

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 30 U.S.C. 188(d) and (e), and 43 CFR 3108.2–3(a) and (b)(1), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease COC68788 from Gunnison Energy Corp., and SG Interests VII, LTD, for lands in Gunnison County, Colorado. The petition was filed on time and was accompanied by all the rentals due since the date the lease terminated under the law.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bureau of Land Management, Milada Krasilinec, Land Law Examiner, Branch of Fluid Minerals Adjudication, at 303.239.3767.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lessee has agreed to the amended lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof, per year and 16 2/3 percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and \$163 to reimburse the Department for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The lessees have met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Lands Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate lease COC68788 effective February 1, 2008, under the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Dated: June 6, 2008.

Milada Krasilinec,
Land Law Examiner.

[FR Doc. E8–13124 Filed 6–10–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID–410–1232–IA–ID27–241A, DEG080003]

Notice of Restriction Order No. ID–410–03, Wallace Forest Conservation Area; Idaho

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Restriction.

SUMMARY: This restriction order prohibits overnight camping by any person or groups of persons within the Wallace Forest Conservation Area described as all public lands administered by the Bureau of Land

Management (BLM) located in Boise Meridian.

T. 50 N., R. 2 W.,

Sec. 31, lots 5, 6, 7, 8, E 1/2 NE 1/4 SW 1/4.

T. 50 N., R. 3 W.,

Sec. 26, portion of SW lying S & W of Sunnyside Road;

Sec. 35, portion of lots 1, 2, 7, lots 4, 5, 6, N 1/2 NW 1/4, W 1/2 NE 1/4.

T. 49 N., R. 2 W.,

Sec. 6, lot 4.

T. 49 N., R. 3 W.,

Sec. 1, portion of lots 1, 2, 5, 6.

All are contiguous lands in Kootenai County, Idaho.

The area described above is hereby closed to public occupancy and use daily, beginning one hour after sunset and continuing until one hour before sunrise. A map depicting the restricted area is available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management, Coeur d'Alene Field Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. These restrictions become effective immediately and shall remain in effect until revoked or replaced with supplemental rules, or both.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian White at the BLM Coeur d'Alene Field Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815 or call (208) 769–5031 or via e-mail at brian_white@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority for establishing these restrictions is 43 CFR 8364.1.

The 2007 Coeur d'Alene Resource Management Plan (Action RC–1.2.6, p. 47) calls for “establishing additional rules as needed in response to changing situations” under Objective RC–1.2. This objective applies specifically to recreation sites within the Coeur d'Alene Lake Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The subject public lands are entirely within this SRMA.

The BLM initiated a public participation process last year to get ideas and comments from the public about future management of this area. Three public workshops were held, including one on-site, which generated significant public interest. Area residents complained of loud parties, bonfires, and lewd activities visible from their homes. Other participants and the vast majority of public comments did not support overnight use or camping within the area.

Supplementary rules will be published according to decisions made within the Environmental Assessment and Recreation Project Plan for the Wallace Forest Conservation Area, which are expected to be completed in 2008.

The camping restriction is necessary to:

- (1) Protect public health and safety;
- (2) Protect persons, property, public land and resources from vandalism and other damage;
- (3) Protect water quality from improper disposal of human waste;
- (4) Prevent proliferation of illegal campfires; and
- (5) Prevent other activities which are illegal under state or Federal regulations, or both.

These restrictions do not apply to:

- (1) Any Federal, state or local government officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force while in the performance of an official duty;
- (2) Any Bureau of Land Management employee, agent, contractor, or cooperator while in the performance of an official duty; and
- (3) Any person or group expressly authorized by the BLM to use the subject public land.

Penalties. Any person failing to comply with the closure orders may be subject to imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571, or both.

Dated: April 23, 2008.

Eric R. Thomson,

Coeur d'Alene Field Manager.

[FR Doc. E8–13106 Filed 6–10–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Coastal Wetlands Restoration at Prisoners Harbor, Santa Cruz Island, Channel Islands National Park, Santa Barbara County, CA; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

Summary: The National Park Service, in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider suitable means for restoration of a wetland and stream corridor at Prisoners Harbor and lower Canada del Puerto drainage on Santa Cruz Island, Santa Barbara County, California. The Prisoners Harbor area is part of Channel Islands National Park managed by the National Park Service (NPS). The EIS will analyze alternatives for ecological restoration of the wetland and lower stream corridor, ensuring public access, and protecting cultural and historical resources.

Background: Channel Islands National Park is headquartered in

Ventura, California. Congress established the park “[i]n order to protect the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands” (Pub. L. 96–199). The park proposes to restore a functional, self-sustaining ecosystem at a former 9-acre backbarrier coastal wetland site known as Prisoners Harbor and an associated 40-acre stream corridor in the lower Canada del Puerto watershed on Santa Cruz Island. The proposed wetland restoration site includes what was once the largest backbarrier coastal wetland on the Channel Islands. The wetland and stream corridor have been extensively modified over the past 150 years by filling of wetlands, intentional planting and accidental introduction of non-native vegetation such as stone pines, eucalyptus, and kikuyu grass in the area, and construction of a levee, buildings, corral, and unsurfaced roads. These modifications to the creek and floodplain have altered channel hydraulics, resulting in reduced ecosystem function, and contributed to the estimated 95% decline of California’s wetlands statewide.

