

resident to be able to participate in special hunts. The harvest information is needed in order to evaluate subsistence harvest success; the effectiveness of season lengths, harvest quotas, and harvest restrictions; hunting patterns and practices; and hunter use. Once harvest success information is evaluated, the Federal Subsistence Board utilizes this information, along with other information, to set future seasons and harvest limits for Federal subsistence resource users. These seasons and harvest limits are set in order to meet the needs of subsistence hunters without adversely impacting the health of existing wildlife populations.

The Federal Subsistence Hunt Application and Permit also provides a mechanism to allow Federal subsistence users the opportunity to participate in special hunts that are not available to the general public but are mandated by Title VIII of ANILCA. Both reports provide for the collection of the necessary information; however, the Designated Hunter report is unique in that it allows the reporting of the harvest of multiple animals by a single hunter who is acting for others. The Designated Hunter Application and Permit also serves as a special permit allowing qualified subsistence users to harvest fish or wildlife for others.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals or households.

Estimated Completion Time: .25 hours (15 minutes each).

Annual Responses: 4,500 (Federal Subsistence Hunt Application and Permit; 7,000 (Designated Hunter Permit Application and Report).

Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,875.

Dated: February 28, 1997.

Phyllis H. Cook,

Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-5583 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-040-7122-00-5514; AZA 28789]

Availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Morenci Land Exchange Final Environmental Impact Statement, Case Number AZA 28789, Safford Field Office, Greenlee County, AZ

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Morenci Land Exchange Final Environmental Impact Statement, Case Number AZA 28789, Safford Field Office, Greenlee County, Arizona.

SUMMARY: The Safford Field Office, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management has prepared a Record of Decision for the Morenci Land Exchange Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Record of Decision was signed by the Arizona BLM State director on February 7, 1997, and approves a land exchange between the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office and Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc.

The approved exchange involves trading 3,604.79 acres of Bureau of Land Management administered public land located in Greenlee County, Arizona for 1,040.00 acres of private lands owned by Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., located in Graham, Greenlee, Cochise and Pima Counties. The public and private lands involved in this trade have been appraised, by methods approved by the Federal Government, and are substantially equal in dollar value. The appraised value of the offered lands and the selected lands are within 3 percent of each other.

Approval of the land exchange will bring lands with important resource and public land management values into public ownership, and transfer BLM managed public lands to private ownership. Resource values of the private lands, transferred to Federal ownership, include an important riparian area as well as critical, occupied, and potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. The public lands, transferred to Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., ownership, are expected to be used for mining purposes that will enable Phelps Dodge to expand and continue operation of some features of the Morenci copper mine.

This ROD was prepared to comply with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-1508) for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 43 U.S.C. at 1701.

DATES: February 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Safford Field Office, 711 14th Avenue, Safford, Arizona 85546.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., will acquire title to 26 parcels (3,604.79 acres) of public lands located in Greenlee County, adjacent to the existing Morenci mine. Fourteen of these parcels are less than 1 acre in size and are surrounded by private land. The remaining 11 parcels range in size from 5 acres to about 2,560 acres. The value of these lands has been appraised, using a federally-approved methodology, at \$450,598.75.

The Bureau of Land Management will acquire title to 4 parcels of private land

(1,040.00 acres) located in Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, and Pima Counties. These properties consist of: the 280 acre Eagle Creek parcel located in Greenlee/Graham Counties; the 360 acre Stewart Trust property located in Cochise County; the 320 acre Peterson parcel located in Cochise County; and 80 acres of the 240 acre Clyne parcel located in Pima County. The value of these lands has been appraised, using a federal approved methodology, at \$464,000.00.

Since the appraised value of the selected (public) lands is \$13,401.25 less than the appraised value of the offered (private) lands, the Bureau of Land Management must either pay Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., the difference or receive a waiver of payment. The Bureau of Land Management has requested a waiver, and Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., has agreed to waive the balancing payment of \$13,401.25 pursuant to 43 CFR 2201.6.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Evans, Project Manager, or Mike McQueen, Environmental Coordinator, at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office, 711 14th Avenue, Safford, Arizona 85546; telephone number (520) 428-4040. Internet address sevens@az.blm.gov or mmcqueen@az.blm.gov.

Dated: February 21, 1997.

Frank L. Rowley,

Acting Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-4976 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

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[AZ-040-7122-00-5514; AZA 28789]

Notice of Decision of Exchange of Lands in Greenlee, Graham, Cochise and Pima Counties, AZ

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that on February 7, 1997 Denise Meridith, Arizona State Director, Bureau of Land Management, approved the proposed land exchange between the Safford Field Office and Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc. The Record of Decision describes the selected alternative and other alternatives considered.

The Record of Decision is available for public review at the Safford Field Office, 711 14th Avenue, Safford, Arizona 85546. Copies can also be obtained by calling Scott Evans, Project Manager, or Mike McQueen, Environmental Coordinator, at (520) 428-4040.

