

Management, Arizona State Office, 222 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2203, (602) 417-9215.

**Michael A. Ferguson,**

*Deputy State Director, Resources Division.*

[FR Doc. 97-33539 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-921-1430-01; WYW 126227]

#### Opening of Land in a Proposed Withdrawal; Wyoming

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice cancels a withdrawal application insofar as it affects 1410.00 acres of public land and opens the land to surface entry and mining. It has been and remains open to mineral leasing. The remaining portion of the withdrawal application will continue to be processed unless it is cancelled or denied.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 24, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet Booth, BLM Wyoming State Office (WY 921), P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, 307-775-6124.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Notice of Proposed Withdrawal published in the **Federal Register**, 59 FR 5441, on February 4, 1994, for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to protect important paleontological resources on Big Cedar Ridge near Tensleep, Wyoming. After completing an environmental assessment, the BLM determined that certain land is no longer needed for the withdrawal. The land is described as follows:

#### Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming

T. 45 N., R. 89 W.,  
 Sec. 8, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 9, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 16, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 20, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 28, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 29, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 32, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 33, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 1,410 acres in Washakie County.

At 9 a.m. on December 24, 1997 the land will be opened to location and

entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provision of existing withdrawals, and other segregations of record.

Appropriation of any of the land described in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38 (1988), shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

**Alan R. Pierson,**

*State Director.*

[FR Doc. 97-33536 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-360-1230-00]

#### Special Area—Fee Adjustment

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of fee adjustment for use of Special Area within Butte County, California.

**SUMMARY:** The BLM is adjusting the daily fee from \$2.50 per site, per day to \$5.00 per site, per day for recreational mineral collection at the Forks of Butte Creek Special Recreation Management Area. This fee adjustment is required to reflect the current market value of the recreation opportunity being offered by BLM, and to reduce over-crowding and degradation within the Special Recreation Management Area.

**DATES:** This fee adjustment will take effect January 1, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charles M. Schultz, Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, CA 96002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Forks of Butte Creek Special Recreation Management Area in Butte County, California, was placed under protective withdrawal (S 4528) by Public Land Order 5329 on January 18, 1973, to segregate the area from all forms of appropriation, including the mining laws. While the mineral rights to much of this area continue to be held under

mining claims that pre-date this withdrawal, several segments (sites) of Butte Creek are not encumbered with mining claims. These sites have become extremely popular for recreational mineral collection via panning, sluicing and dredging.

The authority for this fee adjustment is 43 CFR 8372. Any person who engages in mineral collection within the Forks of Butte Creek Special Recreation Area in violation of permit terms or stipulations may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

**Charles M. Schultz,**

*Redding Area Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-33409 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-010-98-1610]

#### Arizona Strip District Resource Management Plan: Intent To Amend

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to amend the Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan, Arizona.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the BLM Planning Regulations (43 CFR part 1600) this notice advises the public that the Arizona Strip Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, is proposing to amend the Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan to establish allowable resource uses on the Lee's Ferry Grazing Allotment. In accordance with 43 CFR part 4100.0-8 "The authorized officer shall manage livestock grazing on public lands under the principle of multiple use and sustained yield, and in accordance with applicable land use plans. Land use plans shall establish allowable resource uses (either singly or in combination), related levels of production or use to be maintained, areas of use, \* \* \*'. The Bureau of Land Management, in cooperation with the Lee's Ferry Grazing permittee, desires to retire the grazing preferences associated with the grazing allotment to alleviate conflicts between livestock and recreationist using the narrow Paria River Canyon corridor.

The main issues anticipated in this plan amendment are: (1) potential impacts on recreation opportunities; (2), and potential impacts on the socio-economics of Coconino County, Arizona.

This amendment is limited to the area contained within the Lee's Ferry Allotment on the Arizona Strip.

A land use plan amendment and environmental analysis will be prepared for the subject lands by an interdisciplinary team including range, wildlife, and recreation specialists.

**DATES:** Interested parties may submit comments to the Field Manager at the address shown below on or before February 20, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Strip BLM, 345 E. Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert Sandberg, Arizona Strip Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 345 E. Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790, (435) 688-3200 to obtain additional information regarding this plan amendment. The existing land use plans and maps are available for review at the Interagency Office in St. George, Utah.

