

amendment are to be submitted to: Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Las Vegas District Manager, 4765 Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89108. Comments can also be hand delivered to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael F. Dwyer, Las Vegas District Manager, Cheryl Frassa, Reality Specialist or Jeffrey G. Steinmetz, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at (702) 647-5000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The lands identified for the exchange are within the Community District 2 (CD2) designation which Clark County Comprehensive Planning has developed. The purpose of CD2 is to guide growth where urban development already exists. Therefore, the amendment and exchange are consistent with County development guidelines.

The federal lands (105 acres) identified by the proponent are not within the existing land disposal boundary designated in the Clark County Management Framework Plan, for the Las Vegas Valley.

Dated: January 15, 1997.
Michael F. Dwyer,
District Manager, Las Vegas District.
[FR Doc. 97-2121 Filed 1-28-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

[NM-030-1430-00; NNM 96543]

Notice of Realty Action; Public Land Purchase for Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP Act) as Amended, Sierra County

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action.

SUMMARY: The following described public land in Sierra County, New Mexico, has been identified and examined and found suitable for purchase for recreational or public purposes under the provisions of the R&PP Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.). Sierra County proposes to use the land for a solid waste transfer station.

T. 16 S., R. 7 W., NMPM
sec. 10, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
Containing 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres more or less.

DATES: Comments regarding the proposed conveyance or classification must be submitted on or before March 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the BLM, Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernie Creager at the address above or at (505) 525-4325.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The land is not required for any Federal purpose. The purchase is consistent with the current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest. The conveyance will be subject to the following terms, conditions, and reservations:

1. A right-of-way thereon for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890 (U.S.C. 945).

2. The subject parcel will be conveyed in accordance with the approved plan of development and management. The mineral estate will be conveyed simultaneously pursuant to Section 209 of the Act of October 21, 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1719).

3. All valid existing rights documented on the official public land records at the time of patent issuance.

4. Subject to a 30-foot easement over an existing road through the parcel. Detailed information concerning this action is available for review at the BLM, Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the lands will be segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for conveyance under the R&PP Act, as amended.

For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register, interested parties may submit comments to the District Manager, Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director. In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification of the land described in this Notice will become effective 60 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register. The land will not be offered for purchase until after the classification becomes effective.

Dated: January 23, 1997.
Linda S.C. Rundell,
District Manager.
[FR Doc. 97-2214 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

[NV-020-1990-01]

Record of Decision

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability, Record of Decision for Sante Fe Pacific Gold

Corporation's Twin Creeks Mine Expansion Project.

DATES: The Record of Decision will be distributed and made available to the public on January 23, 1997. Anyone wishing to appeal the Record of Decision has 30 days following the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. The appeal must be postmarked no later than February 27, 1997.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the Record of Decision can be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gerald L. Moritz, Project Manager, at the above Winnemucca District address or telephone (702) 623-1500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Record of Decision consists of the action proposed in the Plan of Operation and analyzed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. The agency Preferred Alternative includes all components of the Proposed Action, as well as the Partial Vista Pit Backfill alternative, the Overburden and Interburden Storage Area Reclamation alternative 1, West Side alternative, and the East Side alternative. The Agency Preferred Alternative is also the environmentally preferred alternative incorporating mitigation and monitoring measures. The Proposed Action consists of expanding mining and ore processing activities at the Twin Creeks Mine.

Dated: January 22, 1997.
Bud C. Cribley,
Acting Winnemucca District Manager.
[FR Doc. 97-2278 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico, Oil and Gas Lease Sales 171, 174, 177, and 180

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Call for Information and Nominations and Notice of Intent (Call/NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Call for Information and Nominations
1. Authority

This Call is published pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, (1994)), and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR Part 256).

2. Purpose of Call

The purpose of the Call is to gather information for the following tentatively scheduled OCS Lease Sales in the Western Gulf of Mexico (WGOM):

Sale No.	Tentative sale date
171	Aug. 1998.
174	Aug. 1999.
177	Aug. 2000.
178	Aug. 2001.

Information and nominations on oil and gas leasing, exploration, and development and production within the WGOM are sought from all interested parties. This early planning and consultation step is important for ensuring that all interests and concerns are communicated to the Department of the Interior for future decisions in the leasing process pursuant to the OCS Lands Act and regulations at 30 CFR 256.

