

FOR RELEASE: June 17, 1994

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MMS WINS NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD (#40041)

The U.S. Interior Department's Minerals Management Service (MMS) has been awarded the 1994 Federal Environmental Quality award.

MMS was selected for the honor by the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), which seeks to recognize agencies that have achieved excellence through implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act. MMS is being recognized for successfully integrating environmental values into its agency mission and its commitment to excellence in environmental decision making.

Fry accepted the award from the representatives of the President's Council on Environmental Quality during NAEP's annual conference in New Orleans, LA, this week.

"This award is further proof that MMS's top-quality team of professionals is committed to the administration's goals of enhancing and safeguarding the environment," said Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. "The mission of MMS is to assure that the strongest protective measures for the marine environment are maintained while the nation's offshore energy resources are responsibly developed."

MMS is the agency which manages and regulates the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf, and which collects and disburses royalties from onshore mineral leases on Federal and Indian lands.

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