**George Cropper,**

*Program Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-33545 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

[NM-070-1050-00]

### Cultural Resources Areas Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) for the Farmington District, NM

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and 60-day comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The BLM, Farmington District announces the availability of a draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment/preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact and Supporting Environmental Assessment (EA). This document discusses the designation of 44 new ACECs including the expansion of three existing Special Management Area and their designation as ACECs. Approximately 10,592.76 federal acres are identified for designation. In addition to designation, the plan amendment, when approved, will guide the BLM programs and management practices within the ACECs.

**DATES:** Written comments relating to the designation of ACECs, management activities within the ACECs, and the EA will be taken for the next 60 days. Comments must be postmarked on or before March 11, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to District Manager, BLM Farmington District, 1235 La Plata Highway, Suite A, Farmington, New Mexico 87401.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lee Otteni, District Manager, BLM Farmington District at (505) 599-6300 or Peggy Gaudy, Project Leader, Farmington District at (505) 599-6337.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** ACECs are land designations unique to the BLM. The purpose of ACECs is to recognize, protect, and manage unique or sensitive resources of potential hazards to the

public. Each area receives management or protection based on its unique needs, in consultation and coordination with the public. The Farmington District has completed inventories of areas containing unique or sensitive cultural resources and has designated a sample as ACECs. In addition the District has reviewed nominations both internally and from the public to consider several areas as ACECs based on cultural values.

The draft document discusses two alternatives, the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action. The BLM's preferred alternative is to implement the Proposed Action by designating and managing 44 new ACECs, including the expansion of three existing Special Management Areas and their designation as ACECs. These management prescription proposals represent the highest level of resource protection and continued public use.

The proposed ACECs represent seven site types: Chacoan Outliers, Chacoan Roads, Navajo Refugee (Pueblito) Sites, Navajo Habitation Sites (Non-pueblito), Pictograph and Petroglyph Sites, Historic Sites, and Native American Traditional Use and Sacred Areas. Management prescriptions are site specific depending on both the site type and the current development in each proposed ACEC.

Eight Chacoan Outliers have been identified and proposed for ACEC designation. They are:

Name	Legal description
Toh-la-kai .....	T16N R18W Sec. 33 SW/4SE/4SE/4.
Bee Burrow .....	T19N R11W Sec. 27 W/2SW/4, S/2NW/4. Sec. 28 SE/4, S/2NE/4. Sec. 29 SW/4SE/4. Sec. 33 N/2N/2NE/4.
Indian Creek .....	T20N R13W Sec. 7 S/2NW/4, W/2SW/4NE/4.
Upper Kin Klizhin .....	T20N R11W Sec. 22 NE/4NE/4. Sec. 23 W/2NW/4NW/4.
Bis sa' ani .....	T21N R9W Sec. 3 portions of N/2NW/4. Sec. 4 portions of N/2N/2.
Morris 41 .....	T32N R13W Sec. 15 SE/4SW/4, portions of NE/4SW/4, portions of W/2SW/4SE/4.
Andrews Ranch .....	T14N R11W Sec. 32 NE/4NE/4SE/4, S/2SE/4NE/4. Sec. 33 all. Sec. 34 SW/4, NE/4SE/4, S/2SW/4NE/4, W/2NE/4SE/4, SW/4SE/4NE/4.
Church Rock Outlier .....	T16N R16W Sec. 20 SE/4.

Management prescriptions for Chacoan Outliers vary slightly with the needs of each site, but in general they include preparation of Cultural Resources Management Plans at sites without existing plans, designation as "closed" or "limited" Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) areas, if possible acquisition of non-federal minerals, withdrawal from mineral leasing or sale, coordination with lease holders to minimize resource damage and withdrawal from land or resource modification or sale. No new rights-of-way will be issued. The only exception is where a new right-of-way will be issued in existing disturbance at Church Rock Outlier. The BLM will coordinate with existing right-of-way and easement holders, and continue monitoring and patrol programs. Also proposed is complete Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) documentation on sites which have not been documented, stabilize structures as needed, conduct cultural inventories, complete cadastral survey and fences as needed, nominate to the National Register of Historic Places and World Heritage List, consolidate previous research data, and designate as Class I Visual Resource Management areas. Church Rock Outlier will be proposed for inclusion as a Chaco Culture Archaeological Protection Site. Private and state lands have been identified for acquisition at Andrews Ranch if there are willing participants.

Three Chacoan Roads have been identified and proposed for ACEC designation. They are: