

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has applied to the Service for an incidental take permit pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Act. This permit would authorize the incidental take of piping plovers through otherwise lawful activities occurring on plover breeding beaches. Included in the application is a conservation plan prepared by the Division detailing the activities that would result in incidental take and describing measures that mitigate, minimize and monitor the amount of take.

The purpose of the proposed incidental take permit is to provide increased flexibility in managing Massachusetts beaches for use by recreationists and homeowners, while assuring continued progress toward the recovery of the Massachusetts and Atlantic Coast populations of the piping plover. The additional flexibility in managing beaches will prevent a disproportionate expenditure of resources directed at the protection of a few nests or broods in areas where they may significantly disrupt beach access by large numbers of people and be highly vulnerable to disturbance and/or mortality. Management flexibility also will create incentives for the continued participation by beach management agencies and organizations involved in protecting piping plovers.

On May 18, 2000, the Service published a notice of availability of the draft EA and receipt of an application for an incidental take permit for the Atlantic coast piping plover in Massachusetts. The public comment period originally was announced to close on June 19, 2000. Because of several requests for additional time, the Service is extending the public comment period to July 3, 2000.

Dated: June 19, 2000.

**Margaret T. Kolar,**

*Acting Deputy Regional Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[ID-075-1330-AC]

#### Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announces availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Dry Valley Mine Extension, Panels C and D. The FEIS

analyzes the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with a proposal by Astaris, LLC (Formerly FMC Corporation) to extend existing open-pit phosphate mining operations in southeastern Idaho. BLM, US Forest Service, and the US Army Corps of Engineers prepared the FEIS. BLM is acting as the lead agency; the US Forest Service is a joint lead agency; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a cooperating agency for preparation of the FEIS. The Proposed Action includes: construction of two mining pits (Pits C and D), associated haul and access roads, overburden dumps, and use of existing mine facilities to support continued mining. Alternatives to the Proposed Action include the No Action Alternative and alternative methods of handling overburden to reduce impacts caused by the proposed mine extension. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was distributed in July 1999. The FEIS responds to comments received on the DEIS.

#### Agency Decisions

The BLM will issue a Record of Decision regarding the proposed Dry Valley Panel C and D Mine and Reclamation Plan and modification (enlargement) of Federal Phosphate Lease I-0678. The Caribou National Forest will provide BLM with recommendations for those portions of the project that are on National Forest System lands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District anticipates signing a separate Record of Decision regarding issuance of a Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit for the project.

**DATES:** The Bureau of Land Management and the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers intend to issue independent Records of Decision (ROD) on the proposal no sooner than July 24, 2000 or 30 days after publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register** by the Environmental Protection Agency.

**ADDRESSES:** Limited numbers of the FEIS are available at the Bureau of Land Management, Pocatello Field Office, 1111 N. 8th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201, telephone (208) 478-6354; the Soda Springs Ranger District of the Caribou National Forest, 421 W. 2nd South, Soda Springs, Idaho 83276, telephone (208) 547-4356; and the US Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, Idaho Falls Regulatory Office, 900 North Skyline Drive, Suite A, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402 Falls, telephone (208) 522-1645.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Comments or questions may be directed to Jeff Cundick, EIS Project Manager,

Bureau of Land Management, Pocatello Field Office, 1111 N. 8th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201. Telephone: (208) 478-6354.

**Jeff S. Steele,**

*Manager, Pocatello Field Office, Bureau of Land Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[UT-020-00-5101-ER-J206, U-76985]

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Plan Amendment to the Pony Express Resource Management Plan (RMP)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Plan Amendment to the Pony Express Resource Management Plan (RMP).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Salt Lake Field Office, Utah announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and plan amendment to the Transportation and Corridor Decision of the Pony Express RMP.

On April 15, 1999 the Salt Lake Field Office published in the **Federal Register** a notice of intent to conduct a plan amendment to the RMP. Further, the notice indicated that BLM was a cooperating agency with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), lead agency for the DEIS. The NRC is publishing a separate notice for the DEIS, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Construction and Operation of an Independent Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Installation on the Reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians and the Related Transportation Facility in Tooele County, Utah" NUREG-1714, June 2000, regarding the proposal of Private Fuel Storage, L.L.C. (PFS) to construct and operate an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) on the Reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. BLM intends to adopt the EIS as a basis for its plan amendment decision.

