their efforts attract listed species to their property or increase the numbers or distribution of listed species already on their property.

Section 9 of the Act prohibits take of threatened or endangered species. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened and endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities.

Christopher T. Jones,

Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. E7–8164 Filed 4–27–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge in St. Tammany Parish, LA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service, announce that a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft CCP/EA) for Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge is available for review and comment. The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires the Service to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. This Draft CCP, when final, will describe how we intend to manage Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge over the next 15 years.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your comments no later than May 30, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information to: Charlotte Parker, Natural Resource Planner, 61389 Highway 434, Lacombe, LA 70445; Telephone: 985/882–2029. The Draft CCP/EA may be accessed and downloaded from the Service's Internet Web site: *http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/* under "Draft Documents."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1994 and is presently comprised of approximately 18,600 acres of coastal marsh and pine forested wetlands. The purposes of the refuge are to: Provide habitat for a natural diversity of wildlife associated with the marsh of the refuge; provide wintering habitat for migratory waterfowl; provide nesting habitat for wood ducks; provide habitat for non-game migratory birds; and provide opportunities for public outdoor recreation, such as hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and environmental education and interpretation, whenever they are compatible with the purposes of the refuge.

Significant issues addressed in the Draft CCP/EA include: Managing threatened and endangered species, species of concern, targeted species, and other species of Federal responsibility; conserving habitats native to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin; improving refuge visitor programs; increasing public outreach; providing formal environmental education programs; protecting archaeological and historical sites on the refuge; and, purchasing the remaining land inholdings within the established acquisition boundary of the refuge.

Three management alternatives are considered in the Draft CCP/EA. Alternative A continues current management, with no new actions to improve or enhance existing programs. Alternative B, the proposed alternative, emphasizes management of natural resources based on maintaining and improving wetland habitats, monitoring targeted flora and fauna representative of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and providing quality public use programs and wildlife-dependent recreational activities. Alternative C focuses on expanding public use activities to the fullest extent possible while conducting only mandated resource protection.

We will conduct the environmental review of this project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. All comments received become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act NEPA (40 CFR 1506(f)), and Departmental and Service policies and procedures.

Authority: This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105–57.

Dated: March 13, 2007.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. E7–8162 Filed 4–27–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Amendment to Approved Tribal-State Compact.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the approval of the extension of agreement between the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the State of Montana concerning Class III gaming, with the incorporated amendments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 30, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219–4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Public Law 100–497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the **Federal Register** notice of the approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands.

This amendment extends the term of the compact for 10 years, increases the number of gaming machines, the maximum jackpot on gaming machines and the prize limit on Class III poker, for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

Dated: April 19, 2007.

Carl J. Artman,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. E7–8134 Filed 4–27–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of amendment to Approved Tribal-State Compact.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the Approval of the Tribal-State Compact for Class III Gaming between the Spokane Tribe and the State of Washington.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 30, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219–4066.

United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

APR 12 2007

Honorable Eugene Little Coyote
President, Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, Montana 59043

Dear President Little Coyote:

On April 6, 2007, we received the Extension of Agreement between the Northern Cheyenne Tribe (Tribe) and the State of Montana (State) concerning Class III Gaming, with incorporated Amendments (Amendment), executed on March 29, 2007.

We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), any other provision of Federal law that does not relate to jurisdiction over gaming on Indian lands, or the trust obligations of the United States to Indians. Therefore, pursuant to my delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, we approve the Amendment. This Amendment shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11(d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. (d)(3)(B), is published in the Federal Register.

A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Brian Schweitzer, Governor, State of Montana.

We wish the Tribe and State continued success in their economic venture.

Sincerely,

George T. Skibine
Director, Office of Indian Gaming

EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE AND THE STATE OF MONTANA CONCERNING CLASS III GAMING, WITH INCORPORATED AMENDMENTS

This EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE AND THE STATE OF MONTANA CONCERNING CLASS III GAMING, WITH INCORPORATED AMENDMENTS, is entered into by the State of Montana (hereinafter "State") and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana (hereinafter "Tribe").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the State and the Tribe entered into the "Agreement between the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the State of Montana Concerning Class III Gaming" (hereinafter "Agreement") on June 3, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement is set to expire on June 3, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the parties are in negotiations concerning a new Class III gaming compact; and

WHEREAS, the existing Agreement may be renewed and amended by the parties pursuant to Article X, sections "A" and "B"; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to extend the term and amend the language of the existing Agreement, while continuing negotiations on a new Class III compact;

NOW THEREFORE, the State and the Tribe agree to extend the term of the existing Agreement, and amend its language as follows:

Section VI.D shall be amended to read:

D. The Tribe shall make no more than 300 video gambling machines available for play in any one tribally-operated premises and no more than 400 machines total. Subject to the foregoing limitation, the 400 Class III machines may be distributed at the Tribe's discretion.

Section X.A. shall be amended to read:

A. Effective Date and Term. This Agreement shall be effective upon execution and shall continue in effect until June 3, 2017, or until a new Class III compact is signed by the State and the Tribe, whichever comes first, unless terminated in accordance with Article IX. Before expiration of this Agreement or upon its termination, the parties may agree to the renewal of the Agreement for a term agreed upon by the parties.

Section X.B. shall be amended to read:

B. Amendments. This Agreement may be amended only with the consent of both parties and only by written instrument signed by both parties. If the IGRA or state law is amended or changed in any way affecting the terms of this Agreement, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith to amend this agreement so as to achieve the objectives provided for and to ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal law. In the case of a change in law which would prohibit gaming authorized under this Agreement, the Tribe may continue such gaming for at least one year in order to enable the Tribe and its investors to receive a reasonable return on investments made under this Agreement and to provide affected employees fair notice and transition time, unless the continuation of such gaming is found to be illegal by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Appendix A, Section II.A shall be amended to read:

A. Prizes may be awarded only in the form of free games, credits, or cash. A prize may not exceed the value of $2,000 for each individual award.

Appendix A, Section II.B shall be amended to read:

B. Video gambling machines within tribal premises may be connected in a progressive bank provided the prize limit for the progressive bank does not exceed $2,000.

Appendix K, Section II shall be amended to read:

Live poker gaming shall be conducted under the same conditions as permissible under Montana statutes and administrative regulations; provided, however, the prize limit for an individual live poker game may not exceed $2,000, and the Council shall not be subject to the licensing provisions of state law.

ALL OTHER terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect and shall govern the conditions of Class III gaming on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation until the term of the Agreement expires, or until the Agreement is replaced or terminated.

The State of Montana and the Tribe indicate their consent to be bound to this Extension and Amendment by the signatures set forth below.

NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE

Date: 2/19/07

Eugene Little Coyote
President

STATE OF MONTANA

Date: 3/29/07

Brian Schweitzer
Governor

Approved pursuant to § 18-11-105, MCA:

Date: 3/29/07

Mike McGrath
Attorney General

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
Approved by the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Economic Development

Date: APR 12 2007

Deputy Assistant-Secretary
Policy and Economic Development