

Dated: July 26, 1996.  
Thomas D. Mays,  
*Director, Office of Technology Development,  
National Cancer Institute, National Institutes  
of Health.*  
[FR Doc. 96-19847 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-066-06-1610-00]

#### **Proposed California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment, Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, California**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** On March 15, 1996, notice was published in the Federal Register announcing availability of the Proposed California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment and Environmental Assessment for a 60-day public review period. In this document, two plan amendments were proposed. Amendment One proposes to expand the Big Morongo Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) from 3,075 to 29,000 acres to provide more effective management of bighorn sheep habitat, wetlands, riparian areas, wildlife corridors and other sensitive resources. The Big Morongo Canyon ACEC is located six miles north of Interstate 10, just east of Highway 62, straddling the San Bernardino-Riverside County line. Amendment Two proposes to expand the Salt Creek Desert Pupfish/Rail Habitat ACEC from 4,288 to 14,880 acres to protect palm oases, cultural resources, wildlife corridors, wetlands, endangered species habitat and other sensitive resources. The Salt Creek ACEC would also be renamed the Dos Palmas ACEC. The Salt Creek ACEC is located three miles northwest of the Salton Sea, Riverside County, California.

BLM received 12 public comment letters. BLM has reviewed these letters and has incorporated the comments into the proposed plan. BLM is prepared to proceed with the proposed Dos Palmas ACEC expansion (Amendment Two) and Big Morongo Canyon ACEC expansion (Amendment One). In accordance with title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations part 1610.5-2, citizens with standing may protest the proposed decisions.

**DATES:** Protests must be submitted in writing no later than 30-days from the

date of this notice to the following address: Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, 690 Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, CA 92258-2000.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elena Misquez, Bureau of Land Management, Palm Springs-South Coast Resource Area, 690 Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, CA 92258-2000; telephone (619) 251-4826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Nothing in this Proposed Plan shall have the effect of terminating any validly issued rights-of-way or customary operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement activities in such rights-of-ways within the ACEC boundaries in accordance with Sections 509(a) and 701(a) of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976.

Dated: July 26, 1996.  
Julia Dougan,  
*Area Manager.*  
[FR Doc. 96-19737 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

[CA-930-06-1020-00, 4000/1790]

#### **Reopening of Scoping Period for an Environmental Impact Statement and Land Use Plan Amendment Involving the Development of Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management on Public Lands in California and Northwestern Nevada**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in California is reopening the scoping period for a statewide Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and land use plan amendment involving the development of Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management as provided in the BLM's new grazing regulations (43 CFR Part 4100). The EIS is being prepared in compliance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This notice invites public input on the development of the Standards and Guidelines, issues to be addressed, planning criteria, and the alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the EIS and Plan Amendment must be received by September 4, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Any scoping comments or requests to be placed on the mailing list should be sent to Rangeland Health Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, 2135 Butano Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825-0451.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Morrison at (916) 979-2830.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The initial scoping period closed April 24, 1996. BLM is reopening the scoping period to provide the public an opportunity to focus on the efforts of the Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) or to submit additional comments on the scope of the EIS.

As indicated in the March 25, 1996 Notice of Intent, BLM's new grazing administration regulations (43 CFR Part 4100), which became effective August 21, 1995, provide for the development of state Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management. A national programmatic EIS was completed by BLM in 1993 in support of the new regulations. This EIS for California and northwestern Nevada will be tiered to the national EIS, and will incorporate applicable information from previously prepared BLM grazing EISs.

The four RACs in California have been working with BLM in developing proposed S&Gs and alternatives. The proposed S&Gs and alternatives must address the following elements: (1) Watershed function; (2) nutrient cycling and energy flow; (3) water quality; (4) habitat for threatened and endangered species and proposed Candidate 1 or 2, or special status species; and (5) habitat quality for native plant and animal populations and communities.

BLM has preliminarily identified, with RACs involvement, three alternatives for analysis in the EIS: (1) RAC S&G Proposals: This alternative would include the recommended S&Gs of each RAC for their respective area in Bakersfield district and northern California. The California Desert District will operate under existing land use plan direction or the fall-back S&Gs, whichever is the more restrictive, until S&Gs can be developed in conjunction with bioregional plans for the West Mojave, Northern and Eastern Colorado, and Northern and Eastern Mojave Deserts, or other specific plan amendments. (2) No Action: This alternative would incorporate the fall-back S&Gs directly from the regulations; (3) Consistency: This alternative would draw from the individual RAC recommended S&Gs to formulate a consolidated set of S&Gs. It may alter some RAC recommendations or add additional S&Gs to improve consistency among the individual RACs and neighboring states of Arizona, Nevada, and Oregon. In addition to analyzing the three alternative described above, the EIS will describe existing land use plan direction.

