

CFR 1610.7-2(b)). One such area relating to the management of long-billed curlew and mountain plover habitat on Chapman Bench is addressed in the EA. Comments should be directed to Bob Ross, BLM Planning Coordinator, Worland Field Office, P.O. Box 119, Worland, Wyoming 82401-0119.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Ross, BLM Planning Coordinator, 101 South 23rd Street, Worland, WY 82401, (307) 347-5178, or the Cody Field Office, 1002 Blackburn Avenue, Cody, WY 82414, at (307) 587-2216. Requests for copies of the EA should be made to either office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM's Preferred Alternative is a proposed amendment to the Cody Resource Management Plan to incorporate the former BOR withdrawn lands into the RMP and apply the appropriate existing BLM planning decisions to their management. Currently, the lands are closed to the operation of the public land laws, including land sales and exchanges, and the staking and development of mining claims. There is also a moratorium on Federal mineral leasing on the lands until the BLM planning decisions for them are in place. The proposed RMP amendment would allow most of the lands to be opened to these potential actions and uses. Existing uses, such as livestock grazing, hunting and fishing, and other types of recreation would continue.

If any protests are received on the proposed amendment, these will be resolved by the BLM Director. Next, the EA will be revised if necessary and a Decision Record will be issued with a description of the comments and (or) protests on the proposed decisions, along with an explanation of how the comments and (or) protests were answered. The Decision Record will incorporate additional or changed land-use planning decisions, as needed, in amending the Cody RMP.

The September 14 open house to discuss the EA and Preferred Alternative has been announced in letters to interested parties on the Cody Field Office mailing list and in local and statewide media releases. The open house will be held at the Cody Field Office.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the Worland Field Office, 101 South 23rd Street, Worland, Wyoming, and at the Cody Field Office, 1002 Blackburn Avenue, Cody, Wyoming, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday, except

holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: September 2, 1999.

**Alan L. Kesterke,**

*Associate State Director.*

[FR Doc. 99-23381 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-950-5700-77; AZA 31044]

#### Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Notice of Public Meeting; Arizona

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, proposes to withdraw 7,840 acres of National Forest System land to protect the Diamond Rim Quartz Crystal Interpretive Area. This notice segregates the land for up to 2 years from location and entry under the United States mining laws. The land will remain open to all other uses which may be made of National Forest System land. This notice also announces a public meeting. This application replaces withdrawal application AZA 30353, which has been canceled.

**DATES:** Comments should be received on or before December 8, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karyn Harbour, Tonto National Forest, 602-225-5200, or Rod Byers, Payson Ranger District, 520-474-7900.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 26, 1999, the Forest Service filed an application to withdraw the following described National Forest System land from location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

#### Gila and Salt River Meridian

Tonto National Forest

T. 11 N., R. 11 E.,

Sec. 1;

Sec. 2;

Sec. 3;

Sec. 4, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 10;

Sec. 11;

Sec. 12;

Sec. 13;

Sec. 14;

Sec. 15, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 23, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 24, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

T. 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> N., R. 11 E.,

Sec. 33, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 34;

Sec. 35, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 36, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

The area described contains approximately 7,840 acres in Gila County.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views in writing to the Forest Supervisor of the Tonto National Forest.

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting will be held to provide an opportunity for public comment regarding the proposed withdrawal. The meeting will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, October 27, 1999, at the Supervisor's Office, Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2300.

For a period of 2 years from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated as specified above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date.

Application AZA 30353, published in the 62 FR 50404, September 25, 1997, has been canceled.

Dated: August 30, 1999.

**Michael A. Ferguson,**

*Deputy State Director, Resources Division.*

[FR Doc. 99-23343 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### CALFED Bay-Delta Program, CA

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of an additional public hearing for the Draft Programmatic

Environmental Impact Statement/  
Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR).

**SUMMARY:** An additional public hearing has been scheduled in Los Banos, California, for the Draft EIS/EIR for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. A notice of availability of the Draft EIS/EIR appeared in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 34677-34678, Jun. 28, 1999). The notice for public hearings appeared in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 43223-43224, Aug. 9, 1999) providing locations and times for hearings in 15 California cities.