This is the second issuance of a multisale Call by MMS for proposed Gulf of Mexico sales in the 5-year program for 1997–2002. A multisale Call for Central Gulf of Mexico (CGOM) sales in the new 5-year program was published in August 1996. Responses are requested relative to all sales included herein. The MMS has modified its prelease planning and decision process for proposed Central and Western Gulf lease sales. This multisale process is based on over a dozen years of leasing at an annual pace which have shown that the sale proposals in the WGOM and the CGOM are very similar from year to year. The multisale process in the WGOM will incorporate planning and analysis for four sales: Sales 171, 174, 177, and 180. (The first WGOM sale in the new 5-year program, scheduled for August 1997, was covered in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) filed in December 1996.) From the initial step in the process (the Call for Information and Nominations) through the final EIS/Consistency Determination (CD) step, this process will cover multiple sale proposals. There will also be complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), OCS Lands Act, and Coastal Zone Management Act coverage for each sale after the first sale—either an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Supplemental EIS and a CD, focusing primarily on new issues or changes in a State's federally-approved coastal management plan, will be prepared for each subsequent sale. A proposed and final Notice of Sale will be prepared for each proposed sale.

This Call does not indicate a preliminary decision to lease in the area described below. Final delineation of the area for possible leasing will be made at a later date and in compliance with applicable laws including all requirements of the NEPA and the OCS Lands Act. Established departmental procedures will be employed.

3. Description of Area

The general area of the Call covers the entire WGOM. The WGOM is bounded on the west and north by the Federal-State boundary offshore Texas; the eastern boundary begins at the offshore boundary between Texas and Louisiana and proceeds southeasterly to approximately 28 degrees North latitude, thence east to approximately 92 degrees West longitude, thence south to the provisional maritime boundary with Mexico which constitutes the southern boundary of the area. It is offshore Texas and, in deeper water, offshore Louisiana. The area available for nominations and comments at this time consists of approximately 35.9 million acres, of which approximately 28.4 million acres are currently unleased.

A standard Call for Information Map depicting the WGOM on a block-by-block basis is available without charge from: Minerals Management Service, Public Information Unit (MS 5034), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123–2394, Telephone: 1–800–200–GULF.

4. Areas Excluded From This Call

The entire WGOM is proposed for possible leasing except two blocks in the vicinity of the East and West Flower Garden Banks (and the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary): High Island Area, East Addition, South Extension, Blocks A–375 and A–398; and three blocks near Corpus Christi, Texas, which are used by the Navy for mine warfare exercises: Mustang Island Area Blocks 793, 799, and 816.

5. Instructions on Call

Indications of interest and comments must be received no later than 45 days following publication of this document in the Federal Register in envelopes labeled “Nominations for Proposed 1998–2001 Lease Sales in the Western Gulf of Mexico” or “Comments on the Call for Information and Nominations for Proposed 1998–2001 Lease Sales in the Western Gulf of Mexico.” The standard Call for Information Map and indications of interest and/or comments must be submitted to the Regional Supervisor, Leasing and Environment,

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at the above address.

The standard Call for Information Map delineates the Call area, all of which has been identified by the MMS as having potential for the discovery of accumulations of oil and gas. Respondents are requested to indicate interest in the comment on any or all of the Federal acreage within the boundaries of the Call area that they wish to have included in each of the proposed sales in the WGOM.

Although individual indications of interest are considered to be privileged and proprietary information, the names of persons or entities indicating interest or submitting comments will be of public record. Those indicating such interest are required to do so on the standard Call for Information Map by outlining the areas of interest along block lines.

Respondents should rank areas in which they have expressed interest according to priority of their interest (e.g., priority 1 [high], 2 [medium], or 3 [low]). Respondents are encouraged to be specific in indicating blocks by priority, as blanket nominations on large areas are not useful in the analysis of industry interest. Areas where interest has been indicated but on which respondents have not indicated priorities will be considered priority 3 (low).

Respondents may also submit a detailed list of blocks nominated (by Official Protraction Diagram and Leasing Map designations) to ensure correct interpretation of their nominations. Specific questions may be directed to the Chief, Leasing Activities Section at (504) 736–2761. Official Protraction Diagrams and Leasing Maps can be purchased from the Public Information Unit referred to above.

Comments are sought from all interested parties about particular geological environmental, biological, archaeological and socioeconomic conditions or conflicts, or other information that might bear upon the potential leasing and development of particular areas. Comments are also sought on possible conflicts between future OCS oil and gas activities that may result from the proposed sales and State Coastal management Programs (CMP). If possible, these comments should identify specific CMP policies of concern, the nature of the conflict foreseen, and steps that the MMS could take to avoid or mitigate the potential conflict. Comments may either be in terms of broad areas or restricted to particular blocks of concern. Those submitting comments are requested to list block numbers or outline the subject

area in the standard Call for Information Map.

