

days from the publication date of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10 of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

**DATES:** Written comments on the application should be received by August 19, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the application, the EA/HCP, or other associated documents may obtain a copy by contacting Steven D. Arey or Edith A. Erfling, Clear Lake Ecological Services Field Office, 17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211, Houston, Texas 77058 (713/286-8282). Documents will be available for public inspection through a written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8:00 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Clear Lake Ecological Services Field Office at the above address. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Field Supervisor, Clear Lake Ecological Services Field Office at the address above. Please refer to permit number PRT - 814839 when submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven D. Arey or Edith A. Erfling at the above Clear Lake Ecological Services Field Office address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 9 of the Act prohibits the taking of endangered species such as the aplomado falcon. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take endangered wildlife species, when such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

In 1993, The Peregrine Fund initiated the release phase of the northern aplomado falcon restoration program with the release of captive-reared falcons on Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. The next step is an expansion of this program to include restoration of the aplomado falcon on private lands. A significant component of this reintroduction program is the development of a plan under Section 10(a)(1)(b) of the Act that encourages the release of aplomado falcons on private land in return for protection, a "safe harbor," from any additional future liabilities under the Act. While current land use would result in minimal negative impact to the falcon, and may in fact be essential to the success of the aplomado falcon restoration effort, landowners are concerned that the presence of aplomado falcons may in the future

restrict land use practices and/or options.

Under the proposed "safe harbor" program participating landowners will be permitted to take aplomado falcons incidental to future land use actions, provided that the landowner maintains any established baseline responsibilities. Only land that is enrolled in the program for which a landowner has a signed cooperative agreement will be covered by the proposed permit.

The agreement will identify any existing aplomado falcon baseline responsibilities and grant permission for the release of birds on their land. Agreements may be for varying periods of time and shall be revocable by the landowner.

This proposal does not involve the incidental take of existing endangered species habitat (the baseline habitat on private land will be protected). Nor does the proposal allow an endangered species to be shot, captured, or otherwise directly "taken."

The area to be affected by the proposed action encompasses the following 14 counties in southern Texas: Calhoun, Refugio, Aransas, San Patricio, Nueces, Kleberg, Kenedy, Willacy, Cameron, Hidalgo, Brooks, Victoria, Jackson, and Matagorda. Within this specific plan area, land potentially eligible for inclusion in the conservation plan include all privately owned as well as non-federal public land, including land owned by the State, counties, cities, and other governmental entities.

Nancy M. Kaufman,

*Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. 96-18238 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-55-P

## Bureau of Land Management

[NM017-1430-01/G-010-G6-205; NMNM 90010]

### Recreation and Public Purposes Act Classification and Partial Classification Termination and Opening Order; New Mexico

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice classifies and segregates 5 acres in T. 24 N., R. 2 W., NMPM, Rio Arriba County from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended. It also partially terminates the

April 13, 1994, Recreation and Public Purposes classification and provides for opening 5 acres in T. 25 N., R. 3 W., NMPM, Rio Arriba County to application under the public land laws and location and entry under the general mining laws.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph Jaramillo, Realty Specialist, Rio Puerco Resource Area, 435 Montano Road NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107, 505-761-8779.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 1. The following public land in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, has been examined and found suitable for classification for conveyance to the Lindrith Baptist Church for the Lindrith cemetery site under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). The land was originally classified for Recreation and Public Purposes in a notice published in the Federal Register on April 13, 1994, (59 FR 17564 and 17565). It was later determined that the land was not available for other uses when the original classification notice was published. It was segregated from all other forms of use or disposal under the public land laws by airport lease NMNM 34098. The land was subsequently opened to the operation of the public land laws on July 12, 1996.

New Mexico Principal Meridian, New Mexico

T. 24 N., R. 2 W.,  
Sec. 20, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 5 acres.

Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the land described in paragraph one will be segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. The terms and conditions identified in the Federal Register notice of April 13, 1994, are still applicable. Application and classification comments were requested in the April 13, 1994, Federal Register notice. Classification of the land described above becomes effective 60 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register. The land will not be offered for conveyance until the classification becomes effective.

2. The land described below is part of the public land classified as suitable for conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act in the April 13, 1994, Federal Register notice. The land

was segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. The Ojito Cemetery site was reduced from 10 acres to 5 acres and the land described below will not be conveyed.

New Mexico Principal Meridian, New Mexico

T. 25 N., R. 3 W.,

Sec. 22, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 5 acres.

