

proposed for withdrawal to the U.S. Forest Service. One tract in Arkansas and one tract in Louisiana are proposed for management with partners. The other six tracts in Arkansas and three tracts in Louisiana are proposed for continued management by the BLM under a modification of the custodial alternative.

The BLM planning process offers an opportunity for administrative review (43 CFR 1610.5-2). Any participant in the planning process who has an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the proposed decisions may file a protest in writing with the BLM Director. (See **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** sections above for the nonextendable deadline and specific addresses for filing protests on this Proposed Plan.) Only those persons or organizations that participated in the planning and analysis process may protest the proposed decisions in the Proposed Plan. Protests may raise only the issues that were previously submitted for the record during the planning and environmental analysis process by the protestor or another participant in the process.

To be considered complete, a protest must include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.
2. A statement of the part or parts of the plan and the issues being protested. To the extent possible, this should be done by reference to specific pages, paragraphs, sections, tables, or maps included within the Proposed Plan and EA.
3. A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that the protesting party submitted during the planning process or a statement of the date they were discussed for the record.
4. A concise statement explaining why the protestor believes the proposed decision(s) is wrong. All relevant facts need to be included in the statement of reasons.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, a decision document can be issued and, excluding any portions under protest, the Proposed Plan will become final. Approval will be withheld on any portion of the Proposed Plan under protest until final action has been completed on that protest.

Dated: November 6, 2001.

Sammy St. Clair,

Acting Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-030-1020-00]

Notice of Intent To Amend Plan for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, et al.

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a plan amendment for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan, the Escalante Management Framework Plan, and the Paria Management Framework Plan with associated Environmental Assessments (EA). The planning area is located in southern Utah.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Planning Regulations (43 CFR 1600) this notice advises the public that the BLM, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) is considering amending the GSENM Management Plan, the Paria Management Framework Plan to reallocate a portion of the Willow Gulch allotment, and the Escalante Management Framework Plan to reallocate the Clark Bench grazing allotment. These amendments will be addressed through two separate EAs. This notice initiates a 30-day comment period on the planning criteria and draft amendments/EAs.

ADDRESSES: For further information, to review the planning documents and to submit written comments, contact: Monument Manager, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, 180 West 300 North, Kanab, Utah, 84741, (435-644-4300). Planning documents and letters received, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the GSENM Office in Kanab, Utah during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review and disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 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, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. If you are not currently on our mailing list and wish to receive a copy of the planning documents, please

send your name and address to the address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The livestock grazing permittee has voluntarily relinquished all of the existing grazing privileges on the Clark Bench allotment. The Paria Management Plan amendment considers a proposal to close the Clark Bench allotment to grazing and to re-allocate the relinquished animal unit months (AUMs) for wildlife, watershed conservation, and riparian values. One livestock grazing permittee has voluntarily relinquished all of his existing grazing privileges on the Willow Gulch allotment. Grazing privileges held by the other livestock grazing permittee on the Willow Gulch allotment will not be affected. A proposal to re-allocate the relinquished AUMs on the Willow Gulch allotment for wildlife, watershed conservation, and riparian values will be considered through the Escalante Management Framework Plan amendment. The EAs will be prepared by an interdisciplinary team to analyze the impacts of these proposals and alternatives.

The BLM has identified the following planning criteria, which will guide development of the amendments:

1. These plan amendments/EAs are initiated in response to the voluntary relinquishment of the sole grazing preference/permit for the West Clark Bench grazing allotment. Analysis and decisions in the plan amendment/EA apply only to that allotment.
2. These plan amendments/EAs will be completed in compliance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and all other applicable laws.
3. These plan amendments/EAs will be developed using an interdisciplinary approach (e.g., a team approach using a variety of skills and perspectives such as rangeland management specialists, riparian specialists, etc.), with input from interested public, the State of Utah, local governments, and other Federal agencies and entities.
4. Decisions in the plan amendments/EAs will provide for the balance of long-term sustainability with short-term uses.
5. These plan amendments/EAs will incorporate and comply with the Fundamentals of Rangeland Health and Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration.

Robert A. Bennett,

Assistant Utah State Director.

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