

four alternatives to managing public lands in Washington County, Utah. The Dixie Resource Area Office received over 800 comment letters on the Draft RMP/EIS from local, state and federal governments, interest groups, and the public at large. Major concerns brought forth from proposed decisions of the Draft RMP/EIS included wild and scenic river issues, off-highway vehicle management designations, visual resource protection zones, rights-of-way restrictions, threatened and endangered species protection, the Virgin River and its associated resources, as well as, potential reservoir development, among others. Since the release of the Draft RMP/EIS, public meetings, workshops, mailings, and briefings have been conducted to solicit comments, new information, and ideas for the Proposed Plan.

The Proposed Plan responds to public comments received on the Draft RMP/EIS. The Proposed Plan also corrects errors in the Draft RMP/EIS identified through the public comment process and internal BLM review. The Proposed Plan and associated analysis presents a refined and modified version of the Preferred Alternative and the accompanying impact analysis contained in the Draft RMP/EIS. The Proposed Plan can be used in conjunction with the Draft RMP/EIS to facilitate review of the initial four alternatives. The description of the affected environment and detailed descriptions of the alternatives contained in the Draft RMP/EIS, as well as some of the appendices, are referenced but not reproduced in the Proposed Plan.

Copies of the Proposed Plan are available from the Dixie Resource Area Office, 345 E. Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah, 84790, 435-688-3216. Public reading copies will be available for review at all government-document depository libraries, and at the following BLM locations: Office of Public Affairs, Main Interior Building, 18th and C Streets N.W., Washington, DC 20240; Information Access Center (4th Floor), Utah BLM State Office, 324 S. State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111; Cedar City District Office, 176 East DL Sargent Drive, Cedar City, Utah 84720; and Dixie Resource Area Office, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790. Background information and reference materials used in developing the Proposed Plan are available for review in St. George at the Dixie Resource Area Office.

Written protests on the Proposed Plan will be accepted for 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency published the Notice of Filing of

this document in the **Federal Register**. It is anticipated that the filing date will be on September 18, 1998, thus ending the public review/protest period on October 17, 1998, and the Governor's 60-day consistency review on November 16, 1998. Any part of this Proposed Plan may be protested only by parties who participated in the planning process. Protests must pertain to issues that were identified in the Draft RMP/EIS or through the public comment process. Protests must be addressed to the BLM Director at the address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The protest must be specific and contain the following information: —The name, mailing address, telephone number and interest of the person filing the protest; —A statement of the issue(s) being protested; —A statement of the part(s) of the proposed amendment being protested, and a citing of pages, paragraphs, maps, etc., of the Proposed Plan, where practical.; —A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that were submitted by the protestor during the planning process; and —A concise statement explaining why the BLM State Director's proposed decision is believed to be in error.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, the Proposed Plan, excluding any portion under protest will become final.

Approval will be withheld on any portion of the plan under protest until final action has been completed on such protest.

Dated: September 9, 1998.

G. William Lamb,
State Director, Utah.

[FR Doc. 98-24898 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ES-960-1420-00] ES-50148, Group 32, Illinois

Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey; Illinois

The plats of the dependent resurvey of a portion of the east and north boundaries, portions of the subdivisional lines and the survey of the subdivision of section 4, and the Lock and Dam No. 26 acquisition boundary, Township 6 North, Range 13 West, Third Principal Meridian, Illinois, and the dependent resurvey of portions of the subdivisional lines and the survey of the Lock and Dam No. 26 Acquisition

Boundary, Township 7 North, Range 13 West, Third Principal Meridian, Illinois, will be officially filed in Eastern States, Springfield, Virginia at 7:30 a.m., on October 19, 1998.

The survey was requested by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

All inquiries or protests concerning the technical aspects of either survey must be sent to the Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Eastern States, Bureau of Land Management, 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153, prior to 7:30 a.m., October 19, 1998.

Copies of the plats will be made available upon request and prepayment of the reproduction fee of \$2.75 per copy.

Dated: September 8, 1998.

Stephen G. Kopach,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor.

[FR Doc. 98-24940 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-957-00-1420-00: G8-0309]

Filing of Plats of Survey: Oregon/ Washington

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The plats of survey of the following described lands are scheduled to be officially filed in the Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon, thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this publication.

Willamette Meridian

Oregon

T. 21 S., R. 3 W., accepted July 31, 1998
T. 26 S., R. 3 W., accepted September 2, 1998
T. 25 S., R. 4 W., accepted September 1, 1998
T. 37 S., R. 4 W., accepted July 28, 1998
T. 33 S., R. 5 W., accepted September 1, 1998
T. 29 S., R. 8 W., accepted September 2, 1998
T. 22 S., R. 9 W., accepted July 31, 1998
T. 31 S., R. 14 W., accepted July 14, 1998
T. 29 S., R. 15 W., accepted July 24, 1998
T. 33 S., R. 15 W., accepted July 24, 1998

If the protests against a survey, as shown on any of the above plat(s), are received prior to the date of official filing, the filing will be stayed pending consideration of the protest(s). A plat will not be officially filed until the day after all protests have been dismissed and become final or appeals from the dismissal affirmed.

