

availability of a Final Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Proposed Plan Amendment. The Final EIS describes the analysis completed on proposed management changes in off-highway vehicle area designations on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service, Northern Region, in Montana, North Dakota, and portions of South Dakota. The BLM and Forest Service are joint lead agencies responsible for preparation of the final EIS. The purpose and need are to address the impacts of OHV travel on open areas that are currently available to motorized wheeled cross-country travel. The preferred alternative would restrict motorized wheeled cross-country travel yearlong on approximately 6 million acres of public land administered by the BLM and 10 million acres of National Forest System lands. These lands would be designated limited or restricted yearlong for motorized wheeled cross-country travel.

DATES: The proposed plan amendment is subject to a BLM 30-day protest period commencing with the date of publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Written protests must be sent to: Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Ms Brenda Williams, Protests Coordinator, WO-210/LS-1075, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerry Majerus, 406-538-1924.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final EIS and Proposed Plan Amendment discloses the potential environmental consequences of managing motorized wheeled cross-country travel on public lands administered by the BLM and Forest Service, Northern Region, in Montana, North Dakota, and portions of South Dakota (excluding the Black Hills National Forest, Buffalo Gap Grasslands and the Fort Pierre Grasslands). A Draft OHV EIS and Plan Amendment was released for a 90-day public comment period in November 1999. Over 1,500 people attended 35 open houses that were held around Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota and 2,300 comment letters were received on the Draft OHV EIS and Plan Amendment.

Six alternatives, including a No Action Alternative, were analyzed in the Final OHV EIS and Proposed Plan Amendment. The No Action Alternative would maintain current management and areas currently open seasonally or yearlong to motorized wheeled cross-country travel would remain open.

Alternatives 1, 2 and 5 would restrict motorized wheeled cross-country travel yearlong and the alternatives vary by exceptions allowed for cross-country travel. Alternative 3 would restrict motorized wheeled cross-country travel yearlong in North Dakota, most of Montana, and portions of South Dakota. Alternative 4 would limit motorized wheeled cross-country travel seasonally from September 1 to December 1 and February 16 to June 14. Alternative 5 is the preferred alternative.

Alternative 5, the preferred alternative, was developed in response to comments on the Draft OHV EIS and Plan Amendment from the public and other agencies. It restricts motorized wheeled cross-country travel yearlong throughout the analysis area to protect riparian areas, wetlands, crucial wildlife habitat, threatened or endangered species, soils and vegetation, aquatic resources, and to reduce user conflicts. Through subsequent site-specific planning, the BLM would designate roads and trails for motorized use. The following BLM resource management plans (Big Dry, Powder River, Billings, Headwaters, West HiLine, Judith-Valley-Phillips, North Dakota, and South Dakota) and the Dillon management framework plan would be amended to designate approximately 6 million acres limited yearlong for motorized wheeled cross-country travel under 43 CFR 8342.

The BLM's resource management planning process includes an opportunity for administrative review via a plan protest to the BLM's Director (43 CFR 1610.5-2). Any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the approval of an amendment to a resource management plan may protest such approval. Careful adherence to the following guidelines will assist in preparing a protest that will assure the greatest consideration to your point of view. Only those persons or organizations who participated in the planning process may protest. A protesting party may raise only those issues which were commented on during the planning process. New issues may be raised at any time but should be directed to the appropriate BLM field office for consideration in plan implementation, as potential plan amendments, or as otherwise appropriate. The protest period extends for 30 days. There is no provision for any extension of time. To be considered timely, your protest must be postmarked no later than the last day of the protest period. Also, although not a requirement, we suggest that you send your protest by certified mail, return receipt requested. In order to be

considered complete, your protest must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) The name, mailing address, telephone number and interest of the person filing the protest.

(2) A statement of the issue or issues being protested.

(3) A statement of the part or parts of the amendment being protested. To the extent possible, this should be done by reference to specific pages, paragraphs, sections, tables, maps, etc. included in the proposed amendment.

(4) A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues submitted during the planning process by the protesting party or an indication of the discussion date of the issue(s) for the record.

(5) A concise statement explaining why the proposed decision is believed to be incorrect. This is a critical part of your protest. Take care to document all relevant facts. As much as possible, reference or cite the planning documents, environmental analysis documents, available planning records (i.e., meeting minutes or summaries, correspondence, etc.). A protest which merely expresses disagreement with the proposed decision, without any data will not provide us with the benefit of your information and insight. In this case, the Director's review will be based on the existing analysis and supporting data.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, the BLM may issue a Record of Decision, approving implementation of any portions of the proposed plan amendment not under protest. Approval will be withheld on any portion of the plan under protest until the protest has been resolved.

