

land use planning and management of public lands within their geographic areas. Public nominations will be accepted until April 21, 2003.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM.

Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10- to 15-member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As required by the FACA, RAC membership must be balanced and representative of the various interests concerned with management of public lands.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Nominees for the Eastern Washington RAC must be residents of Washington. Nominees will be evaluated based on their education, training, experience, and their knowledge of the geographical area of the RAC. Nominees should have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. All nominations submitted must include letters of reference from represented interests or organizations, a completed background information nomination form, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications.

DATES: All nominations should be received in the Oregon BLM State Office by April 21, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Robbins: (503) 808-6306, pam_robbins@blm.gov, BLM State Office, 333 Southwest 1st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

Richard E. Hubbard,
Rangeland Management Specialist, Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-7174 Filed 3-25-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-110-03-1220-PA]

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Plan Amendment and Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Travel Management Plan Amendment to the White River Resource Management

Plan (RMP) for the Wilson Creek area in Rio Blanco, and Moffat Counties, Colorado.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing an EA and RMP to address management of roads and trails of the approximate 6,805 acre Wilson Creek area administered by the White River Field Office. The Wilson Creek Area is approximately 10 miles north of Meeker, Colorado. Early participation is encouraged and will help determine the future management of public lands administered by the White River Field Office.

DATES: The official public scoping for this planning effort commences with the publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit scoping comments to the address listed below for 60 days following the date that this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. BLM will publish exact dates, times, and locations for public meetings through media announcements, Internet postings, and mailings at least 15 days in advance of the meetings. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, White River Field Office, 73544 Highway 64, Meeker, Colorado 81641 or e-mail Chris_Ham@co.blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Ham, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Telephone (970) 878-3845; E-mail—Chris_Ham@co.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The use of off-highway vehicles (OHVs), snowmobiles, mountain bikes, and horses has greatly increased in recent years. These are important uses of public lands, especially OHV use in the Wilson Creek Area. They have also created several management concerns:

(1) The proliferation of new, unplanned roads and trails that have or will create unacceptable resource damage.

(2) Existing land use designations that allow cross-country travel within the Wilson Creek area during a portion of the year.

(3) Private land trespass issues created by land ownership patterns.

(4) Effects of OHV use on quality hunting experience.

The White River Field Office has and will continue to consult, communicate and cooperate with local landowners, recreationists, the Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Committee and other affected interest groups to develop and design a travel system that will provide access for recreation, business and industry needs while sustaining land health standards.

BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the plan amendment and environmental assessment in order to consider all identified resource issues and concerns. Disciplines involved in the planning process will include specialists with expertise in outdoor recreation, rangeland management, archaeology, wildlife, hydrology, minerals, and soils.

Dated: February 5, 2003.

Kent E. Walter,
Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-7166 Filed 3-25-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-910-1410-PG]

Notice of Public Meeting, Alaska Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Alaska Resource Council will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held April 28-29, 2003, in the Binkley Room at Pike's Waterfront Lodge in Fairbanks, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The public comment period will begin at 1 p.m. April 28.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Teresa McPherson, Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Avenue #13, Anchorage, AK 99513. Telephone (907) 271-3322 or e-mail Teresa_McPherson@ak.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 13-member Council advises the Secretary

of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Alaska. At this meeting, topics we plan to discuss include:

- Outdated withdrawals on federal public lands in Alaska.
 - A process for accelerating the Alaska land transfer program.
 - Status of planning in the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A).
 - Other topics the Council may raise.
- All meetings are open to the public.

The public may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allotted for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, transportation, or other reasonable accommodations, should contact BLM.

Dated: March 17, 2003.

Henri R. Bisson,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 03-7183 Filed 3-25-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-030-1610-DH; AZA-31733]

Notice of Realty Action and Intent To Amend the Kingman Resource Management Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of realty action and intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider amending the Kingman Resource Management Plan (RMP).

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Kingman Field Office (KFO) proposes to amend the Kingman RMP (1995) to allow for classification and disposal of certain public lands (*see A* below), and special designation of certain other public lands (*see B* below), for use as a shooting range and buffer as requested by the Arizona Game & Fish Department (AG&FD). A decision to amend the land use plan would constitute a proposed classification of the land, thirty (30) days after which the land would be classified unless the Secretary exercises jurisdiction pursuant to 43 CFR 2450.5. The lands proposed under A—Shooting Range below are proposed for

classification under section 7 of the Taylor Grazing Act, 43 U.S.C. 315f and Executive Order No. 6910, and disposal under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*):

A—Shooting Range

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Mohave County, Arizona

T. 19 N., R. 21 W.,

Sec. 35, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 36, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Containing approximately 315 acres.

The lands identified under B—Buffer below are being considered through the plan amendment process for special designation for retention and management under a Cooperative Management Plan/Agreement between the AG&FD and the BLM for safety purposes:

B—Buffer

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Mohave County, Arizona

T. 19 N., R. 21 W.,

Sec. 25, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 26, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 35, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 36, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Containing approximately 470 acres.

Upon publication of this notice, the lands described under “A” above are hereby segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for conveyance under the R&PP Act. The segregative effect applies to the Federal surface but only to the Federally-owned minerals in section 36. The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns.

DATES: The public is invited to identify issues and concerns to be addressed in the EA to be prepared for the potential RMP amendment. Submissions should be in writing or by e-mail (*see addresses below*). Comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days following the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Future public involvement activities, opportunities and review/comment periods will be announced at least 15 days in advance through other notices, media releases, or mailings. A public open house will be

held on the Mohave Valley Campus of Mohave Community College, Room 210, 3400 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the various aspects of this Notice as identified in the Supplemental Information should be sent to John R. Christensen, Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Kingman Field Office, 2475 Beverly Avenue, Kingman, Arizona 86401. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Kingman Field Office during regular business hours, (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, and may be published as part of the EA. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joyce Cook, Realty Specialist, Kingman Field Office, 2475 Beverly Avenue, Kingman, Arizona, 86401, telephone (928) 692-4428.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Kingman Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved in 1995, identified land for R&PP uses, *i.e.* churches, schools, parks, fire departments, etc., with a caveat that non-conforming uses may be considered on a case-by-case basis. A shooting range is considered, by most, to be a non-conforming use. A previously proposed location for this action was met with opposition based on its proximity to residential development. Planning criteria include those identified for R&PP in the RMP and project specific criteria developed to aid in location of the shooting range on public land and determine suitability for classification for disposal through R&PP. Other criteria may be developed through public input. The amendment would consider whether restrictions on uses or activities, such as case-by-case approvals, would be needed to ensure public safety within the buffer area. The remainder of public land, not identified above, will continue to be managed as provided for in the approved RMP and actions in the vicinity of the shooting range would be considered on a case-by-