

The proposed exploration program is fully described, and will be conducted pursuant to an exploration plan to be approved by the Bureau of Land Management. The exploration plan, as submitted by Spring Creek Coal Company, is available for public inspection at the BLM, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana, during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday.

Dated: June 7, 2006.

**Robert Giovanini,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-040-06-1610-DT]

#### **Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan and Green River Resource Management Plan Amendment, Wyoming**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan (CAP) and Green River Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment. The ROD documents the BLM's decision to approve a land use plan amendment that addresses approximately 585,000 acres of public land located in Sweetwater, Sublette, and Fremont counties in southwestern Wyoming. The JMH CAP/Green River RMP Amendment contains land-use plan decisions that supersede previous land-use planning decisions made in the Green River RMP and completes decisions deferred in the Green River RMP. The CAP/ROD went into effect on the date the Wyoming State Director signed the ROD. Publication of this NOA today announces and commences the 30-day appeal period for a project implementation included in the ROD.

**ADDRESSES:** The ROD will be available electronically on the following Web site: <http://www.wy.blm.gov/jmhcap>.

Copies of the Jack Morrow Hills CAP/ROD are available for public inspection at the following BLM office locations:

- Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office

- 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003.

- Bureau of Land Management, Rock Springs Field Office,

- 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901.

To request a copy of the ROD, please write or telephone the BLM contacts listed below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michael R. Holbert, Field Manager, or Renee Dana, Jack Morrow Hills CAP Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management, Rock Springs Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901. Requests for a copy of the ROD may be sent electronically to: [rock\\_springs\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:rock_springs_wymail@blm.gov) with "JMH CAP" in the subject line. Mr. Holbert and Ms. Dana may be reached at (307) 352-0256.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Jack Morrow Hills CAP/ROD was developed with broad public participation through a 4-year collaborative planning process. The Jack Morrow Hills CAP/ROD is designed to achieve or maintain desired future conditions developed through the planning process. To meet the desired resource conditions, it includes a series of management actions for resources in the area including upland and riparian vegetation, wildlife habitats, heritage and visual resources, air quality, sensitive species, special management areas, livestock grazing, minerals including oil and gas, and recreation.

In response to the 30 day protest period that ended on August 16, 2004, a total of 1,011 protests were received by BLM. The BLM reviewed and responded to all submittals. The ROD includes a decision regarding the implementation of the project that may be appealed in accordance with 43 CFR part 4. The 30-day appeal period will start on the date this Notice of Availability is published in the **Federal Register**.

The JMH CAP and ROD modify existing special management areas and establish new ones. The JMH planning area includes five Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) previously designated under the Green River RMP. Four of the designated five ACECs remain unchanged. The fifth, Steamboat Mountain ACEC, has been expanded by about 4,000 acres and includes the Indian Gap historic trail and key habitats types such as the rare sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation type.

To protect important scientific values, the West Sand Dunes Archaeological District has been established as a new management area. So that the BLM may manage a portion of the public lands with important Native American

cultural values, important watershed values, unique wildlife habitat, and feature crucial and overlapping big game habitat the Steamboat Mountain Management Area has been established.

The Jack Morrow Hills CAP is essentially the same as the Proposed Plan in the Jack Morrow Hills CAP/FEIS published in July 14, 2004 (69 FR 42201). No inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs were identified during the Governor's consistency review of the CAP/FEIS. As a result, only editorial modifications were made in the JMH CAP. These modifications correct and clarify errors that were noted during review of the CAP/FEIS and provide further clarification for some of the decisions.

Dated: March 28, 2006.

**Walter E. George,**

*Acting State Director.*

[FR Doc. E6-11590 Filed 7-19-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### **Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement and General Management Plan; Minidoka Internment National Monument; Jerome County, ID; Notice of Availability**

**Summary:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190, as amended), and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR part 1500-1508), the National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior, has prepared an abbreviated final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the proposed General Management Plan (GMP) for Minidoka Internment National Monument located in southern Idaho. This FEIS describes and analyzes four GMP alternatives that respond to both NPS planning requirements and to the public's concerns and issues, identified during the extensive scoping and public involvement process. Each alternative presents management strategies for resource protection and preservation, education and interpretation, visitor use and facilities, land protection and boundaries, and long-term operations and management of the national monument. The potential environmental consequences of all the alternatives, and mitigation strategies, are identified and analyzed in the FEIS. In addition to a "no-action" alternative, an "environmentally preferred" alternative is identified.

*Background:* A Notice of Intent formally initiating the conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process was published in the **Federal Register** on April 24, 2002. Early public involvement methods included news releases, public meetings and workshops, presentations and meetings with interested publics, newsletter mailings, and Web site postings. This strong public outreach was deemed necessary for successful planning, given the nature and sensitivity of the national monument's history, the speed in which the national monument was established, as well as its remote location.

