

Office conference room, 355 Hemsted Dr., Redding, CA 96002. It will begin with a raft trip on the Sacramento River looking at proposed exchange parcels and management of public lands managed by the Redding Resource Area along the Sacramento River. The agenda for the meeting Thursday begins at 8:00 a.m. with the election of the chair and vice-chair, an update on the Rangeland Standards and Guidelines process and updates from the Arcata, Clear Lake and Redding Area Managers on emphasis programs within the respective resource areas for which the Council would like to focus future agendas and actions.

The meeting is open to the public with a public comment period scheduled for 1:30–2:30 p.m., Thursday, September 5. Depending on the number of persons wishing to speak, a time limit may be imposed. Summary minutes of the meeting will be maintained at the Arcata, Clear Lake and Redding Resource Area Offices.

Due to the limitations of BLM owned equipment, anyone interested in participating in the raft tour will need to make their own arrangements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Renee Snyder, Bureau of Land Management, Clear Lake Resource Area, 2550 N. State St., Ukiah, CA 95482, 707–468–4000. Renee Snyder,
Clear Lake Resource Area Manager.

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[ID–030–1110–04]

Land Use Plan Amendment: Medicine Lodge Resource Management Plan (RMP); Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Designation; Idaho

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a Plan Amendment/EA for the Medicine Lodge RMP for the proposed Henrys Lake ACEC.

SUMMARY: Approximately 1,681 acres of public land listed below possess excellent fish and wildlife habitat as well as recreation opportunities. They are sufficiently unique to deserve special management attention obtained by an ACEC designation. This would provide sufficient priority status to help ensure funding for adequate multiple use management. Such special designations are made through the land use planning process required in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The intended effect of this action is to designate as an ACEC a composite of the BLM-administered

parcels listed below and to identify in the RMP a proximal area containing non-BLM land on which ACEC designation would be instantly conferred in the event of future acquisition by BLM for that stated purpose.

DATES: Comments with information useful to formulate supplemental issues and alternatives for the environmental analysis are hereby requested and will be accepted until September 9, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Rice, Bureau of Land Management, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401, (208) 524–7549.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Several scattered tracts of public land, collectively comprising approximately 1,681 acres more or less, possess important fish, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species habitat as well as recreation opportunities. All of the tracts are in the Henrys Lake Flat area. Several tracts are along the Henrys Lake shore. All are influenced by the resources and activity occurring in and around the lake. An additional 350 acres of BLM-administered land immediately north of Henrys Lake comprise the Henrys Lake Wilderness Study Area. The following public land in Fremont County, Idaho, will be analyzed for possible collective designation as the Henrys Lake Area ACEC:

Boise Meridian, Idaho

- T. 15N., R. 42 E.,
Sec. 1, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 12, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- T. 16 N., R. 43 E.,
Sec. 31, Lot 3;
Sec. 32, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 33, N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- T. 15 N., R. 43 E.,
Sec. 3, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 4, Lots 2 to 4, inclusive;
Sec. 7, Lot 8;
Sec. 8, Lot 1;
Sec. 9, Lots 1, 3 and 4;
Sec. 13, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 17, Lots 1 to 3, inclusive;
Sec. 18, Lot 5, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 20, Lots 1 to 4, inclusive;
Sec. 21, Lot 3;
Sec. 27, Lots 4 and 5, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
- T. 14 N., R. 43 E.,
Sec. 2, Lot 3.
- T. 16 N., R. 44 E.,
Sec. 31, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
- T. 15 N., R. 44 E.,
Sec. 31, Lot 8.
- T. 14 N., R. 44 E.,
Sec. 5, Lots 1 and 2;
Sec. 7, Lots 1 to 3, inclusive, Lot 8;
Sec. 17, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The primary issues envisioned are: (a) protection of special riparian areas, (b)

protection of threatened and endangered species habitat, (c) land acquisition, and (d) recreation enhancement—especially for fishermen and hunters. The same planning criteria used for the original RMP will be used for this amendment. No meetings are planned at this time, however, all known affected parties and other interested parties will have opportunities to have input to this amendment. All of the tracts listed above are proposed for multiple use management in perpetuity.

Dated: July 31, 1996.

Joe Kraayenbrink,
Area Manager, Medicine Lodge Resource Area.

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Minerals Management Service

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces plans for MMS to followup on recommendations from the International Platform and Pipeline Decommissioning Workshop and related studies.

DATES: MMS is inviting the public to comment on the decommissioning plans listed in this notice. MMS will consider all comments received by September 9, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Please mail or hand-carry your comments on this notice to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4700; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170–4817; Attention: Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Buffington, Engineering and Standards Branch, telephone (703) 787–1600 or FAX (703) 787–1555.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 15–17, 1996, MMS jointly sponsored an International Platform and Pipeline Decommissioning Workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The International Workshop drew over 475 attendees to discuss and make recommendations pertaining to policies, regulations, and related issues concerning:

- Decommissioning wells, platforms, and pipelines;
- Planning, managing, and maintaining habitats; and
- Removing facilities and clearing sites.

