

entitled "Setting Priorities for Land Conservation," the committee affirmed the need for criteria by stating, "Each agency should develop individual criteria to rank its own acquisitions, because no single set of criteria will work to satisfy fully the different agency missions." The interim criteria implement the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, which states, "the Mission of the System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitat within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans."

Interim Land Acquisition Priority System Criteria

The purpose of the Land Acquisition Priority System is: (1) To document land acquisition needs and opportunities for the Fish and Wildlife Service nationwide; (2) to prioritize land acquisition projects submitted by our Regions; and (3) to serve as a starting point for the annual land acquisition budget request. The criteria are one of the "tools" that we use to build our annual land acquisition priorities among the most important habitat projects in the Nation. The criteria consist of four components: Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Endangered and Threatened Species, Bird Conservation, and Ecosystem Conservation.

The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Component addresses: (1) The status and trends of aquatic populations; (2) species diversity for trust resources; (3) critical habitats, including free-flowing rivers and watersheds; (4) wetland types and trend status; and (5) wetland losses by percent of historic wetland base by State.

The Endangered and Threatened Species Component is: (1) Recovery oriented; (2) considers habitat and biological community integrity as well as species occurrences; and (3) focuses on actual habitat use.

The Bird Conservation Component consists of: (1) Regionally developed lists of 70 species of management concern for each region as well as Hawaii and Puerto Rico; (2) a population importance index; and (3) an avian diversity index. We give emphasis to Nongame Species of Management Concern and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act Priority Waterfowl Species.

The Ecosystem Conservation Component addresses: (1) Biodiversity through distribution and abundance of rare communities; (2) ecosystem decline

and protection of native diversity of threatened ecosystems; (3) landscape conservation by preserving large, intact habitats through partnerships; and (4) contributions to national plans and designations.

Comment Solicitation

We seek public comments on this interim document and will take into consideration comments and additional information received during the comment period. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If you wish for us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Authority

We issue this notice under the authority of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1995 as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 *et seq.*) and the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 as amended, (16 U.S.C. 668dd *et seq.*).

Dated: March 10, 2000.

Jamie Rappaport Clark,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Proclaiming Certain Lands as Reservation for the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians in Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of reservation proclamation.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs proclaimed approximately 285.16 acres as an addition to the reservation of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians on March 10, 2000. This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior

to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.1.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry E. Scrivner, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Real Estate Services, MS-4510/MIB/Code 220, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240, telephone (202) 208-7737.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A proclamation was issued according to the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 986; 25 U.S.C. 467), for the tract of land described below. The land was proclaimed to be an addition to and part of the reservation of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians for the exclusive use of Indians on that reservation who are entitled to reside at the reservation by enrollment or tribal membership.

Reservation of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians

Parcel 1

A portion of the Southeast quarter of Section 11 and the Southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon, described as follows: Beginning at an iron pipe from which point the corner to Sections 11, 12, 13 and 14, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon, bears South 7°44' West 672.8 feet; thence South 86°43'30" West 261.75 feet; thence North 69°43' West 623.0 feet to the southeast corner of the lands of G.E. Clayton as described in deed, Recorder's No. 91854, Deed records of Douglas County, Oregon; thence North 7°47' East 1633.33 feet along the east line of said Clayton lands to an iron pipe on the south right of way of Old State Highway No. 99, which point is also a P.C. of a 9°30' curve left with central angle 5°05'; thence along the south right of way of said curve to the left, 53.5 feet to the P.C. of said curve; thence South 80°19' East 812.3 feet along said south right of way of Old Highway No. 99 to an iron pipe; thence South 7°47' West 1686.8 feet to the place of beginning.

EXCEPT that portion thereof lying Southerly of the following described line: Beginning at a point on the easterly line of the above described lands, which bears North 8°00' East 689.17 feet from the section corner common to Sections 11, 12, 13 and 14, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon; thence running North 77°28'40" West 864.57 feet to the southeast corner of lands conveyed to G.E. Clayton by Deed recorded in Volume 167, Recorder's No.

91854, Deed Records of Douglas County, Oregon.

Said premises are also known as Parcel 2 of Land Partition No. 1991-10, Partition Plat Records of Douglas County, Oregon.

Together with an easement as granted in Recorder's No. 91-4911, Records of Douglas County, Oregon, containing 32.84 acres, more or less.