Preceding the formal planning process, NPS staff conducted informational meetings about the national monument with Japanese American organizations, community organizations, various governmental entities, potential stakeholder groups, and individuals during the spring, summer and early fall of 2002. Approximately 50 meetings were held in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska during this time, and approximately 2,000 people were contacted. The purpose of these initial meetings was to provide information about the establishment of Minidoka Internment National Monument as a new unit of the National Park System and to help characterize the scale and extent of the conservation planning process.

The NPS encouraged public involvement during three phases of the EIS process. The initial scoping phase was intended to elicit issues, concerns, and suggestions deemed necessary to address during the overall planning. Nine public workshops were held in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon in November 2002 (250 people provided comments in workshops, and another 225 people provided written comments). In the second phase the NPS engaged the public in developing preliminary alternatives; these alternatives were intended to address the specific issues and concerns that surfaced during the public scoping. Eleven public workshops were held in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon in July and August 2003 (215 people provided comments in the workshops, and another 50 people provided written comments). The third phase of involvement afforded the opportunity for public review of the Draft EIS/GMP, which was released on June 21, 2005. Government entities and the public were invited to submit comments by regular mail, e-mail, fax, and online. In addition, the NPS held ten public meetings in Idaho, Washington, Oregon,

and California in July and August 2005 to provide further opportunity to learn about the proposed plan and to offer comments; over 200 people attended these meetings. During the formal public comment period, which closed on September 19, 2005, the NPS received comments from over 365 individuals and organizations, including 150 written responses (all substantive comments, and responses, are documented in the abbreviated Final EIS).

Throughout the planning process, the public's comments and recommendations have provided the foundation for the new GMP, represented in the national monument's purpose, significance, interpretive themes, alternatives, and particularly as incorporated in the proposed action.

*Proposed Plan and Alternatives:* *Alternative A* is the "no-action" alternative and would continue current management practices, maintaining general management guidance for incremental and minimal changes in park operations, staffing, visitor services, and facilities to accommodate visitors. While the historic resources of the site would continue to be protected, only minor additional site work would be anticipated. The "no-action" alternative is the baseline for evaluating and comparing the changes and impacts of the three "action" alternatives.

*Alternative B* emphasizes the development and extensive use of outreach and partnerships to assist NPS staff in telling the Minidoka story to the American people. Off-site visitor education and interpretation would be conducted through diverse comprehensive programs developed in cooperation with partners, including school districts, museums, and educational and legacy organizations and institutions. *Alternative B* would focus on identifying off-site facilities for education and interpretation with minimal new development at the national monument site. Historic structures would be adaptively reused for visitor and monument functions and for minimal administrative and operational needs. Key historic features would be delineated, restored, or rehabilitated. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a range of self-exploratory visitor experiences.

*Alternative C*, the NPS's proposed action, emphasizes on-site education and interpretation and the extensive treatment and use of cultural resources in telling the Minidoka story. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a wide range of visitor experiences, including

immersion into the historic scene, interaction with a variety of educational and interpretive media and personal services, and participation in creative and self-directed activities. Off-site visitor education and interpretation would be conducted through diverse programs developed in cooperation with partners, including school districts, museums, and educational and legacy organizations and institutions.

The proposed plan would use various preservation techniques to protect and enhance historic resources, such as delineation, stabilization, restoration, rehabilitation, and limited reconstruction. These historic resources would be used for interpretive purposes to accurately and authentically convey the history and significance of the national monument. The establishment of one complete barracks block exhibit in its original location and configuration would be the cornerstone of interpretive services and facilities at the national monument, essential for understanding and appreciation of the incarceration experience and the significance of the national monument. A visitor contact facility and maintenance area would be developed by adaptively reusing existing historic buildings. There would be minimal new development.

*Alternative C* is also the "environmentally preferred" alternative.

The proposed plan would require congressional legislation to authorize a boundary adjustment to include areas where barracks historically stood in order to reestablish a complete residential block in an original historic location. Additionally, the NPS would request congressional legislation to transfer the historic Minidoka Relocation Center landfill, located 1 mile north of the national monument, from the BLM to the NPS. *Alternative C* recommends a name change to Minidoka National Historic Site, to be more reflective of its historic value.

