

Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to Tannika Engelhard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758 (512/490-0057, extension 242). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request or by appointment only during normal business hours (8:00 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Austin, Texas. Data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Austin, Texas at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-024872-0 when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tannika Engelhard at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Austin, TX.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

Applicant

Paula Hanks and Jason Sims plan to construct one single family residence on 0.5 acres of the 7.6-acre Lot 20, Section 2 in the Circle D Country Acres Subdivision, Bastrop County, Texas. This action will eliminate less than one acre of habitat and result in an unquantifiable amount of indirect impact. The applicants propose to compensate for this incidental take of the Houston Toad by providing \$1,500.00 to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the specific purpose of land acquisition and management within Houston toad habitat, as identified by the Service.

Alternatives to this action were rejected because not developing the subject property with federally listed species present was not economically feasible and alteration of the project design would not alter the level of impacts.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

*Acting Regional Director, Region 2,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 00-9356 Filed 4-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-050-1610-DG]

Notice of Intent To Revise the Nellis Air Force Range Resource Plan and Prepare a New Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management in cooperation with the Department of Defense, Nellis Air Force Base and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACTION: Notice of Intent. The Bureau of Land Management is proposing to revise the existing Nellis Air Force Range Resource Plan based on specific direction within Public Law 106-65, section 3014. The BLM will include an amendment to the Tonopah Resource Management Plan which will prescribe management of the lands identified for return to public land management, all in one action.

SUMMARY: New issues have surfaced which require additional analysis to determine the best use of the existing resources. New issues include: (1) The Nellis Range is located in the serious non-attainment for PM 10 and Carbon Monoxide; (2) management of the Wild Horses on the range has caused much controversy over the past 10 years; (3) approximately 30,000 acres may be returned to public land management status provided it is hazardous materials free. The Bureau is interested in other issues the public will present as part of the record.

Due to an accelerated timeline set forth by Congress and the President, for completion of this revised Nellis Range Resource Plan, October 5, 2001, the BLM will ensure the process proceeds as quickly as possible.

COOPERATING AGENCY STATUS: This plan revision is being completed in full cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Defense. Based on other express interest by other State and Federal agencies as well as all three county's affected by this action, we anticipate additional interest in cooperating agency status. We will either wait until the Notice of Availability is sent to identify those additional cooperators or issue a separate **Federal Register** notice in the next 2 to 3 months.

DATES: Public scoping meeting are set for the week of May 1-5 as follows: Monday, May 1, 2000; 3-5pm at the Beatty Community Center, Beatty Nevada, 100 A Avenue South. Monday,

May 1, 2000; 7-9pm at the Tonopah Convention Center, 301 Brougner Avenue, Tonopah, Nevada. Tuesday, May 2, 2000; 7-9pm at the Bob Ruud Community Center, 150 N. Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada. Wednesday, May 3, 2000; 7-9pm, at the Amargosa Valley Community Center, 821 E. Farm Road, Amargosa, Nevada. Thursday, May 4, 2000; 7-9pm at the New Alamo High School Multi-purpose Room, 151 S. Main, Alamo Nevada. Friday, May 5, 2000; 7-9pm at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4765 W. Vegas Drive, Las Vegas Nevada. Other meetings may be planned in the future if a need is expressed.

ADDRESSES: For further information contact Jeffrey G. Steinmetz, Las Vegas Field Office Environmental Protection Specialist and Team Lead for the BLM at Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office, 4765 W. Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108, telephone (702)-647-5000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Steinmetz, RMP Team Leader, at BLM's Las Vegas Field Office listed above or telephone (702) 647-5097.

Dated: April 5, 2000.

Mark T. Morse,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 00-9423 Filed 4-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-929-1220-PA-002E]

Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rule Concerning Minors in Possession of Alcoholic Beverages on Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Underage drinking is a growing problem on the public lands. Such activity poses a significant health and safety hazard to both underage violators and other users of the public lands and can result in the destruction of natural resources and property.

Therefore, the State Director is prohibiting the possession, or providing, of an intoxicating substance by, or to, a person under 21 years of age upon the public lands in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. This action will allow BLM law enforcement officers to restrict the supply and possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages

by minors, on BLM-administered public lands and recreation areas, in a manner consistent with Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 45-5-624, MCA 16-6-304, and MCA 16-6-305; ND Century Codes 5-01-01, 5-01-08, and 5-01-09; and SD Code 35-1-1, 35-9-1, 35-9-1.1, and 35-9-2. An intoxicating substance is defined in MCA 45-2-101 (31)(a).

This supplementary rule is issued under the authority of 43 CFR 8365.1-6.

Penalties

As prescribed under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 USC, Section 1733(a), and the Taylor Grazing Act, the violation is punishable by fines and/or imprisonment under 43 CFR 8360.0-7, with fines up to \$1000 and/or 12 months in jail, or \$500 as authorized under the Taylor Grazing Act (43 USC 315a).

DATES: To comply with the Administrative Procedures Act, if no significant opposition is received, this rule will go into effect May 17, 2000, and will remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the authorized officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101, (406) 896-5010.

Dated: March 23, 2000.

Larry E. Hamilton,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 00-9424 Filed 4-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0053).

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, MMS invites the public and other Federal agencies to comment on a proposal to extend the currently approved collection of information discussed below on oil and gas drilling operations. We intend to submit this collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a

person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Submit written comments by June 16, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand carry comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by the law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis London, Rules Processing Team, telephone (703) 787-1600. You may also contact Alexis London to obtain a copy of the collection of information at no cost.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR 250, Subpart D, Oil and Gas Drilling Operations.

OMB Control Number: 1010-0053.

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, requires the Secretary of the Interior to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS; make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resources development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environment; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources offshore; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. Section 1332(6) of the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1332) requires that "operations in the [O]uter Continental Shelf should be conducted in a safe manner by well-trained personnel using technology, precautions, and techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize the likelihood of blowouts, loss of well control, fires, spillages, physical obstruction to other users of the waters or subsoil and

seabed, or other occurrences which may cause damage to the environment or to property, or endanger life or health." This authority and responsibility are among those delegated to MMS. To carry out these responsibilities, MMS issues regulations governing oil and gas and sulphur operations in the OCS. This collection of information addresses 30 CFR 250, subpart D, Oil and Gas Drilling Operations.

The MMS uses the information to ascertain the condition of a drilling site to prevent hazards inherent in drilling operations. Among other things, MMS specifically uses the information to ensure: (a) The drilling unit is fit for the intended purpose; (b) the lessee will not encounter geologic conditions that present a hazard to operations; (c) equipment is maintained in a state of readiness and meets safety standards; (d) each drilling crew is properly trained and able to promptly perform well-control activities at any time during well operations; (e) compliance with safety standards; and (f) the proposed field drilling rules will provide for safe and proper field or reservoir development, resource evaluation, conservation, protection of correlative rights, safety, and environmental protection. We also review well records to ascertain whether drilling operations have encountered hydrocarbons or H₂S and to ensure that H₂S detection equipment, personnel protective equipment, and training of the crew are adequate for safe operations in zones known to contain H₂S and zones where the presence of H₂S is unknown.

Responses are mandatory. Proprietary information respondents submit is protected according to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR 2) and 30 CFR 250.196. No items of a sensitive nature are collected.

Frequency: The frequency of reporting varies by section, but is mostly on occasion.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 130 Federal OCS oil, gas, and sulphur lessees.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved burden for this information collection is 107,698 hours (3,389 reporting and 103,859 recordkeeping hours). This averages approximately 830 hours per respondent.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: We have identified no non-hour cost burdens.