Parcel 2

All of that portion of the following described real property lying in the South half of Section 12, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, and in the Southwest quarter of Section 7, Township 29 South, Range 5 West, Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon, and within a parcel described by Warranty Deed, Recorder's No. 96-14413, Records of Douglas County, Oregon: Beginning at the section corner common to Sections 7 and 18, Township 29 South, Range 5 West, and to Sections 12 and 13, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon: thence along the south boundary of said Section 12, Township 29 South, Range 6 West, South 86°25'08" West 2557.11 feet to the quarter corner common to said Sections 12 and 13, Township 29 South, Range 6 West; thence continuing along said south boundary of said Section 12, North 88°47'15" West 1294.35 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence leaving said south boundary of said Section 12 and running North 0°27'56" West 27.41 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 84°12'23" West 778.16 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 88°47'10" West 21.05 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 70°09'59" West 102.84 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 25°33'36" West 112.45 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 17°14'59" West 466.80 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 78°45'34" West 68.44 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 7°19'04" East 1678.92 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod located on the southerly right of way of State Highway No. 99; thence along said southerly right of way, South 80°55'54" East 773.94 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence continuing along said southerly right of way, South 80°58'54" East 705.26 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence continuing along said southerly right of way, along the arc of a 1462.40 foot radius curve to the left, the long chord of which bears North 89°54'28" East 463.13 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence continuing along said southerly right of way, North 80°47'49" East 413.83 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence leaving said southerly right of way of said State Highway No. 99, and running South 16°36'07" East 391.53

feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 16°17'28" East 548.51 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 78°21'39" East 177.48 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 7°01'04" East 133.17 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 70°11'35" East 329.53 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 76°52'25" East 311.43 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 81°14'36" East 273.93 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 81°16'41" East 274.05 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 81°46'40" East 262.71 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence North 48°59'59" East 345.89 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 69°12'59" East 669.35 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 46°09'21" East 1463.80 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 28°46'18" East 551.96 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence South 18°12'15" East 87.52 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod located on the south boundary of said Section 7, Township 29 South, Range 5 West, Willamette Meridian; thence along said south boundary of said Section 7, Township 29 South, Range 5 West, North 89°02'06" West 1660.45 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 252.32 acres, more or less.

Together, Parcels 1 and 2 contain a total of 285.16 acres, more or less.

Title to the land described above is conveyed subject to any valid existing easements for public roads and highways, for public utilities and for railroads and pipelines and any other rights-of-way or reservations of record.

This proclamation does not affect title to the land described above, nor does it affect any valid existing easements for public roads and highways, for public utilities and for railroads and pipelines and any other rights-of-way or reservations of record.

Dated: March 10, 2000.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-070-1210-00]

Notice of Emergency Off-Road Vehicle Closures in Wilderness Study Areas Located in the San Rafael Swell Region

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of a temporary emergency closure pursuant to regulations at 43 CFR 8341.2(a) to off-road vehicles (ORVs), also commonly referred to as off-highway vehicles

(OHVs), on public lands and existing vehicle ways within the boundaries of seven Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).

SUMMARY: This notice closes public lands within the Muddy Creek, Sid's Mountain/Sid's Cabin, Devil's Canyon, Crack Canyon, San Rafael Reef, Horseshoe Canyon and Mexican Mountain WSAs, located in the San Rafael Swell region of central Utah, to motorized vehicles. An emergency closure order is necessary due to ORV-caused damage to soils, vegetation and other resources which is impairing wilderness values over extensive portions of the affected WSAs. The closure effects motorized vehicle use on all public lands in WSAs in the Price Field Office with the exception of "four" routes in Sid's Mountain WSA described as follows: (1) The wash bottom of Coal Wash, including the short dugway from the west which enters this wash, and North Fork Coal Wash south until it exits the WSA over "Fix-It-Pass", (2) the wash bottom of South Fork Coal Wash from its junction with the North Fork to and including the "Eva Conover" way, (3) the "Devil's Racetrack" way, and (4) the Justensen Flat access way, including lower Eagle Canyon southeast from the junction of this way. These routes will remain open on a conditional basis. This closure applies to all motor vehicle use with the exception of law enforcement and emergency personnel or administrative uses authorized by the BLM.

DATES: This emergency closure order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until adverse effects are eliminated and measures are implemented to prevent reoccurrence, as identified in 43 CFR 8341.2 (a). Should the rehabilitation work and non-impairment plan associated with Coal Wash, South Fork and North Fork of Coal Wash, the Eva Conover and Devil's Racetrack routes, the Justensen Flat access way and adjacent lands not result in abatement of adverse effects, the ways will be closed to motorized vehicle use. Authorities for the closure order are 43 CFR 8341.2(a).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dick Manus, Price Field Office Manager, 125 South, 600 West, Price, Utah 84501. Telephone (435) 636-3600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The establishment of WSAs in the San Rafael Swell region in 1980 placed lands under protective management as specified by the Interim Management Policy (IMP) for lands under wilderness review. Under the IMP, motor vehicle use could continue on existing vehicle ways as long as that use does not impair