The Recreation and Public Purposes classification on the land described in paragraph two is hereby terminated. At 9:00 a.m. on August 19, 1996, the land described in paragraph two will be opened to appropriation under the public land laws and location and entry under the general mining laws, subject to any valid existing rights, and the requirements of applicable laws, rules and regulations. All applications received at or prior to 9:00 a.m. shall be considered as simultaneously filed at that time. Those received thereafter shall be considered in the order of filing.

Dated: July 11, 1996.

Sue E. Richardson,

*Associate District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 96-18247 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

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[CA-068-95-7123-00-6617]

### **Closure of Public Lands Surrounding the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area, San Bernardino County, CA**

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

**ACTION:** Closure of public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management within the El Mirage area of influence, as described in the Management Plan for the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area (approved August 1990), which are outside the boundaries of the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, § 8364.1 notice is hereby given that all the below listed lands contained within 51 sections of public land surrounding the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area within the Barstow Resource Area in San Bernardino County and administered by the Bureau of Land Management have been closed to vehicle entry.

This closure order affects ALL the public lands contained within all or part

of the 51 sections of land (see map) surrounding the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area, San Bernardino County, California under the administrative responsibility of the Barstow Resource Area, California Desert District. The following is a description of the land affected by this closure order:

San Bernardino Base and Meridian

T. 6N., R. 8W.,

Sec. 1.

T. 7N., R. 8W.,

Sec. 11, 12, 14, 24, and 25.

T. 6N., R. 7W.,

Sec. 6, 8, 9, 13, 18, 19, and 20.

T. 7N., R. 7W.,

Sec. 2, 4, 12, 15, 18, 19, 20, 29, and 31.

T. 8N. R. 7W.,

Sec. 26, 27, 28, 32, 34, and 35.

T. 7N., R. 6W.,

Sec. 6, 7, 8 and those parts of Sections 18 and 20 that are north of the ridge line in the Shadow Mountains.

T. 8N., R. 6W.,

Sec. 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34, and 35.

T. 6N., R. 5W.,

Sec. 6.

T. 7N., R. 5W.,

Sec. 6, 8, 19, 20, 30 and 31.

T. 8N., R. 5W.,

Sec. 30, 31, and 32.

This closure does not apply to the operation of vehicles, licensed pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 4000(a) ("street legal" vehicles), upon routes on the ground that are marked with a sign that reads "open route". A flyer showing the open routes is available upon request.

The public land contained within the previously described 51 sections of land are closed to all motor vehicles in order to protect soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat and adjacent private lands, property and land owners. The specific long term goals can be found in the Management Plan for the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area (approved August 1990).

**DATES:** This closure order shall go into effect after publication in the Federal Register. This action will be reviewed in the context of overlapping management goals relating to route designation in the described area. If needed, the closure will be resubmitted within one year of this publication.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This action is being taken as an interim measure until the aforementioned problems are resolved and/or the routes of travel on the public land within the 51 sections of land described are designated through the California Desert District's route designation process.

**PENALTIES:** Any person who fails to comply with this closure order may be subject to a fine of up to \$100,000.00 or

imprisonment of up to 12 months, or both.

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Barstow Resource Area Manager or the El Mirage Project Manager, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, California, 92311 or call (619) 255-8700.

Dated: June 3, 1996.

Tim Read,

*BLM Barstow Area Manager.*

[FR Doc. 96-18223 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

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[OR-094-06-6110-00-FLOD: GP6-0217]

### **Temporary Closure of Public Lands; Lane County, Oregon**

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

**ACTION:** Temporary Closure of Public Lands in Lane County, Oregon.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that certain public lands in Lane County, Oregon are temporarily closed to all public use, including recreation, camping, shooting, hiking and sightseeing, from August 15, 1996 through September 30, 1996. The closure is made under the authority of 43 CFR 8364.1.

The public lands affected by this temporary closure are specifically identified as follows:

Willamette Meridian, Oregon

T. 16 S., R. 7 W.

Sec. 19: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , excluding the right-of-way of Oregon State Highway 36

Containing approximately 36 acres.

The following persons, operating within the scope of their official duties, are exempt from the provisions of this closure order: Bureau employees; state, local and federal law enforcement and fire protection personnel; the holders of BLM road use permits that include roads within the closure area; the contractor authorized to maintain and repair the Lake Creek Falls Fish Ladder and their subcontractors. Access by additional parties may be allowed, but must be approved in advance in writing by the Authorized Officer.

Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this closure order may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.0-7, which include a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

The public lands temporarily closed to public use under this order will be posted with signs at points of public access.

The purpose of this temporary closure is to provide for public safety, facilitate repair and maintenance of the fish