

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[WO-100-08-1820-00]

Use of Science for Improving Management of Public Lands and Resources**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Announcement of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will conduct a public meeting on the use of science for improving the management of the Nation's public lands and resources. The public meeting will focus on science in support of rangeland ecosystem management. The purposes of the public meeting are to discuss BLM's current use of available scientific knowledge and information and to obtain public views on current and future research needs and on desirable science initiatives. The public meeting is part of an ongoing effort to base decisions concerning the conservation and use of our public lands and resources on the best available science.

DATES: BLM will hold the public meeting on January 26, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. local time.

Submit written comments no later than close of business January 30, 1998.

ADDRESSES: BLM will hold the public meeting in Room 7000-B of the Department of the Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Send written comments to Bureau of Land Management, WO-100, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access and filing address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bruce Van Haveren, (303) 236-0161, or John Haugh, (202) 452-5071.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Public Meeting**

In an effort to ensure that BLM bases its resource management decisions on the best available science, BLM is conducting a public meeting on the use of science for improving the management of America's public lands and resources. BLM believes that a public meeting will facilitate the interactive exchange of ideas among the

attending interested parties and BLM. The public meeting is not intended to seek or obtain a consensus on any particular issue. BLM expects the parties to include representatives of Federal, State, and local government agencies; universities; private research entities; and interested individuals.

The specific purposes of the public meeting are to—

- Discuss BLM's current use of available scientific knowledge and information, that is, what information is BLM currently applying and how does it enter into decision-making processes;
- Discuss current and future research needs, including whether ongoing research activities should be adjusted to meet changing needs and how to anticipate future research needs; and
- Discuss the need for additional science initiatives.

The public meeting will be conducted as follows: A BLM representative will give a 15-minute summary that describes current and planned research activities. After the summary, the BLM representative will lead an interactive discussion. If time remains, participants will have an opportunity to make closing remarks. BLM will make a transcript of the public meeting and will make the transcript available to interested parties who contact one of the individuals listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

II. Public Comment Procedures

Participation in the public meeting is not a prerequisite for submittal of written comments. BLM invites written comments from all interested parties. Your written comments should be specific and explain the reason for any recommendation. BLM appreciates any and all comments, but those most useful and likely to influence decisions on BLM's use of science are those that are either supported by quantitative information or studies or those that include citations to and analyses of applicable laws and regulations. Except for comments provided in electronic format, commenters should submit two copies of their written comments, where practicable. BLM will not necessarily consider comments received after the time indicated under the **DATES** section or at locations other than that listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

In the event there is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of your comments, we intend to make them available in their entirety, including your name and address (or your e-mail address if you file electronically). However, if you do not want us to release your name and address (or e-mail address) in response

to a FOIA request, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your wish to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be released in their entirety, including names and addresses (or e-mail addresses).

Electronic Access and Filing Address: Commenters may transmit comments electronically via the Internet to: bvanhave@blm.gov. Please submit comments as an ASCII file and avoid the use of special characters or encryption. Please include the identifier "Science" in the subject of your message and your name and address in the body of your message.

Dated: January 9, 1998.

Tom Fry,

Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 98-1034 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[ID-010-5700-10; IDI-31768]

Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act Classification in Boise County, Idaho**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Classification for recreation and public purposes lease with option for conveyance of public land in Boise County.

SUMMARY: The following public lands adjacent to the community of Idaho City, Boise County, Idaho have been examined and found suitable for lease with an option for sale upon proper development as a public park under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*):

Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 6 N., R. 5 E., section 26; Lots 10 and 14, part of Lot 13, and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Containing 56.93 acres more or less.

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 lease or conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. Any adverse comments will be