

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE:  
PROPOSED MINING RULES ANNOUNCED;  
NEW PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Rules for Mining on National Wildlife Refuges Proposed. Rules designed to control the environmental impacts of mining on national wildlife refuges have been proposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. An environmental assessment on the proposal has been prepared and is available for public review and comment.

The proposed rules apply to metallic and non-metallic minerals such as gold, lead, uranium, and borax, but do not include leasable minerals such as oil, gas, or coal, or saleable minerals such as sand and gravel. The proposed rules do not apply to national wildlife refuges in Alaska.

Under the proposal published in the December 31, 1980, Federal Register, operators of mines that may cause appreciable environmental disturbance will be required to prepare a plan describing measures to be taken to protect fish, wildlife, and their habitats, and to appropriately reclaim disturbed areas. The refuge manager or a Service mineral specialist will then study the proposed mining operation and its effects upon the fish, wildlife, and habitats of the refuge. The mining plan will be approved if it provides for adequate conservation and reclamation measures.

An environmental assessment on the effects of the proposed rules is available from the Division of Refuge Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Public comments are invited through March 31, 1981, and should be sent to the Chief, Division of Refuge Management, at the above address.

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Annual Report on Marine Mammals Published. Want to know what is going on with polar bears, sea and marine otters, walruses, manatees, and dugongs?

Status reports on all these animals are available in the Fish and Wildlife Service's annual report on its administration of the Marine Mammal Protection Act between April 1, 1979, and March 31, 1980. The 86-page illustrated report also discussed administrative actions involving financial grants to States to help them develop and implement protection and management plans for marine mammals in their waters; marine mammals in Alaska; endangered and threatened species and populations in Florida and California; marine mammal care and maintenance regulations and standards; law enforcement activities; scientific research and public display permits; Service research activities; Outer Continental Shelf environmental studies; ecological characterizations of U.S. coastal areas; and international activities.

The report is made each year to Congress by the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service as required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. As announced in the January 9, 1981, Federal Register, single copies of the report may be obtained from the Director (Publications Unit), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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More than a Pretty Beach. The Nation's 88,000-mile coastal margin has more to offer than splendid views and suntans, benefitting Americans in many ways the might not realize. The Fish and Wildlife Service has produced a 16-page brochure "Where Land and Sea Converge," which outlines the ecological and commercial values of coastal areas and the various Service activities which help assure the conservation of coastal fish, wildlife, and their habitats. The illustrated publication summarizes a broad range of programs, from maintaining coastal refuges for migratory waterfowl and endangered species to assessing the environmental impact of proposed industrial sites. Copies are available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Publications Unit), Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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Bibliography New Information Source on Urban Wildlife Management. To help satisfy the increasing demand for information on how to conserve fish and wildlife in urban and suburban areas, the Fish and Wildlife Service has published an "Annotated Bibliography on Planning and Management for Urban-Suburban Wildlife." The bibliography, which lists 464 relevant publications, will be of interest to planners, developers, biologists, and others who are working to develop effective policies and programs for wise planning and management of wildlife resources.

References were gathered from professional and trade journals, government reports, and miscellaneous publications of various organizations and institutions. Seven major subjects are covered: The Urban Environment; Effects of Urbanization on Wildlife; Wildlife and Related Environmental Values; Planning Aspects; Management; Plants for Wildlife and Other Purposes; and Research and Education.

The publication, prepared by the Urban Wildlife Research Center, Inc., for the Service, is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, at a cost of \$6.00 a copy. Purchasers should specify Stock No. 024-010-00547-5 when placing orders.

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"Metabolism of Pesticides--Update III" on sale. Toxicologists, environmental chemists, and others who might utilize results of scientific studies on pesticide metabolism in animals and the environment may wish to purchase this report. The 709-page technical publication is a supplement to earlier reports issued in 1969, 1974, and 1978. This latest volume is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for \$12.00 each. Purchasers should specify Stock No. 024-010-00579-3 when placing their orders. (The 1969 and 1974 reports may be purchased through the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161. These should be ordered by number: "Metabolism of Pesticides," 1969, PB-300-613, sale price \$33.50, and "Metabolism of Pesticides--An Update," PB-300-514, sale price \$35.00. A limited number of single copies of "Metabolism of Pesticides--Update II" are available for review from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Division of Ecological Services), Washington, D.C. 20240).

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