The loss of natural wetland and riparian ecosystems in the Prisoners Harbor area has resulted in locally diminished habitat for federally listed Santa Cruz Island barberry, Santa Cruz Island silver lotus, Santa Cruz Island gooseberry, endemic Santa Cruz Island scrub jay, Santa Cruz Island deer mouse, the rare Channel Islands slender salamander, western harvest mouse, loggerhead shrike, other passerine birds, and migratory waterfowl. Proliferation of non-native eucalyptus trees in the riparian corridor has severely reduced plant and wildlife-diversity and negatively affected habitat for species of special concern and passerine birds.

Preliminary Alternatives and Environmental Issues: The park proposes to restore wetland and riparian ecosystem function by removing fill from the historic wetland, reconnecting the Canada del Puerto stream with its floodplain, removing non-native eucalyptus and other vegetation in the lower drainage, and recreating habitat for special status species (both flora and fauna), passerine birds, and migratory waterfowl. Additionally the project proposes to protect significant cultural resources, and provide for an enhanced visitor experience. A successful project would meet the following goals:

- Restore functional wetland and riparian ecosystems and reduce the impact of non-native species on local biological diversity.

- Consistent with restoring functional ecosystems, recreate and maintain habitat adequate to support populations of special status species, passerine birds, and migratory waterfowl.

- Develop a restoration design that identifies and, to the extent possible, mitigates factors that reduce the site’s full restoration potential.

- Protect archaeological resources from erosion during both normal and flood conditions.

- Provide access to the Central Valley inland from the affected area, NPS property east of Prisoners Harbor, and Nature Conservancy inholdings on NPS property upstream from the area of potential effect.

- Reduce risk of exposure to flooding that could damage the roadway and historic buildings.

- Provide visitor access and resource interpretation that are compatible with protection of resources.

- Enhance visitor knowledge and understanding of the prehistory, recent human history, and natural history of the Prisoners Harbor area.

Channel Islands National Park seeks public input to assist with identifying issues and developing a suitable range of alternatives for restoration of the lower Canada del Puerto watershed and Prisoners Harbor wetlands area. Restoration methods could include topographic alterations aimed at recovering natural hydrologic and ecological processes. These potential alterations could change the current hydrologic regime within the proposed project area, leading to either resumption of seasonal flooding of a fully restored wetland/floodplain or limited flooding of a partially restored wetland/floodplain. A “no-action” alternative, entailing no changes in current hydrologic regime, will also be assessed. An archeological site and some historic structures are located within the area of potential effect. Any restoration actions undertaken would be designed to ensure flood risks to the archeological site and historic resources will not be aggravated beyond current conditions and that influence of non-native species, including eucalyptus, on a restored ecosystem dominated by native species is reduced. As part of the effort to develop preliminary alternatives, the NPS will explore options for improved public access and enhancing educational opportunities consistent with ecosystem restoration.

Preliminary public outreach was initiated by the park in 2007. Concern was expressed about the possibility of removing cattle corrals constructed on filled coastal wetland. The corrals were built in the 1950’s as part of rancher

Carrie Stanton’s conversion to a cattle operation. The corrals are considered a “small scale feature” in the 2004 Cultural Landscape Inventory and deemed to be a contributing element to the eligibility of the Santa Cruz Island Ranching District to the National Register of Historic Places. The park has acknowledged this concern and will work with the State Historic Preservation Office in developing mitigation measures common to all alternatives or safeguards specific to a particular alternative if necessary. Other issues or concerns known at this time include potential effects upon: Threatened and endangered species protected under the federal and state Endangered Species Acts, floodplain and stream corridor, native flora and fauna; historic and archeological resources, land use, and opportunities for and constraints on public use.

Public Scoping and Comment Process: Notice is hereby given that the final public scoping phase is underway, with the express purpose of eliciting additional public comment regarding a suitable range of alternatives, the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts and benefits, and appropriate mitigation strategies that should be addressed in the forthcoming conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process. For those who have commented previously, it is not necessary to re-submit comments. Federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and interested organizations are also encouraged to participate in the scoping process. Whether California state or local involvement in the environmental impact analysis process is necessary is yet to be determined. If an environmental clearance document is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the NPS will coordinate the NEPA/CEQA process with the designated state agency (or agencies).

