

evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of law. If the Service determines that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of the listed species. A final decision on permit issuance will be made no sooner than 30 days from the date of this notice.

Dated: May 23, 1997.

**David L. McMullen,**

*Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.*

[FR Doc. 97-14261 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[MT-070-97-1430-00]

#### Emergency Closure of Public Lands to Motorized Vehicles Within the Headwaters Resource Area, Montana

**AGENCY:** Butte District Office, Bureau of Land Management, DOI

**ACTION:** Notice is hereby given that effective immediately all public lands in the Whitetail/Pipestone area located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 17, T. 2 N., R. 5 W., P.M.M. located north of the OHV trail which parallels the railroad tracks, to the old cabin along Dry Creek to the north, and roughly in the center of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17, are closed to all vehicle access.

The purpose of this closure is to prevent further disturbance to the soils and vegetation in and near the riparian area, reduce sedimentation into Dry Creek, and stop the proliferation of user-created trails in the area.

The authority for this closure is 43 CFR 8341.2. The closure will remain in effect until the Recreation Management Plan for this area is completed.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the closure order and maps showing the location of the closed roads are available from the Headwaters Resource Area, 106 N. Parkmont, P.O. Box 3088, Butte, Montana 59702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Merle Good, Headwaters Resource Area Manager, P.O. Box 3388, Butte, Montana 59702; telephone 406-494-5059.

Dated: May 20, 1997.

**Michele Good,**

*Acting District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-14227 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CO-933-97-1320-01; COC 60622]

#### Colorado; Notice of Invitation for Coal Exploration License Application, Mountain Coal Company

Pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920, as amended, and to Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 3410, members of the public are hereby invited to participate with Mountain Coal Company in a program for the exploration of unleased coal deposits owned by the United States of America in the following described lands located in Gunnison County, Colorado:

- T. 13 S., R. 89 W., 6th P.M.  
 Sec. 16, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 17, all;  
 Sec. 18, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 19, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 20, all;  
 Sec. 21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 28, W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 29, all;  
 Sec. 30, lots 1 to 4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 31, lots 3 to 6, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 32, all;  
 Sec. 33, W $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- T. 13 S., R. 90 W., 6th P.M.  
 Sec. 12, lots 6 to 10, inclusive, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 13, lots 1 to 16, inclusive;  
 Sec. 24, lots 1 to 16, inclusive;  
 Sec. 25, all;  
 Sec. 35, lots 1 to 16, inclusive;  
 Sec. 36, all.
- T. 14 S., R. 89 W., 6th P.M.  
 Sec. 4, lots 7, 8, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
 Sec. 5, lots 3 to 6, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 6, lots 4 to 10, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .
- T. 14 S., R. 90 W., 6th P.M.  
 Sec. 1, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 2, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 11, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
 Sec. 12, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The area described contains approximately 12,592.58 acres.

The application for coal exploration license is available for public inspection during normal business hours under serial number COC 60622 at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, and at the Montrose District Office, 2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401.

Written Notice of Intent to Participate should be addressed to the attention of the following persons and must be received by them within 30 days after

publication of the Notice of Invitation in the **Federal Register**:

Karen Purvis, Solid Minerals Team, Resource Services, Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215

and

Wendell Koontz, Sr. Geologist, Mountain Coal Company, P.O. Box 591, Somerset, Colorado 81434

Any party electing to participate in this program must share all costs on a pro rata basis with the applicant and with any other party or parties who elect to participate.

Dated: May 19, 1997.

**Karen Purvis,**

*Solid Minerals Team, Resource Services.*

[FR Doc. 97-14226 Filed 5-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-030-1310-00]

#### Amended Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Amended Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and to conduct Scoping for the Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Natural Gas Development Project, Carbon and Sweetwater Counties, Wyoming.

**SUMMARY:** Under Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rawlins District Office, will prepare an EIS for the proposed Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Natural Gas Development Project. Several oil and gas operators (Operators) plan to expand natural gas exploration and development operations in and adjacent to existing developed oil and gas fields within the Continental Divide Area and the Greater Wamsutter II Area.

The Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Project Area (CD/WIIPA) is generally located in T. 15 N.-T. 23 N., R. 91 W.-R. 99 W. in Sweetwater and Carbon Counties, south-central Wyoming, and encompasses approximately 1,061,200 acres of mixed Federal (515,300 acres), State (25,900 acres), and private (520,000 acres) land. The CD/WIIPA is located approximately 25 miles west of Rawlins and 40 miles east of Rock Springs along Interstate 80, which bisects the area. Operators propose to