6. Use of Information From Call

Information submitted in response to this Call will be used for several purposes. First, responses will be used to identify the areas of potential for oil and gas development. Second, comments on possible environmental effects and potential use conflicts will be used in the analysis of environmental conditions in and near the Call area. This information will be used to make a preliminary determination of the potential advantages and disadvantages of oil and gas exploration and development to the region and the Nation. A third purpose for this Call is to use the comments collected in the scoping process for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and to develop proposed actions and alternatives. Fourth, comments may be used in developing lease terms and conditions to ensure safe offshore operations. And, fifth, comments may be used to assess potential conflicts between offshore oil and gas activities and a State CMP.

7. Existing Information

The MMS routinely assesses the status of information acquisition efforts and the quality of the information base for potential decisions on tentatively scheduled lease sales. As a result of this continually ongoing assessment, it has been determined that the status of the existing data available for planning, analysis, and decisionmaking is adequate and extensive.

An extensive environmental studies program has been underway in the WGOM since 1973. The emphasis, including continuing studies, has been on environmental characterization of biologically sensitive habitats, physical oceanography, ocean-circulation modeling, socioeconomic effects, and ecological effects of oil and gas activities. A complete listing of available study reports and information for ordering copies can be obtained from the Public Information Unit referenced above or from the MMS homepage on the Internet at <http://www.mms.gov>. The reports may also be ordered, for a fee, from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161, or telephone (703) 487-4650. In addition, a program status report for continuing studies in this area can be obtained from the Chief, Environmental Studies Section, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (see address under "Description of Area"), or telephone (504) 736-2896.

Summary Reports and Indices and technical and geological reports are available for review at the MMS, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region. Copies of the Gulf of Mexico OCS Regional Summary Reports may be obtained from the Technical Communication Service, Minerals Management Service, at 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170, telephone: (703) 787-1080.

8. Tentative Schedule

The following is a list of tentative milestone dates applicable to sales covered by this Call:

	Multisale process milestones for proposed 1998-2001 WGOM sales
Call/NOI published	Jan. 1997.
Comments due on Call/NOI.	March 1997.
Area Identification	April 1997.
Draft EIS published ...	Nov. 1997.
Public Hearings	Dec. 1997.
Final EIS published ...	May 1998.
	Sale-specific process milestones for proposed 1998-2001 WGOM sales
Request for Information to Begin Sale-Specific Process.	12 months before each sale.
Environmental Review (EA/FONSI/SEIS) published.	4 to 7 months before each sale.
Proposed Notice and Consistency Determination.	4 months before each sale.
Final Notice of Sale ...	1 month before each sale.
Tentative Sale Date ..	August of each year.

Notice of Intent To Preoare an Environmental Impact Statement

1. Authority

The NOI is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) implementing the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 USC 4321 et seq. (1988)(NEPA).

2. Purpose of Notice of Intent

Pursuant to the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the NEPA, the MMS is announcing its intent to prepare a multisale EIS on the tentatively scheduled 1998-2001 oil and gas leasing proposals in the WGOM, offshore Texas and in deeper water offshore Louisiana. The NOI also serves to announce the scoping process that will be followed for this EIS. Throughout the scoping process, Federal Agencies and State and local governments and other interested

parties have the opportunity to aid the MMS in determining the significant issues and alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS.

The EIS analysis will focus on the potential environmental effects of leasing, exploration, and development of the blocks included in the areas defined in the Area Identification procedure as the proposed areas of the Federal actions. Alternatives to the proposals which may be considered for each sale are to delay the sale, cancel the sale, or modify the sale.

3. New EIS Procedure

MMS is proposing to prepare a single EIS for all four proposed WGOM sales from 1998 to 2001. The resource estimates and scenario information on which the EIS analyses are based will be presented as a range of resources and activities that would encompass any of the four proposed sales in the WGOM.

The proposal will provide several benefits. It will focus the NEPA process by making impact types and levels that change between sales more easily recognizable. New issues will be more easily highlighted for the decisionmakers and public. For sales after 1998, the process will allow for presale planning that spans only 1 year, rather than the current 2-year process which causes confusion because of the overlap in planning for sales in successive years and makes it difficult for the decisionmaker, industry, and the public to keep track of which sale process is being referred to for any given decision point. It will also eliminate the repetitive issuance of a complete EIS for each sale, a practice that has resulted in "review burnout" in Federal, State, and local governments, and the public.

The proposed actions analyzed in the EIS will be each of the sales on the 5-year schedule for the Western Gulf of Mexico planning area. The EIS will include an analysis of the environmental effects of holding one sale, a sale "typical" of any in the planning area, which may be held in the remainder of the 5-year program. The scenario will cover a range of resources and activities that will encompass any of the four proposed actions. Later sales can then be compared to the initial analysis in an environmental assessment or supplemental environmental impact statement. Formal consultation with the public will be initiated in subsequent years to obtain input to assist in the determination of whether or not the information and analyses in the original multisale EIS are still valid. An Information Request would be issued

that will specifically describe the action for which we are requesting input.

