notice to provide the public, other state and Federal agencies, and tribes an opportunity to review and comment on these documents. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Background

A SHA encourages private landowners to conduct voluntary conservation activities and assures them that they will not be subjected to increased listed species restrictions should their beneficial stewardship efforts result in increased numbers of listed species. As long as enrolled landowners maintain agreed-upon baseline responsibilities, they may make any other lawful use of the enrolled property during the permit term, even if such use results in the take of individuals of the Federally listed species named within the permit. Application requirements and issuance criteria for enhancement of survival permits and SHAs are found in 50 CFR 17.22(c). The primary objective of this proposed SHA is to establish a breeding

population of Guam rails on Cocos Island by providing a predator-controlled habitat.

The private lands subject to this proposed SHA and permit consist of 83.1 acres of mixed forest and beach strand habitat on Cocos Island, Guam. Current land use practices include the operation of a day resort for tourists and overnight camping. Habitat conditions vary from manicured lawn surrounding the buildings to mixed native forest with invasive vines. The Guam rail was last observed in the wild on Northern Guam in the mid-1980s; therefore, the baseline for the species is zero, and there are no prohibitions on the use of the property or responsibilities for protecting existing individuals of the Guam rail or its habitat. However, management activities by the Applicants and other cooperators to encourage the establishment and survival of Guam rails on the enrolled lands during the term of the proposed SHA and the permit include: (1) Eradicating rats and mice and control monitor lizard population on Cocos Island prior to release of Guam rail; (2) reducing likelihood of reintroduction of rats, mice, and the introduction of the brown treesnake; (3) developing and implementing a forest enhancement plan to reduce invasive plant species and increase native plant species on Cocos Island; (4) releasing Guam rails and monitoring survivorship, breeding behavior, habitat preference, and nesting success; and (5) creating materials to promote understanding of wildlife recovery and invasive species issues for Cocos Island staff and visitors.

Based upon the probable species' response, we estimate it will take 10 years of implementing the planned conservation measures to fully reach a net conservation benefit for the Guam rail; some level of benefit is expected within a shorter period of time as a result of predator control and habitat restoration effort. The duration of the SHA and permits will be for a term of 10 years, although both may be renewed upon approval by the Service.

We believe that approval of the proposed SHA may qualify for a categorical exclusion under NEPA, as provided by the Department of Interior Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1) Based on the following criteria: (1) Implementation of the SHA would result in minor or negligible effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) implementation of the SHA would result in minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) impacts of the SHA, considered together with the impacts of

other past, present and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects, would not result, over time, in cumulative effects to environmental values or resources which would be considered significant. This is more fully explained in our draft EAS. We will consider public comments in making its final determination on whether to prepare such additional NEPA documentation.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The Service will evaluate the permit application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the proposed Agreement and permit application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and NEPA regulations. The final NEPA and permit determinations will not be completed until after the end of the 30-day comment period and will fully consider all comments received during the comment period.

Dated: December 31, 2007.

Jeff Newman,

Acting Field Supervisor, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office, Honolulu, Hawaii.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Record of Decision for the Final "Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Alternative Energy Development and Production and Alternate Use of Facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf"

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of a Record of Decision (ROD).

SUMMARY: MMS prepared the ROD for the establishment of an alternative energy and alternate use (AEAU) program on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), as authorized by Section 388 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct), and codified in subsection 8(p) of the OCS Lands Act. In accordance with the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the MMS is announcing the availability of this ROD. The decision is to select the Preferred Alternative described in the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This decision establishes an AEAU program for the issuance of leases, easements and rights-of-way (ROW) for alternative energy activities and the alternate use of

structures on the OCS and the promulgation of regulations to govern the program. Selection of the Preferred Alternative also provides MMS the option to authorize individual projects on a case-by-case basis before promulgation of the final rule. The Director, MMS signed the ROD on December 21, 2007.

