

plantations and young forests; and reconnect streams and reconnect stream channel to their riparian areas and upslope areas.

The DEIS analyzes in detail the following six alternatives:

Alternative A—no active management (No Action);

Alternative B—restoration limited to forest plantations and road management with no commercial timber harvest;

Alternative C—continuation of the current management approach;

Alternative D—restoration focused on recovery of threatened and endangered species;

Alternative E—restoration that would reduce forest stand densities as quickly as possible; and

Alternative F—restoration based on multi-entry and multi-trajectory thinning.

All alternatives analyzed in the DEIS would be in conformance with the 1995 Eugene District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and would not require any amendment or revision of the RMP. The Preferred Alternative is *Alternative D*.

The DEIS analyzes the following issues:

- How would thinning affect development of late-successional forest habitat characteristics?
- What are the effects of restoration activities on the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and coho salmon habitat?
- What level of risk to existing late-successional forest would result from restoration activities?
- How would actions meet the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy?
- How much new road construction would be needed to implement restoration actions?
- How would road decommissioning and road management actions alter public access to BLM lands?
- How would restoration actions affect the presence and spread of noxious weeds?
- What would be the economic effects of restoration activities?
- What would the restoration program cost?

Steven Calish,
Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-19255 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-AG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-1430-FM, WYW 148816]

Notice of Public Interest Hearing

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior and Forest Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of a public interest determination hearing on the proposed Pittsburg & Midway Coal exchange.

SUMMARY: A public hearing as required under regulations at 43 CFR 2203.3, is scheduled to accept oral and written testimony and comments on the public interest factors associated with the proposed Pittsburg and Midway (P&M) Coal Exchange. Pertinent information regarding the proposed exchange is contained in a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which documents and discloses the results of an environmental analysis of the proposed P&M Coal Exchange. The FEIS may be viewed and downloaded from the BLM Wyoming Web site <http://www.wy.blm.gov>.

DATES: The public hearing will be held from 7–9 p.m. m.d.t., September 17, 2003, at Sheridan College, 3059 Coffeen Avenue, Whitney Building, Room W-136, Sheridan, Wyoming 82801.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FEIS are also available for public inspection at the following BLM Offices: Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009; Buffalo Field Office, 1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834; Rawlins Field Office, 1300 N. Third Street, Rawlins, WY 82301; Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604; and the Pinedale Field Office, 432 E. Mill Street, Pinedale, WY 82941.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information contact Nancy Doelger at 307-261-7627, Mel Schlagel at 307-775-6257, or Tamara Gertsch at 307-775-6115.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: After completion of the FEIS and prior to making a public interest determination and issuing a notice of decision, the BLM is required to hold a public hearing to receive public comments on the public interest factors on the proposed exchange. BLM will provide an attendance register at the door to record names of the parties attending the meeting. BLM will also provide a register for those desiring to express their views during the formal hearing procedure. The time allotted to each person wishing to make a statement will be determined by the number of attendees wishing to speak.

The hearing will consist of two distinct phases: (1) an informal phase where the BLM and the USFS will explain the exchange proposal in general terms and will respond to any questions about the exchange proposal, and (2) a formal phase where it will be explained that the hearing is afforded to provide an opportunity to receive comments regarding the public interest factors associated with the proposed exchange. BLM will ask each party who registered at the door to proceed to the microphone and provide their comments. Each party will be asked for their name, business affiliation (if any), and a written copy of their comments if one is available. BLM will not respond to any questions during the formal phase of the hearing. A transcript of both the written and verbal comments will be recorded and will become part of the official transcript for the hearing. The complete transcript of the formal phase of the hearing will be forwarded to the Department of Justice for their review, prior to a Record of Decision being issued for the proposed land exchange. Any comments received will be considered in the final decision issued for this exchange.

Dated: August 12, 2003.

Melvin Schlagel,
Realty Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-20829 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-068-03-1610-DR-241E]

Notice of Availability of Approved Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared an Approved Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) for the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (NCA) and Sonoita Valley Acquisition Planning District (SVAPD) located in Pima and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona. The RMP/ROD will be signed by the Arizona State Director and become effective upon publication of this notice.

The RMP/ROD has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the act establishing the Las Cienegas

National Conservation Area (H.R. 2941), and BLM management policies.

The RMP/ROD was developed with broad public participation through a six-year collaborative planning process. The RMP/ROD addresses management on approximately 49,000 acres of public land within the NCA and SVAPD. The RMP/ROD is designed to achieve or maintain desired future conditions developed through the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership process. The RMP/ROD also includes a series of management actions to meet the desired resource conditions for upland and riparian vegetation, wildlife habitats, and cultural and visual resources as well as livestock grazing and recreation.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the RMP/ROD are available upon request from the Field Manager, Tucson Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 12661 East Broadway Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona 85748-7208 or via the Internet at www.az.blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Simms, Ecosystem Planner, Tucson Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 12661 East Broadway Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona 85748-7208; telephone number (520) 258-7210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The approved Resource Management Plan is essentially the same as Alternative 2 in the Proposed Las Cienegas RMP/Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS) that was published in June 2002. BLM received only one protest to the PRMP/FEIS. No inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs were identified during the Governor consistency review of the PRMP/FEIS. As a result, only minor editorial modifications were made in preparing the RMP/ROD. These modifications corrected errors that were noted during review of Alternative 2 of the PRMP/FEIS and provide further clarification for some of the decisions. An errata sheet is included with the RMP/ROD that identifies the location of the corrections in the PRMP/FEIS.

Elaine Y. Zielinski,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 03-21073 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee Charter Renewal

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of charter renewal.

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-463). Following consultation with the General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior is renewing the charter for the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to provide recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior, the Governor of California, the California Bay-Delta Authority, and other participating Federal agencies on implementation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (Program) as described in the Programmatic Record of Decision which outlines the long-term comprehensive solution for addressing the problems affecting the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. The Committee will provide recommendations on implementation of each element of the Program through the completion of Stage 1 (first 7 years). Specific responsibilities of the Committee include: (1) Making recommendations on annual priorities and coordination of Program actions to achieve balanced implementation of the Program elements; (2) providing recommendations on effective integration of Program elements to provide continuous, balanced improvement of each of the Program objectives (ecosystem restoration, water quality, levee system integrity, and water supply reliability); (3) evaluating implementation of Program actions in Stage 1, including assessment of Program area performance; (4) reviewing and making recommendations on Program Plans and Annual Reports describing implementation of Program elements as set forth in the Programmatic Record of Decision to the Secretary, the Governor, the Congress, the California Legislature, the Authority, and other interested parties; (5) recommending Program actions taking into account recommendations from the Committee's subcommittees; and (6) liaison between the Committee's subcommittee, the State and Federal agencies, the Secretary and the Governor.

The Committee consists of 20 to 30 members who are appointed by the Secretary in consultation with the Governor.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Buzard, CALFED Program Manager, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95821-1898, telephone (916) 978-5525.

The certification of Charter renewal is published below:

Certification

I hereby certify that Charter renewal of the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior.

Gale A. Norton,
Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 03-20800 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029-0103

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing that the information collection request regarding noncoal reclamation, found at 30 CFR part 875, has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal authority. The information collection request describes the nature of the information collection and the expected burden and cost.

DATES: OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB by September 15, 2003, in order to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease at (202) 208-2783, or electronically at jtreleas@osmre.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8 (d)). OSM has submitted a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information for noncoal reclamation, found at 30 CFR part 875. OSM is requesting a 3-