*Alternative D* identifies several actions that would focus on education and interpretation on-site, specifically through the development of new visitor facilities. The east end site would be used to develop new facilities and to provide space for a new visitor center, education and research functions, along with a new Issei memorial and garden. On-site education and interpretation would be accomplished through a wide range of visitor experiences, including interaction with a variety of educational and interpretive media, participation in creative and self-guided activities, and limited access of the historic scene. Visitor education programs, adaptive reuse of historic structures for park use, and the establishment of formal

partnerships for education and outreach purposes would complement the new construction. Alternative D would focus on sound cultural resource management through preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of certain historic features. Several actions would provide for the protection and enhancement of natural and scenic resources. Other actions would establish administrative and operational capabilities in terms of facilities and staffing. Most national monument staff activities would be on-site to manage resources and provide for visitor understanding and appreciation of the national monument. However, some off-site educational programs would complement the on-site programs through partnerships.

**Copies:** The Abbreviated Final EIS/GMP is now available. This document's abbreviated format requires that the material presented therein be integrated with the Draft EIS to fully describe the proposed GMP, potential environmental impacts, and public comments that have been received and evaluated. Interested persons and organizations wishing to express any concerns or provide relevant information may obtain the Abbreviated Final EIS/GMP by contacting the Superintendent, Minidoka Internment National Monument, P.O. Box 570, Hagerman, Idaho 83332-0570, or via telephone at (208) 837-4793 (copies of the Draft EIS are also available, if needed). This document may also be reviewed at area libraries, or obtained electronically via the following Web site at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/miin>. Please note that names and addresses of all respondents will become part of the public record. It is our practice to make comments, including names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their names and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish us to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In addition, you must present a rationale for withholding this information. This rationale must demonstrate that disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. Unsupported assertions will not meet this burden. In the absence of exceptional, documentable circumstances, this information will be released. We will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as

representatives of or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

**Decision Process:** Following release of the Abbreviated Final GMP/EIS, a Record of Decision will be prepared and approved not sooner than 30 days after the EPA has published its notice of filing of the document in the **Federal Register**. A notice of the approved GMP would be similarly published. As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the final decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service. Subsequently, the official responsible for implementing the approved GMP would be the Superintendent, Minidoka Internment National Monument.

Dated: July 12, 2006.

**Jonathan B. Jarvis,**

*Regional Director, Pacific West Region.*

[FR Doc. E6-11520 Filed 7-19-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-DC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Milltown Hill Project, Douglas County, OR

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to prepare a supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Milltown Hill Project. Reclamation filed the FEIS for the project with the Environmental Protection Agency on August 14, 1992 and completed a Record of Decision (ROD) on November 7, 1992. The FEIS was prepared in conjunction with Douglas County's (County) application for a Small Reclamation Projects Act loan and grants to develop a dam and reservoir at the Milltown Hill site on Elk Creek above Drain, Oregon. The County's loan and grant application was subsequently approved but the project was never constructed. The County has recently indicated that it wishes to reactivate its Small Reclamation Projects Act loan and grant application. Reclamation believes that due to the time lapse since the FEIS was completed and the ROD was signed, it is appropriate to update the information in the 1992 EIS to determine if it still correctly describes the affected

environment and environmental consequences of the project. The proposed action and the no action alternative will be evaluated in the supplement to the FEIS.

**ADDRESSES:** Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1150 N. Curtis Road, Suite 100, Boise, ID 83706-1234.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anyone interested in more information concerning the EIS, or who has information that may be useful in identifying significant environmental issues, may contact Mr. Robert Hamilton at telephone 208-378-5087, or by e-mail at [Milltownhill@pn.usbr.gov](mailto:Milltownhill@pn.usbr.gov). TTY users may dial 711 to obtain a toll free TTY replay.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The project consists of a 186 foot high dam and 24,143 acre foot reservoir on Elk Creek, a tributary of the Umpqua River, which would provide regulated flows of water for irrigation of up to 4,661 acres of arable land, storage and distribution of water to the cities of Drain and Yoncalla, and the community of Rice Hill; allow municipal expansion and industrial diversification; provide a reliable source of water for rural domestic use; provide opportunities to improve fish and wildlife habitat; improve water quality; provide new water-related recreational facilities; and provide limited flood control in and near the city of Drain. A portion of the stored water would be released directly into Elk Creek to enhance water quality and anadromous fish habitat, and to meet the out of stream needs of municipal, industrial and agricultural users. The remainder of the stored water would be released into a pipeline distribution system which would improve municipal, industrial and irrigation water supplies to Scotts Valley and Yoncalla Valley, and provide an additional water supply for rural domestic use in these areas.

As indicated above, a FEIS and ROD for the project were completed in 1992. The County's loan application was subsequently approved by the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Secretary of the Interior on May 17, 1994, and May 18, 1994, respectively.

On September 9, 1996, the Umpqua River (UR) cutthroat trout was listed as endangered. On October 23, 1996, Reclamation and the County submitted a biological assessment (BA) to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) analyzing the effects of the proposed project on the listed and proposed species. On December 18, 1997, NMFS issued its biological opinion under section 7 of the ESA,