Authority: This NOA is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR 1506.6) implementing the provisions of the NEPA of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This ROD was developed through the preparation of the final *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Alternative Energy Development and Production and Alternate Use of Facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf* (Final Programmatic EIS). The environmental impacts from potential activities that may arise from the AEAU program in the reasonably foreseeable future are assessed in the Final Programmatic EIS, which was prepared in accordance with the NEPA. Section 388 of the EAct grants the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) discretionary authority to issue leases, easements, or ROWs for activities on the OCS that produce or support production, transportation, or transmission of energy from sources other than oil and gas, and are not otherwise authorized by law. Examples of the general types of alternative energy project activities that MMS has the discretion to authorize may include, but are not limited to: Wind energy, wave energy, ocean current energy, solar energy, and hydrogen production. The Secretary delegated this authority to MMS.

Section 388 of the EAct also grants the Secretary authority to issue leases, easements, or ROWs for other OCS project activities that make alternate use of existing OCS facilities for "energy-related purposes or for other authorized marine-related purposes," to the extent such activities are not otherwise authorized by law. Such activities may include, but are not limited to: Offshore aquaculture, research, education, recreation, and support for operations and facilities authorized under the OCS Lands Act. The Secretary delegated this authority to MMS as well.

The MMS selected the Preferred Alternative that establishes an AEAU program for the issuance of leases, easements, and ROWs on the OCS for alternative energy activities and the alternate use of structures on the OCS. Selection of the Preferred Alternative also provides MMS the option to authorize, on a case-by-case basis, individual AEAU projects that are in the

national interest prior to promulgation of the final rule. At the same time, the MMS will vigorously pursue its efforts to complete a comprehensive program with regulations for authorizing and managing AEAU activities on the OCS. Upon promulgation of the final rule, MMS leases, easements, and ROWs for AEAU activities on the OCS would be issued subject to the rule's provisions.

As initial mitigation measures, this decision also adopts the interim policies provided in Attachment A of the ROD and initial best management practices (BMPs) in Attachment B of the ROD. Two of the proposed BMPs were not adopted as explained in the ROD. The interim policies will guide and inform MMS' decision-making when considering any proposal for an AEAU project on the OCS. In addition, the MMS will consider and, on a case-by-case basis, may select one or more of the BMPs as appropriate to be included as a binding stipulation in any lease, easement or ROW for AEAU activities that it issues. MMS will employ and act by these policies when considering projects submitted under the AEAU program.

ROD Availability: To obtain a single printed copy of the ROD, you may contact the Minerals Management Service, Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program (MS 4080), 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170. An electronic copy of the ROD is available at MMS's EIS Web site at: ocsenery.anl.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Minerals Management Service, Ms. Maureen Bornholdt, Alternative Energy and Alternate Use Program (MS 4080), 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170, or by phone at (703) 787-1300.

Dated: January 4, 2008.

Chris C. Oynes,

Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. E8-210 Filed 1-9-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Job Corps; Advisory Committee on Job Corps; Meeting

AGENCY: Office of Job Corps.

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: On August 22, 2006, the Advisory Committee on Job Corps (ACJC) was established in accordance with the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The

Committee was established to advance Job Corps' new vision for student achievement aimed at 21st century high-growth employment. This Committee will also evaluate Job Corps program characteristics, including its purpose, goals, and effectiveness, efficiency, and performance measures in order to address the critical issues facing the provision of job training and education to the youth population that it serves. The Committee may provide other advice and recommendations with regard to identifying and overcoming problems, planning program or center development or strengthening relations between Job Corps and agencies, institutions, or groups engaged in related activities.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 23-24, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, Texas 78744. Telephone: (512) 448-2222.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Crystal Woodard, Office of Job Corps, 202-693-3000 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 22, 2006 the Advisory Committee on Job Corps (71 FR 48949) was established in accordance with the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act, and the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Committee was established to advance Job Corps' new vision for student achievement aimed at 21st century high-growth employment. This Committee will also evaluate Job Corps program characteristics, including its purpose, goals, and effectiveness, efficiency, and performance measures in order to address the critical issues facing the provision of job training and education to the youth population that it serves. The Committee may provide other advice and recommendations with regard to identifying and overcoming problems, planning program or center development or strengthening relations between Job Corps and agencies, institutions, or groups engaged in related activities.

Agenda: The agenda for the meeting will be the full committee voting on draft recommendations of the three subcommittees.

Public Participation: The meeting will be open to the public. Seating will be available to the public on a first-come first-served basis. Seats will be reserved for the media. Individuals with disabilities should contact the Job Corps official listed above, if special accommodations are needed.