4. Instructions on NOI To Prepare and EIS

Federal Agencies and State and local governments and other interested parties are requested to send their written comments on the scope of the EIS, significant issues which should be addressed, and alternatives that should be considered to the Regional Supervisor, Leasing and Environment, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at the address stated under "Description of Area." Comments should be enclosed in an envelope labeled "Comments on the NOI to Prepare an EIS on the proposed 1998-2001 Lease Sales in the Western Gulf of Mexico." Comments on the NOI should be submitted no later than 45 days from publication of this Notice. Scoping meetings will be held in appropriate locations to obtain additional comments and information regarding the scope of the EIS.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Cynthia Quarterman,

Director, Minerals Management Service.

[FR Doc. 97-2210 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

General Management Plan; Final Environmental Impact Statement; Manzanar National Historic Site; Record of Decision

Summary: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190 as amended), and specifically to regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality at 40 CFR 1505.2, the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has approved a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Final General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Manzanar National Historic Site, California.

The National Park Service will implement the proposed plan as identified in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, dated August, 1996.

Copies of the Record of Decision and final environmental impact statement may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent, Manzanar National Historic Site, P.O. Box 426, Independence, CA. 93526-0426 or by calling the park at (619) 878-2932.

Dated: January 8, 1997.

Stanley T. Albright,

Field Director, Pacific West Area.

[FR Doc. 97-2072 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

Rock Creek Tennis Stadium Record of Decision

Summary

Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332 et seq.) and the regulations promulgated by the Council of Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1505.2), the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, has prepared a Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Rock Creek Tennis Center and Associated Recreation Fields, Washington, D.C., (FES 950286). This Record of Decision is a concise statement of what decisions were made, what alternatives were considered, the basis for the decision, and the mitigating measures developed to avoid or minimize environmental impacts.

Background

The purpose of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was to examine impacts related to the activities at the tennis center and surrounding fields so those impacts could be considered in making a decision regarding future management of the Rock Creek Park Tennis Center and associated recreation fields. Currently, two major professional tennis tournaments a year may be held at the stadium under the auspices of the Washington Tennis Foundation. The Washington Tennis Foundation, as well as other groups and organizations, has asked to use the tennis center for a variety of activities.

Decision

The National Park Service will implement alternative 2, the preferred alternative, with two modifications.

Alternative 2 allows for one professional tennis tournament to be held annually at the tennis center. Amateur and league tennis and public court use and instruction would continue. This alternative assumes that the professional tournament would be operated in accordance with the Interim Operating Plan between the National Park Service and the Washington Tennis Foundation and existing regulations (36 CFR 7.96) with regard to limited commercial activities at the tennis center.

The modifications to alternative 2 are as follows. First, the National Park Service will retain management

authority to consider allowing a second large-scale tennis event on a case-by-case basis under certain circumstances (but only when such an event would generate a significant amount of funding in advance for tennis programs for youth, seniors and special populations). Second, the National Park Service will retain management authority to consider allowing parking on the grass recreational field south of Morrow Drive (the south field) on a trial basis in varying configurations provided that weather and field conditions permit and provided that recreational opportunities on the field remain and can be satisfactorily segregated.

In order to implement this decision, previous agreements with the Washington Tennis Foundation that allow a second tournament would be superseded by a new agreement restricting the use of the center to one annual professional tournament. The Washington Tennis Foundation would not have any contractual rights to a second tournament. As part of the new agreement, the National Park Service would seek funding or reimbursement from the Washington Tennis Foundation for repairs of structural defects and/or accessibility modifications to the tennis stadium.

The annual professional tennis tournament would last approximately 20 days—7 days for the setup of equipment and facilities, 8 days of tournament play, and 5 days for takedown of equipment and facilities. Attendance would be limited to 7,500 spectators per session.

In addition to restrictions for parking on the fields that were incorporated into alternative 2, the mitigation measures adopted are improving uses of remote parking lots and a shuttle bus system, attempting to restrict on-street parking, and prohibiting concurrent events at both the Rock Creek Tennis Center and the Carter Barron Amphitheatre.

Alternatives Considered

Four alternatives were dismissed from further analysis in the EIS. Changing the jurisdiction of stadium management from the National Park Service to another governmental entity such as the District of Columbia and operating all stadium activities under a concession contract were eliminated because these alternatives would not alter the magnitude of the impacts. Creating a recreational use zone encompassing the stadium and fields with distinct operational policies and objectives, and limiting the attendance levels and duration of stadium activities were incorporated into the alternatives as mitigation measures, where appropriate,