

recommendation for withdrawal is presented to Congress.

In addition, a public meeting addressing the amended withdrawal application will be held to help the public understand the amended withdrawal application and the associated process for decision-making; please see the **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** sections for details.

The DON is the lead agency for evaluation of the proposed withdrawal expansion as pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, as amended (NEPA) 42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*, and other applicable environmental and cultural resources authorities.

Comments including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the BLM addresses noted above, during regular business hours Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be publicly available at any time. While you can ask the BLM in your comment to withhold your personally identifiable information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For a period until May 4, 2020, subject to valid existing rights, the Federal lands that are described in this Notice as added to the DON's withdrawal application will be segregated, for two years, from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing laws, unless the applications/proposal are denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. The acres of public land segregated upon publication of this Notice totals 92,482.45 acres. Licenses, permits, cooperative agreements, or discretionary land use authorizations may be allowed during the period of segregation, but only with the approval of the authorized officer and, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the DON.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 2310.1–4, the segregative effect for the 2,429.80 acres described above is terminated, and the lands opened as follows: At 9 a.m. on June 4, 2018 the 2,429.80 acres of public lands in Churchill County, identified by the DON as no longer needed for their application for legislative withdrawal, and legally described above, will be opened to the operation of the general land laws and to location and entry under the United States mining laws,

subject to valid existing right, the provision of existing withdrawals, and other segregations of record, and other applicable law, including the provisions of 43 U.S.C. 1782. Appropriation of any of the land described in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38 (1988), shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The BLM will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights, because Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts. All valid applications under any other general land laws received at or prior to 9 a.m. on June 4, 2018 shall be considered as simultaneously filed at that time. Those received thereafter shall be considered in the order of filing.

Authority: 43 CFR 2300.

Michael C. Courtney,

Acting State Director, Nevada.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Availability of the Colorado Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Colorado Greater-Sage-Grouse (GRSG) Conservation and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period. BLM Colorado is soliciting comments on the entire Draft EIS, as well as the specific planning issues mentioned in this NOA, and the cumulative effects analysis.

DATES: To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive

written comments on the Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of availability of the Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public participation activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Colorado GRSG RMP Amendment/Draft EIS by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** <https://goo.gl/kmLtwT>.
- **mail:** BLM—Greater Sage-Grouse

EIS, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Copies of the Colorado GRSG Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS are available at the website above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Bridget Clayton, Colorado Sage-grouse Coordinator, telephone 970–244–3045; see address above; email bclayton@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact Ms. Clayton. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with Ms. Clayton. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Greater Sage-Grouse is a state-managed species that is dependent on sagebrush steppe ecosystems. These ecosystems are managed in partnership across the range of the Greater Sage-Grouse by federal, state, and local authorities. Efforts to conserve the species and its habitat date back to the 1950s. Over the past two decades, state wildlife agencies, federal agencies, and many others in the range of the species have been collaborating to conserve Greater Sage-Grouse and its habitats. The United States Department of the Interior (DOI) and the BLM have broad responsibilities to manage federal lands and resources for the public benefit. Nearly half of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat is managed by the BLM. The BLM is committed to being a good neighbor and investing in on-the-ground conservation activities through close collaboration with State governments, local communities, private landowners, and other stakeholders.

In September 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) determined that the Greater Sage-Grouse did not warrant listing under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The USFWS based its “not warranted” determination, in part, on the conservation commitments and management actions in the BLM

and U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service) Greater Sage-Grouse land use plan amendments and revisions (2015 GRSG land use plan decisions), as well as on other private, state, and federal conservation efforts. Since 2015 the BLM, in discussion with partners, primarily Governors and state wildlife management agencies, recognized that several refinements and policy updates could help strengthen conservation efforts, while providing increased economic opportunity to local communities. The BLM and Department of Interior worked closely with Governors charged with managing Greater Sage-Grouse to determine whether some, none, or all of the 2015 Land Use Plans should be amended. After carefully considering the Governor's input, and using its discretion and authority under FLPMA, as well as under direction from the Secretary, including Secretary's Order (SO) 3353, the BLM proposes amending the Colorado Greater Sage-Grouse land use plans that address GRSG management. This action is proposed to enhance cooperation and improve alignment with the state plans or management strategies, in accordance with the BLM's multiple use and sustained yield mission. The BLM prepared the Colorado GRSG Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS to address alternatives that will build upon its commitment to conserve and restore Greater Sage-Grouse habitat, while improving collaboration and alignment with state management strategies for Greater Sage-Grouse. The BLM seeks to improve management alignment in ways that will increase management flexibility, maintain access to public resources, and promote conservation outcomes. The BLM used internal, agency, and public scoping to identify issues considered in the environmental analysis. As part of this analysis, the BLM also examined the range of alternatives evaluated in the BLM's 2015 GRSG land use plan decisions and their supporting NEPA analyses. This Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS is one of six separate planning efforts that are being undertaken in response to SO 3353, Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation and Cooperation with Western States (June 7, 2017), and in accordance with SO 3349, American Energy Independence (March 29, 2017). The Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS proposes to amend the RMPs for field offices on BLM lands within BLM Colorado boundaries. In addition to the 2015 Northwest Colorado GRSG Approved RMP Amendment, current

management decisions for resources are described in the following RMPs:

- Colorado River Valley RMP (2015)
- Kremmling RMP (2015)
- Grand Junction RMP (2015)
- Little Snake RMP (2011)
- White River RMP (1997)

The planning area includes approximately 4,153,000 acres of BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, State, local, and private lands located in Colorado, in 10 counties: Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Larimer, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit. Within the decision area, the BLM manages approximately 1,731,400 acres of GRSG habitat. Surface management decisions made as a result of this Draft RMP Amendment/EIS will apply only to BLM-administered lands in the decision area.

The formal public scoping process for the Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS began on October 11, 2017, with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 47248), and ended on December 1, 2017. A public scoping meeting was held in Craig, Colorado, on November 8, 2017.

The Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS addresses leasing availability within one mile from active leks, lek buffers, adjustments to habitat boundaries to reflect new information, and changes to waivers, exceptions and modification criteria. The Draft RMP Amendment/Draft EIS evaluate two alternatives in detail, including the No Action Alternative (Alternative A) and one action alternative (Alternative B). Alternative B has been identified as BLM's Preferred Alternative for the purposes of public comment and review. Identification of this alternative, however, does not represent final agency direction, and the Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS may reflect changes or adjustments from information received during public comment, from new information, or from changes in BLM policies or priorities. The Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS may include objectives and actions described in the other analyzed alternative as well. Alternative A would retain the current management goals, objectives, and direction specified in the current RMPs for each field office.

Please note that public comments and information submitted including names, street addresses, and email addresses of persons who submit comments will be available for public review and disclosure at the address provided in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice during regular business hours (8:00 a.m.

to 4:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10 and 43 CFR 1610.2

Gregory P. Shoop,

Acting BLM Colorado State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease WYW180624, Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As provided for under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition for reinstatement of competitive oil and gas lease WYW180624 from Kirkwood Oil & Gas LLC for land in Converse County, Wyoming. The lessee filed the petition on time, along with all rentals due since the lease terminated under the law. No leases affecting this land were issued before the petition was filed. The BLM proposes to reinstate the lease.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erik Norelius, Acting Branch Chief for Fluid Minerals Adjudication, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82003; phone 307-775-6176; email enoreliu@blm.gov.

Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact Mr. Norelius during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. A reply will be sent during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lessee agreed to the amended lease terms for