**DATES:** The additional public hearing will occur on Monday, September 13, 1999. A question and answer session will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the formal hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The additional hearing will be at the Merced County Spring Fair-Los Banos, Germino Building, 403 F Street, Los Banos, California.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information regarding the public hearing, contact Mr. Rick Breitenbach, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155, Sacramento CA 95814; telephone (800) 900-3587.

Dated: September 2, 1999.

**Frank Michny,**

*Regional Environmental Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-23380 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### **Proposed City of Albuquerque Water Resources Strategy Implementation, Drinking Water Supply Project, Albuquerque, New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the proposed City of Albuquerque Water Resources Strategy Implementation, Drinking Water Supply Project, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The City of Albuquerque, Public Works Department (City) will act as a joint lead agency for NEPA compliance for the proposed project. The City proposes to develop infrastructure that will allow it to fully utilize its contracted (Secretary of the Interior) allotment of San Juan/Chama Project surface water for drinking water and other consumptive

uses, and to call for releases of its stored San Juan/Chama Project water in a manner consistent with the proposed use. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a sustainable water supply for the City of Albuquerque by utilizing allocated surface water when available, and preserving the local ground water basin as a drought reserve. The proposed project will be implemented in conjunction with ongoing City efforts to implement local water reuse and non-potable supply projects and a water conservation program.

**DATES:** The dates and times of the scoping meetings will be as follows:

1. Thursday, September 23, 1999; 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102.

2. Tuesday, September 28, 1999; 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Socorro, New Mexico, 87801.

3. Thursday, September 30, 1999; 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Española, New Mexico, 87532.

The date of release of the draft EIS for public comment, and the public hearings to be conducted to receive comments on the EIS, will be announced in the **Federal Register** and in the local news media, as these dates are established.

**ADDRESSES:** The locations of the public scoping meetings will be as follows:

1. Albuquerque Convention Center, Cimarron/Dona Ana rooms, 401 Second Street NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102.

2. New Mexico Tech, Macy Center, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, New Mexico, 87801.

3. Northern New Mexico Community College, Joseph Montoya Building, 921 Paseo de Oñate, Española, New Mexico, 87532.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Lori Robertson, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, 505 Marquette Avenue NW, Suite 1313, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87102; telephone (505) 248-5326.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

Historically, the City and other water users in Bernalillo County have relied solely on a deep aquifer, the Santa Fe Group aquifer system, for their water supply. This resource is part of a regional aquifer called the Albuquerque underground water basin.

Aquifer studies conducted during the 1950's and 1960's indicated that the aquifer was extensive, and that flows in the Rio Grande recharged the aquifer sufficiently to allow extensive

withdrawals without affecting the aquifer's long-term ability to supply water. However, recent studies by Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey, and New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources confirmed that the City's primary water supply aquifer was being depleted at a rate that is twice that of the recharge to the aquifer from the Rio Grande.

In 1997, the City adopted the Albuquerque Water Resources Management Strategy (AWRMS). The AWRMS is based on optimizing the City's use of existing water resources and developing new surface water supplies. The strategy is intended to provide a safe and sustainable water supply for the City by minimizing the continued pumping and sole reliance on ground water resources.

##### **Current Activities**

The City is currently planning to implement three water reclamation projects using reclaimed industrial wastewater, untreated surface water, and reclaimed municipal wastewater, for turf irrigation and industrial uses. These water reclamation projects will provide a non-potable water supply for non-drinking uses and reduce demands on the ground water aquifer. The City is also in the early planning stages for the drinking water supply project for which this Notice of Intent is being prepared.

The City implemented a broad-based water conservation program approximately 2 years ago. This program emphasizes low-demand landscaping, low-flow water fixtures, and public awareness regarding the scarcity of water and its overall value to the local and regional economy. The program has resulted in a reduction of almost 18 percent in overall City per capita water use. The goal of the program is to achieve a 30 percent per capita reduction in use.

##### **Proposed Project**

Infrastructure developed for the implementation of the drinking water project will include a diversion of surface water from the Rio Grande, a water treatment plant to treat surface water to Safe Drinking Water Act requirements, and transmission pipelines to convey the treated water into the existing water distribution network. The City currently stores its San Juan/Chama Project water in Abiquiu Reservoir, has short-term water sales and lease agreements for interim uses, and calls for the water to be delivered down the Rio Chama and into the Rio Grande as needed.

The City will also evaluate implementing an aquifer storage and