

organizations or businesses, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Levi D. Deike, Acting Field Office Manager, at the Royal Gorge Field Office address and phone number listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The planning area involves approximately 103,000 acres, of which 76% are Forest Service lands, 13% BLM lands, with the remainder being state and private lands. The main issues anticipated for this planning effort are: (1) Impacts to water quality; vegetation, including riparian and wetland areas; and soils; and (2) impacts to public land users and adjacent private landowners. The Fourmile Travel Management Plan is being prepared by an interagency interdisciplinary team. The analysis and proposed plan amendment are scheduled for completion in August 2001.

Additional public meetings may be held and a public comment period will be established on the Fourmile Travel Management Plan. Dates and locations of the meetings and the time period for the public comment period will be announced in the local media. The Proposed BLM Plan Amendment will be published during the EA process, and a 30-day protest period will apply to the BLM portion of the Fourmile Travel Management Plan.

Levi D. Deike,

Acting Field Office Manager.

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BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Request for Nominations for Public Members to the Royalty Policy Committee, Minerals Management Advisory Board

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Department of the Interior established a Royalty Policy Committee (RPC) on the Minerals Management Advisory Board to provide advice on our management of Federal and Indian minerals leases, revenues, and other minerals related policies. The RPC membership includes representatives from States, Indian Tribes and allottee organizations, minerals industry associations, the general public, and other Federal departments. Members serve without pay but will be reimbursed for travel

expenses incurred when attending official RPC meetings. Reimbursements will be calculated in accordance with the Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department. Since the two public members' terms on the RPC will expire during the first half of next year, the Director, Minerals Management Service, is requesting nominations. These nominations may originate from State and local governments, organizations or individuals, and they may include self-nominations. Nominees should have the expertise in royalty management issues necessary to represent the public interest. The nomination package must include an updated copy of the nominee's biography that includes their mailing and e-mail addresses, and a letter from the nominee accepting the nomination. Since we are committed to the Department's diversity policy, nominators are requested to consider diversity when making nominations.

DATES: Submit nominations on or before October 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations to Gary L. Fields, Chief, Program Services Office, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3006, Denver, CO 80225-0165.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary L. Fields, Chief, Program Services Office, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, PO Box 25165, MS 3006, Denver, CO 80225-0165, telephone number (303) 231-3102, fax number (303) 231-3781, e-mail: gary.fields@mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The locations, dates of RPC meetings, and other information will be published in the **Federal Register** and posted on the Internet at http://www.rmp.mms.gov/Laws_R_D/RoyPC/RoyPC.htm. Meetings are open to the public without advanced registration, on a space available basis. The public may make statements during the meetings, to the extent time permits, and file written statements with the RPC for its consideration; copies of these written statements should be submitted to Gary Fields.

These meetings are conducted under the authority of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 1) and the Office of Management and Budget (Circular No. A-63, revised).

Dated: September 22, 2000.

Lucy Querques Denett,

Associate Director for Royalty Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Massachusetts

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement; notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations and National Park Service Policy, this notice announces the availability for public review of a Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement for New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Bristol County, Massachusetts. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act 102(2)(C) of 1969, the environmental impact statement was prepared to assess the impacts of implementing the general management plan.

The Draft General Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement presents a Proposal and two Management Alternatives, then assesses the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects of the actions presented on site resources, visitor experience, and the surrounding area. The Proposal and the Alternatives differ in their approaches to management. In the Proposal, the National Park Service would share stewardship responsibility for resource protection with its partners and offer visitor programs complementary to partners' activities. NPS interpretive and educational activities would promote resource stewardship. Alternative 1 (Management Option 1) is essentially the status quo, the National Park Service would bring a national voice and visibility to New Bedford through its publications and facilitate coordination of park partners' visitor-services and resource-protection programs. In Alternative 3 (Management Option 3) the National Park Service would assume the lead role among park partners, exercising intensive and extensive involvement in resource preservation, collections management, and visitor programming.

DATES: Comments on the draft EIS should be received no later than December 1, 2000. A public meeting will be held in the City of New Bedford on Wednesday, October 18, 2000 at the New Bedford Free Public Library, 613 Pleasant Street from 7 to 8:45 p.m.