

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is submitted to meet the USGS policy requirements stipulated in Survey Manual Chapter 500.20.

Dated: August 8, 2002.

**Robert A. Lidwin,**

*Acting Associate Director for Geography.*

[FR Doc. 02-21515 Filed 8-22-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program (NCGMP) Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Public Law 108-148, the NCGMP Advisory Committee will meet in Room 7000 A of the Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC. The Advisory Committee, composed of scientists from Federal Agencies, State Agencies, academic institutions, and private companies, will advise the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey on planning and implementation of the geologic mapping program. Topics to be reviewed and discussed by the Advisory Committee include the:

- Progress of the NCGMP towards fulfilling the purposes of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.
- Updates on the Federal, State, and educational components of the NCGMP
- Strategic Goals

**DATES:** September 17-18, commencing at 9 a.m. on September 17th and adjourning by 5 p.m. on September 18th.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter T. Lyttle, U.S. Geological Survey, 908 National Center, Reston, Virginia 20192, (703) 648-6943.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Meetings of the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program Advisory Committee are open to the Public.

**P. Patrick Leahy,**

*Associate Director for Geology, U.S. Geological Survey.*

[FR Doc. 02-21514 Filed 8-22-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[CA-610-01-1610-DQ]**

#### Notice of Availability of the Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert Proposed Plan, an Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan, and Final Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, California Desert District, Riverside, California.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Proposed Plan and associated Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert planning area (NEMO), an amendment to the Bureau of Land Management California Desert Conservation Area Plan.

**SUMMARY:** NEMO amends the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan for a 3.3 million acre area in the northeastern portion of the CDCA, and provides for conservation and recovery of T & E species, reduces the need for further species listings and streamlines the processing of land-use permits. NEMO includes goals, objectives, management prescriptions and monitoring in accordance with the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) for comprehensive, strategic, management of the desert landscapes, including a programmatic biological opinion for the desert tortoise, strategies for the Amargosa watershed which include multiple listed species and sensitive bat habitat. The FEIS evaluates the Proposed Plan Amendments and alternatives, includes public comments on the Draft EIS and provides responses to those comments.

**DATES:** Written protests on the Final EIS will be accepted if received within 30 calendar days from the date that a Notice of Availability is published in the **Federal Register** by the Environmental Protection Agency. Instructions for filing protests are contained in the NEMO document Cover Sheet, just inside the front cover, and are included below the Supplemental Information.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the NEMO Proposed Plan/FEIS are being mailed to those who received the Draft EIS or provided comments on the Draft EIS. The document is available for review online at <http://www.ca.blm.gov/cdd/nemo.html>. Reading copies are also available at most local libraries and the following BLM offices:

BLM, 6221 Box Springs Blvd.,  
Riverside, CA 92507; (909) 697-5200

BLM, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311; (760) 252-6000  
BLM, 101 West Spikes Road, Needles, CA 92363; (760) 326-7000  
BLM, 300 South Richmond Road, Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (760) 384-5400  
BLM, 690 Garnet, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (760) 251-4800  
BLM, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243; (760) 337-4400

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Edythe Seehafer, Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow, California 92311; Telephone (760) 252-6021.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Development of the plan began in 1994, with scoping meetings held in conjunction with the National Park Service (NPS). NPS is conducting concurrent planning efforts on adjacent lands. The NEMO Planning Area covers 3.3 million acres of land in the southeastern California Desert of which 2.7 million acres are public lands. This document describes and analyzes a number of alternatives for managing species and habitats on public lands administered by the BLM. Issues identified during public scoping included (1) recovery of threatened and endangered species, including the desert tortoise, the Amargosa vole, the Amargosa niterwort, the Ash Meadows Gumplant and spring-loving Centaury; (2) maintenance of public access through the NEMO planning area which includes sensitive areas, is surrounded by two national park units and two large military bases, and includes all or parts of twenty-four wilderness and eight wilderness study areas; (3) addressing impacts to other land uses; and (4) protection of County tax base.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Environmental Protection Agency published the Notice of Availability of the NEMO DEIS in the **Federal Register** on April 13, 2001. The public review period on the DEIS began April 13, 2001 and ended November 1, 2001.

Following are the instructions from the *Code of Federal Regulations* 1610.5-2 for filing protests. (a) Any person who participates in the planning process and has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the approval or amendment of a resource management plan may protest such approval or amendment. A protest may raise only those issues which were submitted for the record during the planning process.

(1) The protest shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Director. The protest shall be filed within 30 days of the date the Environmental Protection Agency published the notice of receipt of the final environmental impact statement containing the plan or amendment in the **Federal Register**. For