

ORDER NO. 3226

SIGNATURE DATE: January 19, 2001

Subject: Evaluating Climate Change Impacts in Management Planning

Sec. 1 **Purpose.** There is a consensus in the international community that global climate change is occurring and that it should be addressed in governmental decision making. The National Assessment of the Potential Consequences of Climate Variability and Change, an interagency effort initiated by Congress under the Global Change Research Act of 1990, Public Law 101-606, has confirmed that climate change is impacting natural resources that the Department of the Interior (Department) has the responsibility to manage and protect. This Order ensures that climate change impacts are taken into account in connection with Departmental planning and decision making.

Sec. 2 **Authority.** This Order is issued in accordance with the authorities contained in: Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.; 5 U.S.C. ' 301; 43 U.S.C. ' 1451; and 43 U.S.C. ' 1453.

Sec. 3 **Bureau and Office Responsibilities.** Each bureau and office of the Department will consider and analyze potential climate change impacts when undertaking long-range planning exercises, when setting priorities for scientific research and investigations, when developing multi-year management plans, and/or when making major decisions regarding the potential utilization of resources under the Department=s purview. Departmental activities covered by this Order include, but are not limited to, programmatic and long-term environmental reviews undertaken by the Department, management plans and activities developed for public lands, planning and management activities associated with oil, gas and mineral development on public lands, and planning and management activities for water projects and water resources.

Sec. 4 **Effective Date.** This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until its provisions are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded or revoked, whichever comes first.

/s/ Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the Interior

SO#3226 1/19/01