

public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's habitat conservation plan (HCP), and on the Service's Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations (43 CFR part 46), and the DOI's NEPA Departmental Handbook (516 DM 1).

Background

The Service listed the murrelet as threatened on October 1, 1992 (57 FR 45328) and published a revised final rule designating critical habitat on August 4, 2016 (81 FR 51348). Section 9 of the ESA prohibits take of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered (16 U.S.C. 1538); pursuant to section 4(d) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1533(d)), this prohibition has been extended to the marbled murrelet by regulation in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (50 CFR 17.31(a)). Under the ESA, "take" is defined to include the following activities: "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct" (16 U.S.C. 1532). Under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(1)(B)), we may issue permits to authorize take of listed fish and wildlife species that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.32. Issuance of an ITP also must not jeopardize the existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant species, pursuant to section 7 of the ESA and 50 CFR 402.02. The permittee would receive assurances under our "No Surprises" regulations (50 CFR 17.32(b)(5)).

Proposed Project

The proposed project is timber harvest and land management across the applicant's ownership in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, California. The HCP Plan Area includes 380,554 acres (ac). The HCP also identifies privately-owned timberlands in Humboldt and Del Norte counties where the applicant may purchase lands in the future to be added to the HCP. The HCP Covered Activities are timber harvest and regeneration efforts, land management activities such as road maintenance, and other silvicultural activities. The applicant requests a 50-year ITP under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA. If we approve the permit, the applicant anticipates taking 15 murrelets during the harvest of 10,252 ac of modeled marginal suitable habitat. The take would be incidental to the applicant's timber harvesting activities.

The applicant's proposed HCP contains measures to minimize and

mitigate the effects of timber harvest and land management activities on the murrelet. Conservation measures include the establishment of 300-foot buffers around occupied murrelet habitat, the use of single-tree selection harvest within buffers to accelerate the development of murrelet suitable habitat, seasonal restrictions on certain activities within buffers of occupied murrelet habitat, and the implementation of best management practices to reduce threats such as predation. Mitigation proposed by the applicant includes the protection of at least 854 ac of Suitable Habitat Reserves during the permit term, and the protection of the 76.2-ac Adaptive Management Reserve.

Proposed Action and Alternatives

The proposed action consists of the issuance of an incidental take permit and implementation of the proposed HCP, which includes measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to the murrelet. To comply with the requirements for an HCP under ESA section 10(a), the applicant evaluated two additional alternatives to the project. First, the applicant considered what they described in the HCP as "intensive take avoidance;" essentially, the process the applicant has utilized since the federal listing of murrelet, whereby timber stands known to be occupied by murrelets are not harvested including a 300-foot protective buffer around the occupied stand. In addition, intensive take avoidance includes implementation of protocol-level surveys for murrelets prior to timber harvest in stands where suitable nesting habitat is present. If murrelets are confirmed or suspected in a stand during surveys, those stands are deemed to be occupied and unavailable to future timber harvest. Timber harvest may proceed at stands where protocol-level surveys have shown no occupancy by murrelets. Second, the applicant considered what they described in the HCP as "passive take avoidance," whereby the applicant would avoid timber harvest in any areas where there is a perceived risk of take of a murrelet due to presence of suitable nesting habitat. The applicant considers passive take avoidance as a financially non-viable timber management strategy because it places their timberland investment on a trajectory of progressive, cumulative set-asides of forest stands for conservation without timber harvest.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the applicant's

proposed project may have effects on the murrelet and the human environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily determined that the proposed ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP would individually or cumulatively have effects on the murrelet and that development of an EA is appropriate pursuant to DOI's NEPA regulations and the DOI NEPA Departmental Handbook.

Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and comments received on the HCP and EA to determine whether to issue the requested ITP. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue the permit to the applicant for incidental take of the murrelet.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email 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 may 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.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32) and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR part 46).

