

memorialized in the document entitled "Final Preassessment Screen for the Chino, Tyrone, and Morenci Mine Sites, Grant County, New Mexico and Graham County, Arizona."

**DATES:** Documents and other information submitted with the determinations are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents by October 14, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the preassessment screen are available on the Internet at <http://ifw2es.fws.gov/library>, or may be requested from the Service at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2105 Osuna, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113, (505) 346-2525 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103, (505) 248-6648.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Cathey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, Division of Habitat Conservation/Environmental Contaminants, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103, (505) 248-6648.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Among the mines within a 500 mi<sup>2</sup> region of Southwestern New Mexico and Southeastern Arizona (Gila Region), the Phelps Dodge Corporation Chino, Tyrone, and Morenci open-pit copper mines are among the largest. Several ephemeral streams have been impacted by downstream releases, and portions of the Gila and San Francisco Rivers and their tributaries (bordered by the Gila and Apache National Forests) have been affected by high concentration metal pulses. Four species listed under the Endangered Species Act (spikedace, loach minnow, southwestern willow flycatcher, and Chiricahua leopard frog) frequent the affected areas, and resources under the management of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management may have been impacted.

In September and October 2000, numerous dead birds were discovered at the Phelps Dodge Chino and Tyrone Mines in New Mexico, and the Morenci Mine in Arizona. The discovery of these dead birds (with a strong causal link to death by acid and metal poisoning), and the completion of an ecological risk assessment at an area impacted by historical copper smelter emissions (with direct evidence of injury to Department of the Interior trust resources), requires that the Department move forward with assessment of

further injuries immediately. The Department has contacted the parties potentially responsible for releases of hazardous materials and invited them to participate in the assessment of injuries. Should evaluation of data indicate further extensive assessment studies are necessary, an assessment plan will be published and public comments solicited.

The preassessment screen indicates there are multiple methods that could be used in the of valuation of damages, including one method called "contingent valuation." While this method is evaluated in the document, it is not likely that the Department would use the contingent valuation method because it depends heavily on subjective opinions in its analysis. More likely, once extent of injuries are determined, the Department would use one of the other methods of damage determination: Examples of such restoration project(s) would be where the responsible party conducts the implementation of the restoration project with Trustee oversight and no determination of specific monetary damages are made, or where the Trustees perform restoration projects funded by responsible parties.

**Bryan Arroyo,**

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement**

**Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029-0051 and 1029-0120**

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request approval to continue the collections of information under 30 CFR part 840, Permanent Program Inspection and Enforcement Procedures, and two Technical Training Program forms for nominations and payment of travel and per diem expenses. These information collection activities were previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget

(OMB), and assigned clearance numbers 1029-0051 and -0120, respectively.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed information collection activities must be received by October 27, 2003, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Room 210—SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related forms, contact John A. Trelease, at (202) 208-2783 or by e-mail.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8 (d)]. This notice identifies information collections that OSM will be submitting to OMB for renewed approval. These collections are contained in (1) 30 CFR part 840, Permanent Program Inspection and Enforcement Procedures (1029-0051); and (2) OSM's Technical Training Program Non-Federal Nomination Form, and Request for Payment of Travel and Per Diem Form (1029-0120). OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for each information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB.

The following information is provided for each information collection: (1) Title of the information collection; (2) OMB control number; (3) summary of the information collection activity; and (4) frequency of collection, description of the respondents, estimated total annual responses, and the total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden for the collection of information.

*Title:* Permanent Program Inspection and Enforcement Procedures, 30 CFR part 840.

*OMB Control Number:* 1029-0051.