

the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. The proposed action is a master lease and development plan for the Cabazon Resource Recovery Park. The lease area is approximately 590 contiguous acres of Indian trust land on the Cabazon Indian Reservation. It is located in Section 6, Township 7 South, Range 9 East, SBB&M, one mile northwest of the town of Mecca, California. Subleases from the master lease would be for a variety of recycling type industries. These include, but are not limited to, a materials recovery facility, a biomass gasification plant, a food and green waste conversion plant, an aquaculture facility, a used oil refinery, a platinum recycling facility, a paper de-inking and recycling plant and a medical waste disposal facility. Support infrastructure would include rail yards plus power generation/co-generation and sewage treatment facilities.

The principal alternatives to the proposed action that were analyzed for the FEIS include no action (no approval of the master lease) and a reduced scope project, which eliminates the paper de-inking and recycling plant and the medical waste disposal facility from the proposed action. The reduced scope alternative is environmentally preferred and is recommended for selection in the Record of Decision.

This notice is published pursuant to Section 1503.1 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR, Parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 437 *et seq.*) Department of the Interior Manual (510 DM1-7) and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: January 13, 2000.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-1457 Filed 1-20-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Cortina Integrated Waste Management Project, Colusa County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the closing date of the public comment period for the Draft

Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Cortina Integrated Waste Management Project, Colusa County, CA, which was announced in the **Federal Register** on December 20, 1999 (64 FR 71149), has been extended from February 15, 2000 to March 17, 2000.

DATES: The date by which written comments must arrive is extended from February 15, 2000 to March 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may mail or hand carry written comments to Ronald M. Jaeger, Regional Director, Pacific Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825-1846. You may also comment via the Internet to billallan@bia.gov. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Include your name, return address and the caption, "DEIS Comments, Cortina Integrated Waste Management Project, Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, Colusa County, California," on the first page of your written comments or Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly at (916) 978-6043.

Comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Allan, (916) 978-6043.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published in accordance with section 1503.1 of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and the Department of the Interior Manual

(516 DM 1-6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: January 11, 2000.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-1456 Filed 1-20-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-660-00-1220-HA]

Restrictions on Use of Public Lands and Facilities

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, Desert District, California.

ACTION: Notice—Temporary closure of public lands and facilities to dogs.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subpart 8364.1(c), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prohibits persons bringing dogs onto certain public lands within the Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area (SRMNSA), Riverside County, whether leashed or free-roaming, except when said dogs remain inside a motor vehicle. The public lands hereby closed to dogs include all such lands within Section 36, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, San Bernardino Meridian (SBM) and Section 36, Township 5 South, Range 4 East, SBM, and public lands within the SRMNSA that lie east and southeast of, but not including, Township 5 South, Range 4 East, SBM. Public lands excepted from the closure are all such lands within NW¼ Section 24, Township 6 South, Range 6 East, SBM, and public lands within E½ Section 5, Township 5 South, Range 5 East, SBM that lie north of Dunn Road and below an elevation of 800 feet above sea level. This closure shall be in effect year-round from February 1, 2000, until completion of a comprehensive trails management plan which addresses all aspects of trail and trailhead use in the Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area, including any restrictions pertaining to dogs. Persons requiring accompaniment by a seeing-eye dog and those using dogs to facilitate search and rescue or law enforcement operations are exempt from this order.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 18, 1998, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declared through publication of a final rule (63 FR 13134) that the

distinct vertebrate population segment of bighorn sheep occupying the Peninsular Ranges of southern California was endangered pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The current population of bighorn sheep in the United States' Peninsular Ranges approximates 335 animals distributed in eight known ewe groups (subpopulations) from the San Jacinto Mountains south to the Mexican border.

