

Arizona 85546; telephone number (520) 348-4400.

DATES: All nominations should be received by June 1, 1998.

Dated: May 5, 1998.

William T. Civish,
Field Office Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-930-1020-00 [4000/1790]

Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Plan Amendment to Land Use Plans in the Development of Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management on Public Lands in California and Northwestern Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in California has available a Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) to address Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management as provided in BLM's grazing regulations (43 CFR Part 4100) and to amend, as necessary, existing Land Use Plans in the State. The Final EIS is prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This notice announces the availability of the Final EIS for public review.

DATES: Protests concerning the Final EIS must be received by June 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Protests concerning the Final EIS should be mailed to Director (210), Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Brenda Williams, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. Requests to receive a copy of the Final EIS should be made to Jim Morrison, Rangeland Health Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, 2135 Butano Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825-0451 or phone (916) 978-4642.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Morrison at (916) 978-4642.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM opened an initial scoping period on March 25, 1996, closing on April 24, 1996 and due to public desires, reopened the scoping period on August 5, 1996, closing September 4, 1996. Information taken during the scoping periods, information developed from BLM's Resource Advisory Councils

(RACs), and other information, both existing and new, were used to formulate alternatives and to analyze the impacts to the environment as documented in a Draft EIS. A Draft EIS was issued May 27, 1997 and provided 90 days for public review and comment. The comments received were analyzed and considered in the development of the Final EIS. The comments and BLM's response are included in the Final EIS document.

As indicated in the previous notices of intent, BLM is required by grazing management regulations (43 CFR Part 4100), effective August 21, 1995 to develop state-wide Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management. The final selected Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) will be incorporated into existing Land Use Plans as plan amendments. The Final EIS is tiered to the national EIS which was completed in early 1995 during the development of the above referenced regulations. The development of rangeland S&Gs for the public owned rangelands in Southern California are not included in this effort and will be developed later in conjunction with the development of coordinated management plans.

There are five alternative sets of rangeland S&Gs considered in the Final EIS including: (1) a set of S&Gs from each of three RACs which constitutes the proposed action, (2) a consolidated state-wide set of S&Gs, (3) a set of fall-back S&Gs as references in the regulations and constitutes the no action alternative, (4) a set of S&Gs for rapid improvement and recovery of rangeland health and (5) a set of S&Gs as the preferred alternative. The Final EIS analyzes the environmental, social, and economic impacts for each alternative.

This document will also amend 19 existing land use plans in California and portions of Northwestern Nevada. The proposed plan amendments may be protested only by parties who participated in the planning and analysis process and may only protest issues that had been previously raised on the Draft EIS. Protests must be sent to the Director (210), Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Brenda Williams, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. Protests must be postmarked no later than June 15, 1998. Protests must minimally contain the following information.

1. The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.
2. A statement of the issue or issues being protested.
3. A statement of the part or parts being protested. Cite pages, paragraphs,

maps, etc. of the proposed action where practical.

4. A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that the protestant submitted during the draft EIS process, or a reference to the date when the protestant discussed the issue(s) for the record.

5. A concise statement why the protestant believes the BLM State Director's proposed action is incorrect.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, the proposed action, excluding any portion under protest will become final. A Record of Decision will be issued for non-protested portions of the proposal, amending land use plans. Approval will be withheld on any portion of the proposal under protest until a final action has been completed on such protest.

No formal public hearings or meetings are anticipated.

Dated: May 6, 1998.

Carl Rountree,

Deputy State Director, Natural Resources.

[FR Doc. 98-12586 Filed 5-14-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Termination of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River Comprehensive Management Plan

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Termination of preparation of an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the termination of work toward preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the development of a Comprehensive Management Plan for the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River in New Jersey. The Notice of Intent for this project appeared in the April 10, 1997 **Federal Register**. A determination has since been made that an Environmental Assessment would suffice to address National Environmental Policy Act requirements for development of the Comprehensive Management Plan. The Environmental Assessment will be circulated for public comment upon its completion. Following the comment period, we anticipate preparation of a Finding of No Significant Impact. We encourage all who have an interest in this National Park System unit's future to contact Mary Vavra, National Park Service Program Manager, by letter or telephone.