

sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond. This collection is contained in 43 CFR subpart 4120, Grazing Management. The BLM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany the submission to OMB.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

The following information is provided for the information collection:

Title: 43 CFR subpart 4120, Grazing Management.

Forms:

- Form 4120–6, Cooperative Range Improvement Agreement; and
- Form 4120–7, Range Improvement Permit.

OMB Control Number: 1004–0019.

Summary: Section 4 of the Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. 315c) authorizes the BLM to enter into cooperative agreements, and to issue permits, to construct fences, wells, reservoirs, and other improvements necessary for the

management and care of permitted livestock on grazing allotments. The BLM implements this statutory authority in accordance with regulations at 43 CFR subpart 4120. The information collected under these regulations enables the BLM to make decisions regarding proposed range improvement projects. Responses are required to obtain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 712 applications for cooperative agreement or permits for range improvements, submitted primarily by holders of grazing permits and/or leases.

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved annual reporting burden for this collection is 4,348 hours. The following chart details the individual components and respective hour burden estimates of this information collection request:

Type of response	Number of responses	Hours per response	Total annual burden hours
Form 4120–6, Cooperative Range Improvement Agreement and related nonform information	693	6	4,158
Form 4120–7, Range Improvement Permit and related nonform information	19	10	190
Totals	712		4,348

Jean Sonneman,

Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Environmental Documents Prepared in Support of Sand and Gravel Activities on the Outer Continental Shelf

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Recent Environmental Assessments and Findings of No Significant Impact Prepared or Adopted by the MMS.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), and the Department of the Interior regulations on NEPA (43 CFR part 46), the Minerals Management Service (MMS) announces the availability of Environmental

Assessments (EA) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) prepared and/or adopted by the MMS for three sand and gravel activities proposed on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and described in more detail below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James F. Bennett, Chief, Branch of Environmental Assessment, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, MS4042, Herndon, Virginia 20170; telephone (703) 787–1660; e-mail James.F.Bennett@mms.gov.

EA Availability: To obtain a copy of an EA and/or FONSI, you may contact the MMS or visit the MMS Web site at <http://www.mms.gov/sandandgravel/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Law 103–426, enacted October 31, 1994, gave the MMS the authority to convey on a noncompetitive basis, the rights to OCS sand, gravel, or shell resources for shore protection, beach or wetlands restoration projects, or use in construction projects funded in whole or part or authorized by the Federal government. The MMS prepares and/or adopts EAs that examine the potential environmental effects of the use of OCS sand and gravel resources, including the

potential direct and indirect effects of dredging, transport, and placement of those resources. Each EA is used as a basis for determining whether or not issuing a particular negotiated agreement for the use of OCS sand and gravel resources constitutes a major Federal action that significantly affects the quality of the human environment and warrants the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). A FONSI is prepared in those instances where the MMS finds that issuing a negotiated agreement will not result in significant effects on the quality of the human environment.

The MMS may serve as a cooperating agency during the preparation of a NEPA document when another Federal agency is undertaking a connected action. The MMS independently reviews and may adopt the NEPA document after determining that it complies with relevant regulations and is applicable to and consistent with the MMS's proposed action.

This notice constitutes the notice of availability to the public of the following environmental documents:

Project name	Location	Project purpose	FONSI	Lead Federal agency
Raccoon Island Shore Protection/Marsh Creation Project Phase B.	Gulf of Mexico, offshore Terrebonne Parish, LA.	Marsh creation	5/20/2009	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.
Brevard County (South Reach) Shore Protection Project.	Atlantic Ocean, offshore Cape Canaveral and Brevard County, FL.	Beach nourishment	8/20/2009	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District.
Charleston Offshore Dredge Material Disposal Site Sand Borrow Project.	Atlantic Ocean, offshore Charleston, SC.	Terminal expansion	10/16/2009	MMS.

The MMS has concluded that the respective proposed actions will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and the preparation of EISs is not required. Mitigation measures identified during the NEPA process will be applied for each proposal to ensure environmental protection and safety.

Dated: November 30, 2009.

Chris C. Oynes,

Associate Director for Offshore Energy and Minerals Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVB00000.LF31020NW.JQ0000.LF.HF.JF500000; MO:4500008784; 10-08807; TAS:14X1125]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed 3-Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project, Eureka County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Battle Mountain District, Mount Lewis Field Office, Battle Mountain, Nevada, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until February 24, 2010. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local new media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_

mountain field.html. In order to be considered as part of the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. The BLM will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues related to the proposed 3-Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project by the following methods:

- *E-mail:* 3bars_project@blm.gov.
- *Fax:* (775) 635-4034, Attention: 3-Bars Project Manager.
- *Mail:* BLM, Mount Lewis Field Office, Attn: 3-Bars Project Manager, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV 89820.

Documents pertinent to this project may be examined at the Mount Lewis Field Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact Donovan Walker, (775) 635-4000, or e-mail: 3bars_project@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM is proposing to conduct the 3-Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Project located primarily on public lands and on non-Federal lands where partnerships exist in Eureka County, Nevada. The project area encompasses approximately 724,000 acres. Individual areas ranging from several acres to several thousand acres will be treated with a variety of methods including mechanical, fire, biological, chemical and physical, depending on specific project and resource management goals and desired outcomes. The project will be conducted in conformance with the Shoshone-Eureka Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision approved February 26, 1986, and its subsequent amendments.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. At present, the BLM has identified the following preliminary issues:

- Multiple key habitats within the sagebrush-steppe are declining and in need of restoration, maintenance or protection.

- Key species in multiple vegetative communities are declining as species diversity declines with ecological succession.

- Pinyon and juniper species are encroaching in native habitats and are expanding into adjacent, non-native habitats causing a net loss of important wildlife habitat and fragmentation.

- Greater than 70 percent of key wildlife habitats such as sage grouse, mule deer and Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT) habitat are at a high, very high or extreme risk of catastrophic fire.

- Excessive fuel loadings are contributing to catastrophic fire potential. Hazardous fuel situations are caused by continuous closed canopy stands and excessive ladder fuels.

- Greater than 75 percent of riparian/wetland areas are not considered to be in Proper Functioning Condition.

- Less than optimal habitat conditions exist for LCT, a Federally listed "threatened" species currently occupying two streams.

- The project area has an active yearly fire occurrence and has had significant catastrophic fires in the recent past. Rehabilitation efforts have been less than fully successful as evidenced by cheatgrass monocultures in some wildfire scars.

- Range conditions have degraded and native plant communities have deteriorated as a result of past livestock management practices such as "hot-season" grazing or uneven livestock and wild horse distribution due to the lack of available water.

- Wild horse populations exceed appropriate management levels. The wild horses have poor body conditions as a result of excess numbers of wild horses in areas with degraded range conditions, limited water sources and restricted distribution. Permanent and temporary fences throughout two herd management areas hinder the free roaming abilities of wild horses.

- Permitted activities such as livestock grazing, mining and