

The plat, in one sheet, representing the dependent resurvey of portions of the south boundary and subdivisional lines, the subdivision of section 34, and the metes-and-bounds survey in section 34, Township 14 North, Range 11 East, accepted August 4, 2020, for Group 1202, Arizona.

This plat was prepared at the request of the United States Forest Service.

The plat, in one sheet, representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the south and west boundaries, and the metes-and-bounds survey of a portion of the Pusch Ridge Wilderness boundary within the Coronado National Forest, Township 11 South, Range 16 East, accepted August 4, 2020, for Group 1203, Arizona.

This plat was prepared at the request of the United States Forest Service.

A person or party who wishes to protest against these surveys must file a written notice of protest within 30 calendar days from the date of this publication with the Arizona State Director, Bureau of Land Management, stating that they wish to protest.

A statement of reasons for a protest may be filed with the notice of protest to the State Director, or the statement of reasons must be filed with the State Director within 30 days after the protest is filed. Before including your address, or other personal information in your protest, please be aware that your entire protest, 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: 43 U.S.C. Chap. 3.)

Gerald Davis,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor of Arizona.

[FR Doc. 2020-17953 Filed 8-17-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVW01000.L51100000.GN0000.
LVEMF1907180.19X; MO#4500145888]

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Gold Acquisition Corporation, Relief Canyon Mine—Phase II Mine Expansion Amendment, Pershing County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Humboldt River Field Office, Winnemucca, Nevada, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the potential impacts of the proposed expansion to the Relief Canyon gold mining operation in Pershing County, Nevada. This notice announces the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues to be considered in the EIS, and serves to initiate public consultation, as required under the National Historic Preservation Act.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS. Comments on issues to be considered in the EIS may be submitted in writing until September 17, 2020. The dates and locations of two virtual scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM website at: <https://www.blm.gov/office/winnemucca-district-office>. In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2000567/510>.
- **Email:** wfoweb@blm.gov, include Relief Canyon Mine—Phase II Expansion EIS Comments in the subject line.
- **Fax:** (775) 623-1503.
- **Mail:** 5100 E. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jean Black, telephone: (775) 623-1500, email: jblack@blm.gov; address: 5100 E. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445. Contact Ms. Black to have your name added to our mailing list. 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. Black during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Gold Acquisition Corporation (GAC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Pershing Gold Corporation, itself a wholly owned subsidiary of Americas Gold and Silver Corporation, proposes an expansion to

the existing Relief Canyon Gold Mine. The mine is located in Pershing County, Nevada, approximately 16 miles east-northeast of Lovelock, Nevada. The proposed expansion is located within GAC's authorized plan boundary and proposes to modify the existing plan as follows:

- Create roughly 576 acres of new surface disturbance on public and private land including re-disturbance of about 137 acres of previously disturbed vegetation communities.
- Expand the footprint of the existing approved pit area by approximately 84 acres (68 acres of public land and 16 acres of private land) with resultant elimination of a portion of existing Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF) 4.
- Mine to final pit bottom elevation of 4,420 feet above mean sea level (ft amsl), which will involve continued mining below the water table, and result in a post-mining pit lake that is predicted to reach an equilibrium elevation of 4,887 ft amsl roughly 50 years after completion of mining.
- Construct a dewatering conveyance pipeline and Rapid Infiltration to re-infiltrate up to 900 gallons per minute of mine dewatering water during the last 3 months of proposed Phase II mining.
- Install up to 50 vertical and horizontal drains in the pit wall to ensure pit slope stability and supplement pit dewatering operations.
- Convert up to 50 exploration drill holes located in and adjacent to the pit as vertical or near vertical drains and/or piezometer to monitor water levels to ensure pit slope stability and supplement pit dewatering operations.
- Expand WRSFs, heap leach pads, and construct process ponds, new growth media stockpiles, diversion ditches for stormwater control, and ancillary facilities.
- Expand yard and crusher-conveyor areas, roads, and fences.
- Close and reclaim all project facilities at the completion of Phase II.

