

science are those that are either supported by quantitative information or studies, or those that include citations to and analysis of applicable laws and regulations. Except for comments provided in electronic format, commenters should submit two copies of their written comments, where practicable. The BLM will not necessarily consider comments received after the time indicated under the **DATES** section or at locations other than that listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

In the event there is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of your comments, we intend to make them available in their entirety, including your name and address (or your e-mail address if you file electronically). However, if you do not want us to release your name and address (or e-mail address) in response to a FOIA request, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your wish to the extent allowed by the law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be in their entirety, including names and addresses (or e-mail addresses).

Electronic Access and Filing Address: Commenters may transmit comments electronically via the Internet to lee\_barkow@blm.gov. Please include the identifier "Science4" in the subject of your message and your name and address in the body of your message.

### III. Accessibility

The meeting sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability who will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the hearing, such as interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format, must notify the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** two weeks before the scheduled hearing date. Although BLM will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it.

**Lee Barkow,**

*Director, National Applied Resource Sciences Center.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-84-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[Montana; MT-060-00-1220-BE-003E]

#### Restriction of Public Lands

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice. Restriction of public lands.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lewistown Field Office, Montana is issuing written orders implementing a two year moratorium on the issuance of new annual Special Recreation Permits for commercial guided recreation trips on the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River (UMNWSR). This order applies to all public lands and waters within the boundaries of the UMNWSR from Fort Benton, Montana downstream for 149 miles to the Fred Robinson Bridge. The BLM will not accept new applications or issue new annual Special Recreation Permits to any individual, group, corporation or company for the purpose of providing guided river trips on the UMNWSR.

Exemptions apply to any person who had been issued a valid annual Special Recreation Permit for commercial recreation on the UMNWSR prior to April 1, 2000, and any person providing only land based visitor services (shuttles, rentals, etc.).

**DATES:** This moratorium is effective immediately and applies until April 1, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** David L. Mari, Field Manager, Lewistown Field Office, P.O. Box 1160, Lewistown, MT 59457.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Slagel, 406/538-1950.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 10, 1999, the Secretary of the Interior asked the Central Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) to seek public comment and provide him with a report and recommendations concerning future management of public lands in the Missouri River Breaks in north central Montana. The RAC was asked to complete this task by December 31, 1999. During this time period, the RAC met four times and actively solicited public input regarding management options for the Missouri Breaks area. The council received more than 400 written and oral comments.

On December 30, 1999 the RAC's final report was sent to the Secretary of the Interior. This report included numerous motions approved with full RAC consensus. One of these motions proposed a two-year moratorium on

new river special recreation permit authorizations. The RAC clarified and emphasized its intent with this recommendation during an earlier conference call on December 28, 1999. The two-year moratorium allows for the same number of outfitters, in fact the same outfitters, as permitted in 1999, and applies only to those outfitters actually using the river for floating/boating/guiding clients.

During this two-year moratorium, the BLM will collect data to determine the environmental impacts and ensuing social conflicts associated with significantly increased special recreation permit authorizations on the UMNWSR.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 8364.1 and 8351.2-1.

Dated: April 21, 2000.

**David L. Mari,**

*Field Manager.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-1610-DH-241A]

#### Notice of Intent to Prepare an Amendment to the Walker Resource Management Plan

The Carson City Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management and Douglas County, Nevada will jointly coordinate preparation of the following: (1) A County Specific Plan for about 625 acres of Federal and private lands in Douglas County, Nevada and (2) a BLM Resource Management Plan Amendment for about 430 acres of BLM lands included in Douglas County's Specific Plan.

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an amendment to the Walker Resource Management Plan, notice of scoping period and public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carson City, Field Office, and Douglas County will jointly direct preparation of a County Specific Plan and Walker Resource Management Plan Amendment and environmental assessment. The Resource Management Plan Amendment will identify specific tracts of BLM managed public lands in the North Douglas County specific Planning Area for potential disposal through exchange or under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) and criteria for BLM acquisition