

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roy L. Masinton, Malheur Resource Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon 97918, Telephone (541) 473-3144.

Roy L. Masinton,

Malheur Resource Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-34180 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-067-1990; CA-40204]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Proposed Expansion of an Existing Gold Mining/Processing Operation

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Newmont Gold Company (NGC), operator of the Mesquite gold mine located in Imperial County, California, has proposed to expand mining operations by a plan modification submitted to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), El Centro field office, on November 30, 1998. Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the BLM will direct the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) by a third party contractor on the impacts of an expansion of this gold mining/processing operation. Comments are being requested to help identify significant issues or concerns related to the proposed action, to determine the scope of the issues (including alternatives) that need to be analyzed, and to eliminate from detailed study those issues that are not significant. Supporting documentation should be included with comments recommending that the EIS address specific environmental issues. Public scoping meetings will be held (see below).

DATES: For scoping meetings and comments: Three public scoping meetings will be held during 1999 on the following dates and locations: January 26, from 7-10 pm, at the Best Western Yuma Inn Suites, Palm Canyon Room, 1450 Castle Dome Ave., Yuma, Az. ph (520) 783-8341; January 27, from 7-10 pm, at the El Centro Community Center, 375 South First Street, El Centro, Ca. ph (760) 337-4555; and January 28, from 7-10 pm, at San Diego State University, Aztec Center-Backdoor Room, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, Ca. ph (619) 594-5278. Written

comments must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Field Office, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, California 92243, ATTN: Geologist.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kevin Marty, Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Field Office, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, California 92243, (760) 337-4400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Mesquite Mine began operations under an approved plan of operations during 1985. Since this time, several expansions and plan modifications have occurred, which are summarized within the approved Mesquite Mine consolidated plan of operations dated October, 1995. According to the Code of Federal Regulations found at Title 43 CFR 3809.1-7, a significant modification of an approved plan must be reviewed and approved by the authorized officer (i.e., BLM) in the same manner as the initial plan. Pursuant to Title 43 CFR 3809.1-7, Newmont has submitted a plan of operations for their proposed mine expansion for approval by the Bureau of Land Management.

This plan modification is now under review by the BLM and other Federal, State and local agencies. The public may review this document at the BLM, El Centro Field Office, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243, or at the Imperial County Planning Department, 939 Main Street, Suite B-1, El Centro, CA 92243.

The expansion would allow the company to continue extracting and processing economical gold deposits, delineated by drilling programs initiated during 1988 and continuing to date. Current ore reserves would be depleted by the end of year 2000, while expansion would increase the mine life a projected seven years into year 2006. The plan modification proposes to process approximately 60 million tons of ore and 180 million tons of waste rock by the expansion of two existing pits: the Big Chief and Rainbow open pits. The pit expansions would encompass approximately 300 acres of Federal, State and private (patented) land, of which 150 acres would be new land disturbance. The plan amendment also describes expansion of an existing heap leach facility on approximately 70 acres of private land to accommodate the new leach material; alternative methods for storage of waste rock, either in existing mined-out open pits, at new or expanded out-of-pit storage areas, or

a combination of both; and construction of ancillary facilities including roads, fencing and drainage diversions.

Dated: December 18, 1998.

Thomas Zale,

Acting Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-34248 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Meeting Notice

SUMMARY: The Lower Snake River District Resource Advisory Council will meet in Boise to discuss implementation of standards and guidelines for administering livestock grazing, the 1999 Payette River Recreation Fee Demonstration Project, and other issues.

DATES: February 9, 1999. The meeting will begin at 9:00 AM. Public comment periods will be held at 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at the Lower Snake River District Office, located at 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry Rose, Lower Snake River District Office (208-384-3393).

Dated: December 15, 1998.

Katherine Kitchell,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-34190 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV 910 0777 30]

Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council Meeting Location and Time

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Resource Advisory Councils' meeting location and time.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), 5 U.S.C., the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Council meetings will be held as indicated below. The agenda for the February 4, 1999 meeting includes: approval of minutes of the previous meeting, Standards and Guidelines for wild horses, pinyon-juniper, mining and recreation, Wilderness Study Areas, 3809 draft mining regulations update,

field manager reports on current BLM activities and planned actions in the Battle Mountain, Elko and Ely Field Offices. The Council will also determine subject matter for future meetings.

On February 5, 1999, the Council will take a field tour of a gold mine in the Elko vicinity. Up to fifteen members of the public may attend.

All meetings are open to the public. Citizens may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. The public comment period for the Council meeting is listed below. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Up to fifteen members of the public may attend the mine tour. Individuals who plan to attend or need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Curtis Tucker, Special Projects Coordinator, Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301-9408, telephone 702-289-1841.

DATES, TIMES: The time and location of the meeting is as follows: Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council meeting, February 4, 1999, starting at 9:00 a.m.; BLM Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada, 89801; public comments will be at 11:30 a.m.; tentative adjournment 5:00 p.m. February 5, 1999, starting at 8:00 a.m., the gold mine tour will depart from the Elko Convention Center, 700 Moren Way in Elko and return at approximately 4 p.m. Tentative adjournment will be at 4:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Curtis Tucker, Special Projects

Coordinator, Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301-9408, telephone 775-289-1841.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues, associated with the management of the public lands.

Those planning to attend the tour should wear warm clothing and sturdy footwear. Lunch will be provided.

Dated: December 17, 1998.

Helen Hankins,

District Manager, Elko.

[FR Doc. 98-34196 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-935-1430-01; COC-28582; COC-0123470]

Public Land Order No. 7244, Correction; Partial Revocation of Secretarial Order Dated March 25, 1910, Which Established Power Site Reserve No. 133; Opening of Lands Subject to Section 24 of the Federal Power Act in the Secretarial Order Dated July 12, 1957, Which Established Power Project No. 2204; Colorado

Dated: December 16, 1998.

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Correction.

SUMMARY: This action corrects Public Land Order No. 7244, 62 FR 8263, published February 24, 1997, as FR Doc. 97-4391.

On page 8263, third column, paragraph 2, center of the page should be corrected to include the following described lands:

T. 1 N., R. 79 W.,

Sec. 14, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 23, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 26, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The areas described aggregate an additional 600 acres in Grand County.

Jenny L. Saunders,

Realty Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-34197 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-025-09-1430-01; G-0060]

Realty Action: Sale of Public Land in Harney County, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DOI.

ACTION: Notice of realty action, sale of public land.

SUMMARY: The following described public land in Harney County, Oregon, has been examined and found suitable for sale under Section 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719), at not less than the appraised market value. All parcels being offered are identified for disposal in the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan.

All of the land described is within the Willamette Meridian.