Vicky Ryan,

Field Supervisor, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, Arcata, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[A2407-014-004-065516, #O2509-014-004-125222; LLWY]

Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease WYW182309, Converse County, WY

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed reinstatement.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition from CNOOC Energy U.S.A., LLC and Chesapeake Exploration, LLC for reinstatement of terminated competitive oil and gas lease WYW182309 in Converse County, Wyoming. The lessees filed the petition for reinstatement on time and have met all filing requirements. No leases were issued that affect these lands. The BLM proposes to reinstate the lease.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandra Blackburn, Branch Chief, Fluid Minerals Adjudication, BLM Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Rd., Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82009; phone: 307-775-6176; email: s75black@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lessees agree to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$20 per acre or fraction thereof and 20 percent, respectively. The lessees have paid the required administrative fee and have reimbursed the BLM for the cost of publishing this notice.

The lessees met the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as provided in sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188). The BLM is proposing to reinstate the lease effective January 1, 2021, and an extension for two years from the date the lease is reinstated in accordance with 43 CFR 3108.23(d) subject to:

- Original terms and conditions of the lease;
- Increased rental of \$20 per acre;
- Increased royalty of 20 percent; and
- A 2-year lease extension.

(Authority: 30 U.S.C. 188 (e)(4) and 43 CFR 3108.23)

Sandra Blackburn,
Branch Chief, Fluid Minerals Adjudication.
[FR Doc. 2026-11115 Filed 6-2-26; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337-TA-1453]

Certain Boiler Protection for Absorption Refrigeration Systems and Components Thereof; Notice of Request for Submissions on the Public Interest

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that on May 21, 2026, the presiding administrative law judge (“ALJ”) issued an initial determination granting a summary determination of violation of section 337. The ALJ also issued a recommended determination on remedy and bonding should a violation be found in the above-captioned investigation. The Commission is soliciting submissions on public interest issues raised by the recommended relief should the Commission find a violation. This notice is soliciting comments from the public and interested government agencies only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert J. Needham, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 708-5468. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 provides that, if the Commission finds a violation, it shall exclude the articles concerned from the United States unless, after considering the effect of such exclusion upon the public health and welfare, competitive conditions in the United States economy, the production of like or directly competitive articles in the United States, and United States consumers, it finds that such articles should not be excluded from entry. (19 U.S.C. 1337(d)(1)). A similar provision applies to cease and desist orders. (19 U.S.C. 1337(f)(1)).

The Commission is soliciting submissions on public interest issues

raised by the recommended relief should the Commission find a violation, specifically: a general exclusion order directed to certain boiler protection for absorption refrigeration systems and components thereof imported, sold for importation, and/or sold after importation; and cease and desist orders directed to Koofang, RVGIVE, Little Bear Pocket, and VISVIC. Parties are to file public interest submissions pursuant to 19 CFR 210.50(a)(4).

The Commission is interested in further development of the record on the public interest in this investigation. Accordingly, members of the public and interested government agencies are invited to file submissions of no more than five (5) pages, inclusive of attachments, concerning the public interest in light of the ALJ’s Recommended Determination on Remedy and Bonding issued in this investigation on May 21, 2026. Comments should address whether issuance of the recommended remedial orders in this investigation, should the Commission find a violation, would affect the public health and welfare in the United States, competitive conditions in the United States economy, the production of like or directly competitive articles in the United States, or United States consumers.

In particular, the Commission is interested in comments that:

- (i) explain how the articles potentially subject to the recommended remedial orders are used in the United States;
- (ii) identify any public health, safety, or welfare concerns in the United States relating to the recommended orders;
- (iii) identify like or directly competitive articles that complainant, its licensees, or third parties make in the United States which could replace the subject articles if they were to be excluded;
- (iv) indicate whether complainant, complainant’s licensees, and/or third-party suppliers have the capacity to replace the volume of articles potentially subject to the recommended orders within a commercially reasonable time; and
- (v) explain how the recommended orders would impact consumers in the United States.

Written submissions must be filed no later than by close of business on June 29, 2026.

Persons filing written submissions must file the original document electronically on or before the deadlines stated above pursuant to 19 CFR 210.4(f). Submissions should refer to the investigation number (“Inv. No. 337-TA-1453”) in a prominent place on the