The public is invited to comment on these alternatives, suggest other possible alternatives to be addressed in the EIS, or to provide additional scoping comments.

Dated: July 26, 1996.

Ed Hastey,

*State Director.*

[FR Doc. 96-19740 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-M

[AZ-040-1430-06-00; AZA 28238 and AZA 29330]

### Notice of Realty Action; Proposed Sale of Public Lands; Arizona

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Stafford District, Arizona.

**ACTION:** Extension of notice.

**SUMMARY:** The following lands the Cochise County, Arizona have been found suitable for sale under section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 USC 1713) at not less than the appraised fair market value. The land will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date of this notice.

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

T. 23 S., R. 24 E., (AZA 28238)

Sec. 8, lot 6.

The area described contains 0.1 acre.

T. 19 S., R. 25 E., (AZA 29330)

Sec. 17, lots 1, 3, 9 to 15 inclusive, 17, 18, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 18, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 20, lots 2 to 6 inclusive, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The area described contains 624.25 acres.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On page 61572 of Vol. 60, No. 230 of the Federal Register published November 30, 1995, the Safford District published a notice for these public land sales. This notice segregated the subject public lands from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, pending disposition of the action or 270 days from the date of publication of the notice in the Federal Register. Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, that segregation will be extended pending disposition of the action of for another 270 day period, whichever occurs first.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tom Terry, Non-Renewable Resource Advisor, at BLM, Safford District Office, 711 14th Avenue, Stafford, Arizona 85546; telephone number (520) 428-4040.

Dated: July 26, 1996.

William T. Civish,

*District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 96-19741 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-M

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments on information collection regarding National Park Service mining regulations.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the National Park Service's (NPS) intention to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) extend and revise the currently approved information collection budget for the NPS's minerals management regulatory program inside park boundaries. Currently, the NPS has regulations at 36 CFR Part 9 to control mineral development activities in park units on mining claims located under the 1872 Mining Law and non-Federal oil and gas rights.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by October 4, 1996.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Contact Carol McCoy, Chief, Policy and Regulations Branch, Geologic Resources Division, National Park Service, P.O.Box 25287, Lakewood, Colorado 80225, (303) 969-2096.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* NPS/Minerals Management Program/Mining Claims and Non-Federal Oil and Gas Rights

*OMB Number:* 1024-0064

*Expiration Date of Approval:* October 31, 1996

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection

*Abstract:* While surprising, outstanding mineral rights exist in many units of the National Park System. In most cases, these rights predate the establishment of the units. Currently, over 12,000 mining claims, which were located under the 1872 Mining Law, exist in a total of 20 park units. The majority of these claims are located in Mojave National Preserve that was added to the National Park System through the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 410aaa). With respect to non-Federal oil and gas rights in park units, 580 non-Federal oil and gas operations currently exist in 13 park

units. The potential for additional non-Federal oil and gas operations in additional units is tied to market forces and the quality and quantity of oil and gas deposits in park boundaries that coincide with the presence of private rights.

The NPS regulates mineral development activities inside park boundaries on mining claims and on non-Federal oil and gas rights under regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 9: Subpart A for mining claims and Subpart B for non-Federal oil and gas rights. The NPS promulgated both sets of regulations in the late 1970's. In the case of mining claims, the NPS did so under Congressional authority granted under the Mining in the Parks Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq.*) and individual park enabling statutes. For non-Federal oil and gas rights, the NPS regulates development activities pursuant to authority under the NPS Organic Act of 1916 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*) and individual park enabling statutes. As directed by Congress, the NPS developed the regulations in order to protect park resources and visitor values from the adverse impacts associated with mineral development within park boundaries.

The heart of the regulations is the approved "plan of operations" requirement. Essentially, a plan of operations is a prospective operator's blueprint setting forth all intended activities from access to extraction to reclamation related to developing a particular mineral right in a given park unit. The information required in a plan of operations is set forth in NPS regulations. Before an operator can commence development activities in a park unit, the NPS must approve an operator's proposed plan of operations and the operator must secure a bond in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of reclamation to the Federal Government in the event the operator defaults on his/her obligations.

Usually, an approved plan of operations covers the life of the mine or well, from development and production to reclamation. Under NPS regulations, such plans may be revised. No set form is required for a plan of operations. Each plan is tailored to the intended activities of an operator and the particulars of the environment, e.g., hardwood forest or desert, presence of endangered species or cultural resources, location and extent of water resources including wetlands.

Because of the variability among plans of operations, the duration of such plans, and the fact that prospective operators initiate the plan of operations review process, assessing the annual