The plat(s) will be placed in the open files on the Oregon State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1515 S.W., 5th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201, and

will be available to the public as a matter of information only. Copies of the plat(s) may be obtained from the above office upon required payment. A person or party who wishes to protest against a survey must file with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Portland, Oregon, a notice that they wish to protest prior to the proposed official filing date given above. A statement of reasons for a protest may be filed with the notice of protest to the State Director, or the statement of reasons must be filed with the State Director within thirty (30) days after the proposed official filing date.

The above-listed plats represent dependent resurveys, survey and subdivision. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bureau of Land Management, (1515 S.W., 5th Avenue) P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208.

Dated: September 9, 1998.

Sherrie L. Reid,

Acting Chief, Branch of Realty and Records Services.

[FR Doc. 98-24939 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intention To Extend Public Review Period for National Park Service Reference Manual #41: Wilderness Preservation and Management

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is converting and updating its current system of internal instructions to a three-level system consisting of: (1) NPS Management Policies; (2) Director's Orders; and (3) Reference Manuals/ Handbooks and other helpful information. When these documents contain new policy or procedural requirements that may affect parties outside the NPS, this information is being made available for public comments. While the original 30-day public review period for this document ended on August 17, 1998, an additional 30-day public review period will be implemented and end on September 30, 1998.

DATES: Written comments will be accepted until September 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The draft Reference Manual #41 is available on the Internet at: <http://www.nps.gov>. The specific link can subsequently be reached by opening: "Infozone," "Reference Desk," "Director's Orders." Reference Manual

#41 is included under sub-title "Draft Guidance Documents." Requests for copies and written comments should be sent to Jim Walters, National Park Service Deputy Wilderness Program Coordinator, National Park Service, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0728.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Walters at 505 988-6022 (fax) 505 988-6123, or Wes Henry at 202 208-5211.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents: Reference Manual #41: Wilderness Preservation and Management

I. Background and Purpose

The purpose of Reference Manual #41: Wilderness Preservation and Management is to provide national park managers with the information they need to understand the laws and policies affecting the NPS wilderness resource and guidance for the application of the edicts into the day-to-day and long-term preservation of these resources. The Reference Manual contains: (1) An update of the NPS Management Policies pertaining to wilderness; (2) the Director's Orders intended to assist managers in the application of these policies, and (3) specific detailed references and background information affecting the Service's wilderness resource.

II. Legislative Guidance Applicable to NPS Wilderness Preservation

This information is intended to provide park managers and the public with an understanding of the primary laws regulating the wilderness resource. This discussion includes: the relationship between the Wilderness Act and the NPS Organic Act, the clarification of Section 4(a)(3) of the Wilderness Act which is often misinterpreted by park managers, the implication of the Redwood Act Amendments to the Service's wilderness program, and an explanation of the Eastern Wilderness Act as it applies to the National Park Service.

III. Revised Management Policies Guiding Wilderness Preservation and Management (Level One)

The "Level One" wilderness policy statements will revise and update previous policies included in Chapter 6 of the 1988 Wilderness Policies handbook. These revised policies include general statements addressing: wilderness characteristics and values, the process for reviewing potential wilderness additions, general wilderness policies, consistency of the Service's wilderness program, zoning,

accountability and responsibility, management plans, the minimum requirement process, monitoring strategies, signing, research protocols, NPS administrative facilities, fire management, cultural resources, environmental compliance standards, general public use, commercial services, special events, grazing and livestock driveways, rights-of-way and mineral development and public education standards.

IV. Director's Order #41 (Level Two)

The "Level Two" Director's Order are intended as more detailed guidance and standards for managers to use in the application of the revised policy statements. Director's Order #41 will be issued by the NPS Associate Director-Operations and Parks as required standards at which the respective programs and functions must be managed within NPS wilderness. These program, identified as "Critical Issues" include: wilderness management plan requirements, procedures for applying the "minimum requirement" concept, interagency coordination, cultural resource management, climbing protocols, fire management, interpretation and education, mineral development, research and other scientific uses, wilderness use by persons with disabilities, special events, training requirements, and the administration of commercial services in wilderness.

V. Appendices

The appendices of the Level 3 Reference Manual are intended as a reference and bibliography for wilderness managers. This information includes: a glossary of wilderness terms, the text of the Wilderness Act, the *Wilderness Access Decision Tool* (not included in the draft due to bulk of the appendix document), examples of minimum requirement decision tools, the minimum requirements of a wilderness management plan, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (not included in draft due to bulk of this Act), and a list of suggested readings relating to wilderness management.

Dated: August 18, 1998.

Maureen Finnerty,

Associate Director, Operations and Education.

[FR Doc. 98-24858 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P