Working groups discussed current decommissioning practices and the recent National Research Council report entitled “An Assessment of Techniques

for Removing Offshore Structures" (Marine Board Study). Each working group made specific recommendations to improve offshore decommissioning. The proceedings of the International Workshop will be published in the fall of 1996.

The April 1996 International Workshop primarily focused on decommissioning activities in the Gulf of Mexico. However, MMS is also investigating opportunities to solicit views and recommendations concerning other offshore areas, including California.

MMS is discussing sponsoring an additional decommissioning workshop in California (the first California workshop was held in March 1994).

On a national level, MMS is working on an action plan to respond to recommendations made by the Marine Board Study and the general comments from the International Workshop.

Our general plan is to:

1. Improve our partnering and consultations on lease decommissioning issues—MMS is continuing to meet with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), fishing interests, the oil and gas industry, and other concerned members of the public. For example, we are discussing survey requirements for turtles and marine mammals, limitations of charge sizes and the number of detonations, and loss of nursery habitats. Recently, MMS met with NMFS and the oil and gas industry to discuss the impact of structure removals on endangered species.

MMS also plans to participate on relevant committees concerning international decommissioning policies of offshore oil and gas installations. One of the committees will develop guidelines for disposing of platforms.

2. Analyze our policies and regulations—

MMS is working with other agencies and sponsoring scientific studies to help us analyze our policies and regulations on decommissioning. In 1997, MMS plans to publish a Notice to Lessee and/or regulations to clarify MMS's policy on structure severing depths, partial facility removals, deep-water decommissioning, and site clearance requirements (including liability).

3. Conduct research and environmental studies—

MMS is conducting or will initiate research on the following topics in 1996 and early 1997:

- Turtle detection techniques,
- Fish and turtle scare devices,
- The effects of removal depths on soil transport,
- Improved well abandonment techniques,

- Ecological role of natural reefs and oil and gas production platforms on rocky reef fishes,
- Ecology of invertebrate communities on platform structures,
- Casing removal depths and removal methods,
- The effects of explosives on cement plugs,
- Deep-water pipeline abandonment procedures,
- Advanced explosive and nonexplosive removal techniques,
- Deep-water artificial reefs,
- Attraction vs. production in cold-water environments with ample hard-bottom,
- Habitat and water depth profile for fish kill from explosives,
- The effects of platform size on various fish,
- Forecasts of Federal platform removals,
- Offshore and onshore facility disposal methods, and
- An environmental and safety risk assessment for platform and pipeline decommissioning and removals.

MMS is also issuing a request for research proposals in the "Commerce Business Daily" concerning decommissioning research.

Our goal is to decommission wells, platforms, pipelines, and other structures to prevent or minimize environmental impacts and to ensure that a location is cleared of obstructions to other uses of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). MMS will achieve its goal by enhancing its partnerships with the other OCS stakeholders and by using science to evaluate the techniques, policies, and regulations associated with decommissioning.

Dated: July 29, 1996.

Lucy R. Querques,

Acting Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

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BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

Concurrent Jurisdiction in Maryland

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Concurrent Jurisdiction.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the State of Maryland has ceded to the National Park Service (NPS) concurrent legislative jurisdiction over lands and waters, owned, leased or administratively controlled by the NPS, within the boundaries of the 17 NPS units in the State of Maryland. This jurisdiction is in addition to those park

areas already under concurrent jurisdiction in Maryland.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Concurrent legislative jurisdiction within NPS units became effective on June 20, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Einar Olsen, Ranger Services Division, National Capitol Field Area, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20242. Telephone 202-619-7065.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 19, 1996, pursuant to Annotated Code of Maryland Section 14-102, the Honorable Parris Glendening, Governor of the State of Maryland, ceded by agreement to the NPS concurrent legislative jurisdiction over lands and waters, owned, leased or administratively controlled by the NPS, within the boundaries of the 17 NPS units in the State of Maryland. Acting in accordance with the provisions of 16 U.S.C. 1a-3 and 40 U.S.C. 255, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt signed the agreement on January 4, 1995. In addition, the United States retrocedes and relinquishes exclusive jurisdiction over those NPS areas in the State where the United States had exclusive jurisdiction. The agreement became effective on the date of the last signature, June 20, 1996.

The 17 NPS Areas Include

Antietam National Battlefield (Washington County)
 Assateague Island National Seashore (Worcester County)
 Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, and Allegheny Counties)
 Clara Barton National Historic Site (Montgomery County)
 Fort Foote Park (Prince George's County)
 Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine (Baltimore City)
 Fort Washington Park (Prince George's County)
 Clara Barton Parkway (Montgomery County)
 Hampton National Historical Site (Baltimore County)
 Harmony Hall (Prince George's County)
 Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (Washington County)
 Monocacy National Battlefield (Frederick County)
 Oxon Cove Park (Prince George's County)
 Piscataway Park, including Colonial Farms and Marshall Hall (Prince George's County)
 Piscataway Park (Charles County)
 Thomas Stone National Historic Site (Charles County)