(Authority: Sec. 202, Pub. L. 94-579, 90 Stat. 2747 (43 U.S.C. 1712))

Dated: December 27, 2000.

Mat Millenbach,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 01-105 Filed 1-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-1310-01; NMNM 0557388]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease NMNM 0557388 for lands in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and

royalties accruing from April 1, 2000 the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16⅔ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice.

The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective April 1, 2000, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

For further information contact:
Gloria S. Baca, BLM, New Mexico State Office, (505) 438-7566.

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Gloria S. Baca,

Land Law Examiner.

[FR Doc. 01-289 Filed 1-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZA 28900]

Public Land Order No. 7251; Withdrawal of National Forest System Lands for State Highway 87 Roadside Zone; Arizona; Correction

Correction

In notice document 97-8627 on page 16179 in the issue of Friday, April 4, 1997, make the following correction:

On page 16179, in the first column, in the 24th line from the top, "Sec. 9, SE¼SW¼ and SW¼SE¼;" should read "Sec. 9, W½"SE¼SW¼SE¼SE¼SW¼, and lot 6;"

Dated: December 19, 2000.

Elson F. Alvarez,

Acting Deputy State Director, Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 01-290 Filed 1-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-360-1230-PA-1220]

Supplementary Rules

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Establishment of open hours for Reading Island Recreation Site, Swasey Drive-Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and adjoining areas. The affected public land includes all BLM managed lands within:

Mount Diablo Meridian

T. 29N., R. 3W Sec. 3, 10

T. 31N., R. 5W Sec. 6, 7

T. 31N., R. 6W Sec. 12

SUMMARY: The BLM is prohibiting persons from driving, parking, or leaving motorized vehicles within the Reading Island Recreation Day Use Area, Swasey Drive ACEC and adjoining areas from 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise. The use of these areas by motorized vehicles during the prohibited hours must have written authorization from a BLM authorized officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Reading Island Recreation Day Use Area, Swasey Drive ACEC and adjoining areas are recreation sites within Shasta County, California that are adjacent to residential areas. Although most public use at the site is lawful and orderly, night time vandalism, littering, shooting and drug use has been a problem. The night time activity deters lawful public use, damages natural and cultural resources, and creates a public nuisance. The BLM can reduce this type of unlawful activity and enhance the setting for valid recreation use by requiring a permit for night time motorized use. Reading Island Recreation Day Use Area, Swasey Drive ACEC and adjoining areas are open to the general public and motorized vehicles from 1 hour before sunrise until 1 hour after sunset. After those hours, visitors to the site must obtain written authorization from a BLM authorized officer to use motorized vehicles in the two areas mentioned. Written authorization will be in the form of a Special Recreation Use permit or equivalent instrument as determined by the BLM authorized officer. Law enforcement personnel and other public servants specifically authorized by the BLM are exempt from this closure. This closure shall remain in effect until further notice.

The authority for these closures and rule making is 43 CFR 8364.1. Any

person who fails to comply with closure or restriction orders is subject to arrest and fines of up to \$100,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months. Unauthorized vehicles left at the Reading Island Recreation Site or the Swasey Drive ACEC and adjoining areas described while closed will be subject to towing at the owners expense.

DATES: This supplementary rule will take effect January 30th, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Schultz, Field Manager, Redding Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, CA 96002 (530) 224-2100. For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice, interested parties may submit written comments or objections to the Field Manager, Redding Field Office at the above address.

Dated: December 20, 2000.

Charles Schultz,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 01-44 Filed 1-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-Q

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-958-1430-ET; HAG 01-0032; OR-23735]

Proposed Extension of Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to extend Public Land Order (PLO) 5980 for a 20 year period. This order withdrew public land from surface entry and mining, to protect the McDermitt Administrative Site and McDermitt Airport Protective Zone. The land has been and will remain open to mineral leasing. This notice also gives an opportunity to comment on the proposed action and to request a public meeting.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by April 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments and meetings requests should be sent to the Oregon/Washington State Director, BLM, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208-2965.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles R. Roy, BLM Oregon/Washington State Office, 503-952-6189.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 10, 1999, the Bureau of Land