The following described public land has been determined to be suitable for disposal by exchange pursuant to Section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716), as amended:

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

- T. 4 S., 28 E.,
 Sec. 12, lot 15.
 T. 3 S., R., 29 E.,
 Sec. 15, all;
 Sec. 21, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 22, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 23, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 26, lots 1, 2, 3 and 5, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 27, lots 1 to 5, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 27, lots 1 to 6, inclusive, lots 10 and
 11, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 31, lots 1, 4, 5, and 8, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 32, lots 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26;
 Sec. 35, lots 9 to 12, inclusive, lots 17 and
 18.
 T. 4 S., R. 29 E.,
 Sec. 1, lots 7 and 8;
 Sec. 5, lots 11 and 14;
 Sec. 6, lots 2, 11, 21, 24 and 25;
 Sec. 7, lots 19, 20, 22, 23, 25 and 26;
 Sec. 8, lots 13, 14, 16 and 17;
 Sec. 11, lots 8 and 9;
 Sec. 12, lots 16 to 19, inclusive;
 Sec. 17, lot 15;
 Sec. 18, lots 22, 25 and 26;
 Sec. 20, lots 3, 9, and 14 to 19, inclusive,
 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 5 S., R. 29 E.,
 Sec. 12, lots 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24.
 The areas described aggregate 3,604.79
 acres.

In exchange the United States will acquired the following described land from Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc.

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

- T. 19 S., R. 18 E.,
 Sec. 9, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 10, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 14 S., R. 28 E.,
 Sec. 3, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 7, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 8, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 10, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.
 T. 5 S., R. 29 E.,
 Sec. 30, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 31, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The areas described aggregate 1,040 acres.

Approval of the land exchange will bring lands with important resource and public land management values into public ownership, and transfer BLM-managed public lands to private ownership. Resource values of the private lands, transferred to Federal ownership, include an important riparian area as well as critical, occupied, and potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. The public lands, transferred to Phelps Dodge Morenci, Inc., are expected to be used for mining purposes that will enable Phelps Dodge to expand and

continue operation of some features of the Morenci copper mine. The public interest will be well-served by consummating the exchange. Interested parties may submit comments concerning the Decision for the exchange to the Field Manager, Safford Field Office, 711 14th Avenue, Safford, Arizona 85546. Comments must be in writing to the field Office Manager, and be postmarked within 45 days from the publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Dated: February 27, 1997.

Frank L. Rowley,

Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-5523 Filed 3-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-M

[NM-060-07-1610-00 (0003)]

Availability of Proposed Roswell Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Carlsbad Resource Management Plan Amendment/Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability for public review of the Proposed Roswell Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and the Proposed Carlsbad Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA)/Final Environmental Impact Statement. The proposed plans are combined in a single document consisting of two volumes. A 30-day protest period is provided according to the BLM's land use planning regulations at 43 CFR 1610.5-2.

The Proposed Roswell RMP describes the future management of all uses on about 1,490,000 acres of public lands in the Roswell Resource Area where both the surface and subsurface estates are in federal ownership and are administered by the BLM. The Proposed Roswell RMP also describes management for an additional 8.4 million acres of federal mineral estate where the surface is managed by other surface management agencies of the federal or New Mexico state governments, or is in private ownership. In these cases, the leasing of fluid minerals (i.e., oil and gas) is administered by the BLM. The public lands covered by the Proposed Roswell RMP, including the mineral estate, are administered by the BLM through its Roswell Resource Area Office. The Roswell Resource Area encompasses

Chaves County (except for the "bootheel") and all of Lincoln, DeBaca, Roosevelt, Curry, Quay and Guadalupe counties in southeastern and east-central New Mexico.

The Proposed Carlsbad RMPA describes the future management for oil and gas resources and use on about 2,197,000 acres in the Carlsbad Resource Area where both the surface and subsurface estates are in federal ownership and are administered by the BLM. The Proposed Plan Amendment also describes management for an additional 1.9 million acres of federal mineral estate where the surface is managed by other surface management agencies of the federal or New Mexico State governments, or is in private ownership. In these cases, the leasing of fluid minerals (i.e., oil and gas) is administered by the BLM. The public lands covered by the Carlsbad RMPA, including the mineral estate, are administered by the BLM through its Carlsbad Resource Area Office. The Carlsbad Resource Area encompasses the "bootheel" of Chaves County and all of Eddy and Lea counties in southeastern New Mexico.

The Proposed Roswell Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement includes the designation of five areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC) totalling 64,669 surface acres. Within the boundaries of the proposed ACECs are lands that are privately-owned or owned by the State of New Mexico. The ACEC designations would pertain only to the federally-owned land surface and mineral estate managed by the BLM and to the BLM-administered federal mineral estate under state and privately-owned lands. The non-federal land surface would not be affected by the ACEC designations. The Proposed RMP designates 10 special recreation management areas (SRMA) totalling 71,725 acres. Under the Proposed Plan, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use designations of open, closed or limited use would be made for the entire Roswell Resource Area. Under OHV management, 1,546 acres would be open; 1,449,878 acres would be limited to designated roads or trails; and, 38,576 acres would be closed to OHV use. Existing designations would be retained for: Outstanding Natural Area (Mescalero Sands, 6,713 acres), National Natural Landmark (Mescalero Sands, 3,280 acres; Border Hill, 150 acres; Mathers, 242 acres; Torgac Cave, 120 acres; and, Fort Stanton Cave, 985 acres), and Research Natural Area (Mathers, 242 acres).

The Proposed RMP and the Proposed RMPA are modified versions of the