

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision; Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Theodore Roosevelt National Park**

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision on the Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Billings and McKenzie Counties, ND.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/EIS) for Theodore Roosevelt National Park (Park), Billings and McKenzie Counties, North Dakota. On June 4, the Midwest Regional Director approved the ROD for the project. As soon as practicable, the NPS will begin to implement the Preferred Alternative contained in the final Plan/EIS.

The NPS will implement the Preferred Alternative, as described in the final Plan/EIS released on March 8, 2010. The Preferred Alternative will make use of skilled public volunteers to assist the Park with culling the elk herd through the use of firearms. The initial reduction phase would reduce the elk herd, now estimated at 1,000 elk, to approximately 200 elk within 5 years, by removing approximately 275 elk per year. Following the initial reduction phase, the Park would take an additional 20 to 24 elk per year for the remaining 10 years of the Plan in order to maintain a consistent population level.

Following each year of the initial reduction phase, the NPS will evaluate the program in order to determine if its population goals are being met. If population goals are being achieved, the park will continue with the use of firearms. Should the park determine that its population goals are not being met following the first two years of the initial reduction phase, it would continue with direct reduction activities but would also have the ability to use a roundup or other capture method and then euthanize and/or translocate elk in order to meet its population objectives. Should the park need to capture animals, whether elk are euthanized or translocated will depend on whether adequate sampling has occurred to meet chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance goals, whether CWD is detected in the herd and whether there

are willing recipients that can meet all Federal and State requirements to transport and receive live elk.

The ROD includes a statement of the decision made, synopses of other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, a finding on impairment of park resources and values, a listing of measures to minimize environmental harm, and an overview of public involvement in the decisionmaking process.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent Valerie Naylor, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, P.O. Box 7, Medora, North Dakota 58645-0007. You may also view the document via the Internet through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment Web site (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>); click on the link to Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Dated: July 21, 2010.

**Ernest Quintana,**

*Regional Director, Midwest Region.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

**[LLWYD01000-2010-LL13100000-NB0000-LXSI016K0000]**

**Notice of Field Tours for the Pinedale Anticline Working Group**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976), the Federal Advisory Committee Act (1972), and the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Pinedale Anticline Project Area (PAPA) 2008 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), and the Pinedale Anticline Working Group (PAWG) charter, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) PAWG will conduct field tours of the Pinedale Anticline Project Area (PAPA). Tours are open to the public.

**DATES:** September 30, 2010, and May 5, 2011, at 12 p.m. MST. Members of the public are asked to RSVP no later than one week prior to each field trip to Shelley Gregory, BLM Pinedale Field Office, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, WY 82941; 307-367-5328; [shelley\\_gregory@blm.gov](mailto:shelley_gregory@blm.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** BLM Pinedale Field Office, 1625 West Pine Street, Pinedale, WY.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shelley Gregory, BLM Pinedale Field Office, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, WY 82941; 307-367-5328; [shelley\\_gregory@blm.gov](mailto:shelley_gregory@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The PAWG was established by the EIS ROD for the PAPA on July 27, 2000, and carried forward with the release of the ROD for the PAPA SEIS on September 12, 2008.

The PAWG is a Federal Advisory Committee Act group which develops recommendations and provides advice to the BLM on mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management issues as oil and gas development in the PAPA proceeds. Additional information about the PAWG can be found at: [http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/field\\_offices/pinedale/pawg.html](http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/field_offices/pinedale/pawg.html).

Dated: August 27, 2010.

**Donald A. Simpson,**  
*State Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

**[LLWYD01000-2009-LL13100000-NB0000-LXSI016K0000]**

**Notice of Rescheduled Meetings of the Pinedale Anticline Working Group**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (1972), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Pinedale Anticline Working Group (PAWG) will conduct meetings in Pinedale, Wyoming. These meetings are open to the public.

**DATES:** The August 26, 2010, September 23, 2010, and October 28, 2010 meetings have been cancelled. The PAWG will meet on the following dates: October 1, 2010, November 4, 2010, February 3, 2011, and May 6, 2011, beginning at 10 a.m. MST.

**ADDRESSES:** BLM Pinedale Field Office, 1625 West Pine Street, Pinedale, WY.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shelley Gregory, Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office, 1625 West Pine Street., P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, WY 82941; 307-367-5328; [shelley\\_gregory@blm.gov](mailto:shelley_gregory@blm.gov).