A timely opportunity to learn more about the proposed restoration and provide information is a public meeting to be held during summer 2008. Information expected to be provided at the public meeting includes the history of the Prisoners Harbor/Canada del Puerto area, purpose and need for the proposed restoration, opportunities and constraints in developing the restoration design, potential alternative courses of action with regards to restoration, potential effects of these courses of action, and appropriate strategies for mitigation and monitoring. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to provide comments or suggestions. For those

persons unable to attend the meeting, information about the project will be available at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> or by contacting the park as noted below.

All written scoping comments must be postmarked or transmitted not later than 45 days following publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** (immediately upon publication of this notice, the confirmed deadline for comments to be submitted will be posted on the park Web site). Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. To provide comments or information pertinent to the proposal, inquire about the public meeting, or to request a printed copy of the scoping document, please contact Paula Power, Channel Islands National Park, Attn: Prisoners Harbor Coastal Wetland Restoration Project, 1901 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura, CA 93001, telephone (805) 658-5784; FAX (805) 658-5799; e-mail paulapower@nps.gov. Duplicate informational updates will be regularly posted on the park Web site http://www.nps.gov/chis/home_mngmntdocs.htm and also at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>.

Decision Process: At this time, the draft EIS is expected to be available for public review in early 2009; following due consideration of all public and agency comments, it is expected that the final environmental document will be completed in late 2009. As a delegated EIS, the official responsible for the final decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region. Subsequently the Superintendent, Channel Islands National Park, would be responsible for implementing the approved restoration and management actions.

Dated: April 28, 2008.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.
[FR Doc. E8-12965 Filed 6-10-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan (ORV Management Plan), Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Texas

AGENCY: National Park Service,
Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan (ORV Management Plan) for Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Texas.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for an Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan (ORV Management Plan) for Lake Meredith National Recreation Area, Texas. This effort will result in an ORV Management Plan/EIS that will be used to guide the management and control of ORVs at the Recreation Area for approximately the next 15 to 20 years. It will also form the basis for a special regulation that will regulate ORV use at the Recreation Area. The ORV Management Plan/EIS will assess potential environmental impacts associated with a range of reasonable alternatives for managing ORV impacts on park resources such as soils, wetlands, wildlife, cultural resources, visitor experience, and public safety.

Lake Meredith Recreation Area was established in 1964 for the administration of public recreational facilities at the Sanford Reservoir area, Canadian River project, Texas. In 1990 Congress designated Lake Meredith a National Recreation Area to "provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the lands and waters associated with Lake Meredith in the State of Texas, and to protect the scenic, scientific, cultural, and other values contributing to the public enjoyment of such lands and waters," (Pub. L. 101-628, 16 U.S.C. 460eee, November 28, 1990). Lake Meredith offers many recreational uses including boating, swimming, fishing, hunting and ORV use. Lake Meredith currently has two areas designated as ORV areas, Rosita (~1,740 acres) and Blue Creek (~275 acres). These areas were designated by special regulation, 36 CFR 7.57. Both areas were utilized by the local community for recreational use prior to the establishment of the Sanford Reservoir Project in 1965.

Executive Order 11644, issued in 1972 and amended by Executive Order

11989 in 1977, states that Federal agencies allowing ORV use must designate the specific areas and trails on public lands on which the use of ORVs may be permitted, and areas in which the use of ORVs may not be permitted. Agency regulations to authorize ORV use provide that designation of such areas and trails will be based upon the protection of the resources of the public lands, promotion of the safety of all users of those lands, and minimization of conflicts among the various uses of those lands. Executive Order 11644 was issued in response to the widespread and rapidly increasing use of ORVs on the public lands—"often for legitimate purposes but also in frequent conflict with wise land and resource management practices, environmental values, and other types of recreational activity." Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 36 § 4.10 requires that "Routes and areas designated for off-road motor vehicle use shall be promulgated as special regulations." "In addition, such routes and areas may only be designated in national recreation areas, national seashores, national lakeshores and national preserves." Therefore, in accordance with the Executive Order, the purpose of this plan/EIS is to manage ORV use in compliance with the Recreation Area's enabling legislation, NPS management policies, and other laws and regulations to ensure protection of the natural, cultural, and recreational values of the Recreation Area's environment for present and future generations.

An ORV Management Plan is needed to address the inconsistent management of ORV use over time, address the impacts to both cultural and natural resources, and address ORV use outside of the authorized areas. Specifically, an ORV Management Plan is needed to: (1) Comply with Executive Orders 11644 and 11989 respecting ORV use, and with NPS laws, regulations (36 CFR 4.10), and policies to minimize impacts to Recreation Area resources and values; (2) Provide for sustainable recreational ORV use areas; (3) Address the lack of an approved plan, which has led to ORV use outside of authorized areas; (4) Address resource impacts resulting from ORV use; and (5) Address the change in numbers, power, range and capabilities of ORVs. The ORV Management Plan/DEIS will cover all lands administered by the NPS at the Recreation Area.

Through internal scoping efforts, several draft objectives were outlined for the EIS:

Visitor Use and Safety: Manage ORV use to minimize conflicts among different ORV users; promote safe