**DATES:** Comments on the land use plan amendment and DEIS will be accepted through September 21, 2000. Public meetings concerning both the DEIS and

plan amendment will be held at the following locations and dates:

- July 27, 2000, Little America Inn, Arizona Room, 500 S. Main Street, Salt Lake City, UT, from 7–10 p.m.
- July 28, 2000, Grantsville Middle School, 318 S. Hale Street, Grantsville, UT, from 7–10 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the proposed BLM plan amendment and the DEIS should be sent to Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, Mailstop T-6D-59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. All comments received by the NRC, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies, Indian tribes, or other interested persons, will be made available for public inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room in Washington, DC.

The DEIS is available for public inspection and duplication at the NRC's Public Document Room at the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NS, Washington, DC. The DEIS will be available for review on the NRC Web site, and a comment form will be available for those who wish to submit comments. Upon written request and to the extent supplies are available, a single copy of the draft report can be obtained for free by writing to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Reproduction and Distribution Services Section, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; by e-mail ([Distribution@NRC.gov](mailto:Distribution@NRC.gov)); or by fax at (301) 415-2289. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Salt Lake Field Office and will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). They may be published as part of the Final EIS and other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review and disclosure under the FOIA, 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 or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the BLM plan amendment contact Alice Stephenson, BLM Project Leader, telephone (801) 977-4317. Existing planning documents and information are available at the above address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** PFS intends to transport spent nuclear fuel (SNF) by rail from commercial power reactor sites to an existing rail line north of Skull Valley. To transport the SNF from the existing rail line to the proposed facility, PFS proposes the construction and operation of a rail siding and rail line from Skunk Ridge (near Low, Utah) to the site of the ISFSI on the Reservation. This DEIS discusses the purpose and need for the PFS proposal and describes the proposed action and its reasonable alternatives. The PFS proposal requires approval from four federal agencies, NRC, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Surface Transportation Board (STB), and BLM. The BLM decision to grant a right-of-way to PFS would be dependent upon the decisions made by the NRC and BIA. If the NRC issues a license to PFS for the proposed facility and BIA approves the lease, then BLM's preferred alternative would be to amend the Pony Express RMP and issue a right-of-way for the Skunk Ridge rail siding and rail line.

Sally Wisely,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 00-15586 Filed 6-22-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-330-1820-DH-014B]

#### Headwaters Forest Reserve, California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management in Partnership With California Department of Fish and Game.

**ACTION:** Extension of scoping comment period.

**SUMMARY:** A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the adoption of a Management Plan for the Headwaters Forest Reserve in the northcoast area of California, and to announce three public scoping meetings, was published in the **Federal Register** June 2, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 107). A scoping comment deadline of July 3, 2000 was also cited and is hereby extended to Friday, August 4, 2000 by this notice. This extension is intended to provide the public with additional time to prepare and submit comments.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An internet web page describes in detail the scope of the proposed plan and provides background information on the Headwaters Forest Reserve. The web page contains instructions for

submitting scoping comments, and coding of comments by subject is requested. The internet address of the web site of [www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/headwaters.html](http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/headwaters.html). The deadline for submitting comments is amended to Friday, August 4, 2000.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lynda J. Roush, Arcata Field Manager, at 707-825-2300 or Headwaters Forest Reserve Management Plan Information Line, 916-737-3010, extension 4326. Email comments should be sent to [headwatersplan@att.net](mailto:headwatersplan@att.net), or comment letters should be mailed to P.O. Box 189445, Sacramento, California 95818-9445.

Lynda J. Roush,

Arcata Field Manager.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-330-1820-00]

#### Notice of Resource Advisory Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Northwest California Resource Advisory Council, Arcata, CA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committees Act (Public Law 92-463) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (Public Law 94-579), the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Northwest California Resource Advisory Council will hold a field tour and meeting Thursday and Friday, July 13 and 14, 2000, in Eureka, California. Both the field tour and meeting are open to the public. Members of the public participating in the field tour must bring their own transportation, lunch and beverages. Those wishing to participate in the field tour must RSVP with the BLM Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Rd., Arcata, CA.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting begins at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 13, at the parking area of the Eureka Inn, 518 G St., in Eureka, California. Members will join staff from the BLM's Arcata Field Office and depart immediately for a guided hike into the southern part of the Headwaters Forest Reserve. On Friday, July 14, the council will convene a business meeting in the Eureka Inn. Agenda items include discussion of the BLM's proposed development of a national strategy for management of off-highway vehicles on