The Peninsular bighorn sheep is restricted to the east facing, lower elevation slopes (below 1,400 meters) of the Peninsular Ranges in the Sonoran desert life zone. Bighorn sheep are wide-ranging animals that require a variety of habitat characteristics that relate to topography, visibility, water availability, and forage quality and quantity. Steep topography is required for lambing and rearing habitat and escape terrain from predators. Open terrain with good visibility is critical because bighorn primarily rely on their sense of sight to detect predators. In their hot, arid habitat, water availability in some form is critical, especially during the summer. A wide range of forage resources and habitat types are needed to meet annual and drought-related variations in forage availability. Limiting factors apparently vary with each ewe group but are not well understood in all cases. The range of factors appears to include predation, urban-related sources of mortality, low rates of lamb recruitment, disease, habitat loss, and human-related disturbance.

A review of pertinent literature reveals that various prolonged disturbances to bighorn sheep may result in abandonment of lambing areas. Further, the stresses induced by dogs as exhibited by increases in bighorn sheep heart rates generally exceed the levels of stress caused by other factors. Whereas there is a recognized need to act swiftly to minimize the potential for abandonment of lambing areas by bighorn sheep during the lambing season, which occurs between January 1 and June 30, a temporary closure to dogs pending completion of a comprehensive trails management plan is appropriate. A year-round rather than a seasonal closure is instituted to avert associations by bighorn sheep of this area as occupied by dogs. Such closure reduces the potential for abandonment.

The comprehensive trails management plan is an element of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). The CVMSHCP is currently in development. Those desiring to participate in the planning process

should contact the individual cited below.

Any person who fails to comply with this order may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.0-7.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jim Foote, BLM, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, P.O. Box 1260, North Palm Springs, CA 92258, telephone 760-251-4836.

Dated: January 12, 2000.

James G. Kenna,
Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 00-1447 Filed 1-20-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-00-1040-DE]

Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period for Thirty (30) Days.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the extension of the public comment on four Draft Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan Environmental Impact Statements (DEISs) and Possible Resource Management Plan Amendments (RMPAs). The four documents are for the Taos Field Office, the Farmington Field Office, the Albuquerque Field Office and the Las Cruces Field Office.

The 30 day extension of the public comment period was granted for the four documents after BLM review of the reasons for the request for extensions on two of them. The thirty day extension starts immediately after the end of the ninety day (90) public comment period. The ninety (90) day public comment period ended January 12, 2000. The Thirty (30) extension of the public comment period starts January 13, 2000 and ends February 11, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the Draft documents should be sent as follows:

Comment on the Draft Taos Field Office Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Possible RMP Amendment should be sent to: Taos Field Office, Taos HMP/EIS/RMPA Team Leader, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571-5983.

Comment on the Draft Farmington Field Office Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Possible RMP Amendment should be sent to:

Farmington Field Office, Farmington HMP/EIS/RMPA Team Leader, 1235 La Plata Highway, Farmington, NM 87401-1808.

Comment on the Draft Albuquerque Field Office Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Possible RMP Amendment should be sent to: Albuquerque Field Office, Rio Puerco HMP/EIS/RMPA Team Leader, 435 Montano Road, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107-4935.

Comment on the Draft Las Cruces Field Office Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Possible RMP Amendment should be sent to: Las Cruces Office, Mimbres HMP/EIS/RMPA Team Leader, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, NM 88005-3371.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours (8:00 am to 4:30 pm) Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EIS and possible RMPA. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

(1) Taos Field Office, Ram Herrera, 505-751-4705.

(2) Farmington Field Office, Bob Moore, 505-599-6311.

(3) Albuquerque Field Office, Jim Silva, 505-761-8901.

(4) Las Cruces Field Office, Bill Merhege, 505-525-4369.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The two Draft Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statements and Possible RMP Amendments are being prepared to provide comprehensive riparian and aquatic management guidance for restoring and protecting riparian habitat under BLM jurisdiction.

Dated: January 14, 2000.

M.J. Chavez,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 00-1503 Filed 1-20-00; 8:45am]

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