

The public is invited to comment on these alternatives, suggest other possible alternatives to be addressed in the EIS, or to provide additional scoping comments.

Dated: July 26, 1996.

Ed Hasteley,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-19740 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-M

[AZ-040-1430-06-00; AZA 28238 and AZA 29330]

Notice of Realty Action; Proposed Sale of Public Lands; Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Stafford District, Arizona.

ACTION: Extension of notice.

SUMMARY: The following lands the Cochise County, Arizona have been found suitable for sale under section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 USC 1713) at not less than the appraised fair market value. The land will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date of this notice.

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

T. 23 S., R. 24 E., (AZA 28238)

Sec. 8, lot 6.

The area described contains 0.1 acre.

T. 19 S., R. 25 E., (AZA 29330)

Sec. 17, lots 1, 3, 9 to 15 inclusive, 17, 18, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 18, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 20, lots 2 to 6 inclusive, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$.

The area described contains 624.25 acres.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On page 61572 of Vol. 60, No. 230 of the Federal Register published November 30, 1995, the Safford District published a notice for these public land sales. This notice segregated the subject public lands from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, pending disposition of the action or 270 days from the date of publication of the notice in the Federal Register. Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, that segregation will be extended pending disposition of the action of for another 270 day period, whichever occurs first.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tom Terry, Non-Renewable Resource Advisor, at BLM, Safford District Office, 711 14th Avenue, Stafford, Arizona 85546; telephone number (520) 428-4040.

Dated: July 26, 1996.

William T. Civish,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 96-19741 Filed 8-2-96; 8:45 am]

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National Park Service

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments on information collection regarding National Park Service mining regulations.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the National Park Service's (NPS) intention to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) extend and revise the currently approved information collection budget for the NPS's minerals management regulatory program inside park boundaries. Currently, the NPS has regulations at 36 CFR Part 9 to control mineral development activities in park units on mining claims located under the 1872 Mining Law and non-Federal oil and gas rights.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 4, 1996.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Carol McCoy, Chief, Policy and Regulations Branch, Geologic Resources Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 25287, Lakewood, Colorado 80225, (303) 969-2096.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: NPS/Minerals Management Program/Mining Claims and Non-Federal Oil and Gas Rights

OMB Number: 1024-0064

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 1996

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection

Abstract: While surprising, outstanding mineral rights exist in many units of the National Park System. In most cases, these rights predate the establishment of the units. Currently, over 12,000 mining claims, which were located under the 1872 Mining Law, exist in a total of 20 park units. The majority of these claims are located in Mojave National Preserve that was added to the National Park System through the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 410aaa). With respect to non-Federal oil and gas rights in park units, 580 non-Federal oil and gas operations currently exist in 13 park

units. The potential for additional non-Federal oil and gas operations in additional units is tied to market forces and the quality and quantity of oil and gas deposits in park boundaries that coincide with the presence of private rights.

The NPS regulates mineral development activities inside park boundaries on mining claims and on non-Federal oil and gas rights under regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 9: Subpart A for mining claims and Subpart B for non-Federal oil and gas rights. The NPS promulgated both sets of regulations in the late 1970's. In the case of mining claims, the NPS did so under Congressional authority granted under the Mining in the Parks Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq.*) and individual park enabling statutes. For non-Federal oil and gas rights, the NPS regulates development activities pursuant to authority under the NPS Organic Act of 1916 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*) and individual park enabling statutes. As directed by Congress, the NPS developed the regulations in order to protect park resources and visitor values from the adverse impacts associated with mineral development within park boundaries.

The heart of the regulations is the approved "plan of operations" requirement. Essentially, a plan of operations is a prospective operator's blueprint setting forth all intended activities from access to extraction to reclamation related to developing a particular mineral right in a given park unit. The information required in a plan of operations is set forth in NPS regulations. Before an operator can commence development activities in a park unit, the NPS must approve an operator's proposed plan of operations and the operator must secure a bond in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of reclamation to the Federal Government in the event the operator defaults on his/her obligations.

Usually, an approved plan of operations covers the life of the mine or well, from development and production to reclamation. Under NPS regulations, such plans may be revised. No set form is required for a plan of operations. Each plan is tailored to the intended activities of an operator and the particulars of the environment, e.g., hardwood forest or desert, presence of endangered species or cultural resources, location and extent of water resources including wetlands.

Because of the variability among plans of operations, the duration of such plans, and the fact that prospective operators initiate the plan of operations review process, assessing the annual