Scoping Process

The purpose of the public scoping process is to identify relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. The BLM has identified some preliminary issues associated with the Project:

- (a) Formation of a pit lake and associated groundwater sink after completion of mining activities: The average pre-mining water table elevation was estimated to be 5,130 feet ft amsl, and the resultant pit lake is predicted to have a recovered surface elevation of 4,887 ft amsl;

(b) Potential impacts to wildlife habitat: The extended mine life and increased disturbance could affect wildlife including Golden Eagles. The BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will work cooperatively to analyze the affects the proposed project may have to Golden Eagle nests and territories.

The BLM will use and coordinate the NEPA scoping process to help fulfill the public involvement process under the NHPA as provided in 42 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about historic and cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed project will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources in the context of both NEPA and the NHPA.

The BLM will consult with Native American tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175 and other policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration.

Federal, State, and local agencies, along with tribes and other stakeholders that may be interested in or affected by the proposed project that the BLM is evaluating, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate in the development of the EIS as a cooperating agency. Comments and materials, we receive, as well as supporting documentation that we use in preparing the EIS, will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Winnemucca District Office (see **ADDRESSES** section previously).

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 may request in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7.

Ester McCullough,
District Manager, Winnemucca District Office.
[FR Doc. 2020–18047 Filed 8–17–20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLMT926000–20X–L13100000.EI0000;
MO#4500146365]

Notice of Proposed Filing of Plats of Survey; North Dakota

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Official Filing.

SUMMARY: The plats of survey for the lands described in this notice are scheduled to be officially filed 30 calendar days after the date of this publication in the BLM Montana State Office, Billings, Montana. The surveys, which were executed at the request of the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Billings, Montana, are necessary for the management of these lands.

DATES: A person or party who wishes to protest this decision must file a notice of protest in time for it to be received in the BLM Montana State Office no later than 30 days after the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the plats may be obtained from the Public Room at the BLM Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101, upon required payment. The plats may be viewed at this location at no cost.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Josh Alexander, BLM Chief Cadastral Surveyor for North Dakota; telephone: (406) 896–5123; email: jalexand@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at (800) 877–8339 to contact the above individual 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. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lands surveyed are:

Fifth Principal Meridian, North Dakota

T. 147 N., R. 97 W.

secs. 5 and 6.

T. 151 N., R. 104 W.

secs. 4, 5, and 9.

A person or party who wishes to protest an official filing of a plat of survey identified above must file a written notice of protest with the BLM Chief Cadastral Surveyor for North Dakota at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. The notice of protest must identify the

plat(s) of survey that the person or party wishes to protest. The notice of protest must be received in the BLM Montana State Office no later than the scheduled date of the proposed official filing for the plat(s) of survey being protested; if received after regular business hours, a notice of protest will be considered filed the next business day. A written statement of reasons in support of the protest, if not filed with the notice of protest, must be filed with the BLM Chief Cadastral Surveyor for North Dakota within 30 calendar days after the notice of protest is received.

If a notice of protest of the plat(s) of survey is received prior to the scheduled date of official filing or during the 10 calendar day grace period provided in 43 CFR 4.401(a) and the delay in filing is waived, the official filing of the plat(s) of survey identified in the notice of protest will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat of survey will not be officially filed until the next business day after all timely protests have been dismissed or otherwise resolved, including appeals.

If a notice of protest is received after the scheduled date of official filing and the 10 calendar day grace period provided in 43 CFR 4.401(a), the notice of protest will be untimely, may not be considered, and may be dismissed.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in a notice of protest or statement of reasons, you should be aware that the documents you submit—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available in their entirety at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 43 U.S.C. Chapter 3.

Joshua F. Alexander,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor for North Dakota.
[FR Doc. 2020–18007 Filed 8–17–20; 8:45 am]

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