

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 8, 1999.

**LaVerne Y. Stringfield,**

*Committee Management Officer, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 99-15238 Filed 6-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-040-1610-00]

#### Notice of Availability of the Proposed Caliente Management Framework Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Management of Desert Tortoise Habitat

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Proposed Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Caliente Management Framework Plan would implement management goals and actions for Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered desert tortoise habitat in Lincoln County, Nevada. The Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) was listed as a threatened species in 1990, based on declining numbers in some areas of its range. These goals and actions, some of which are recommended in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's approved Desert Tortoise (Mojave Population) Recovery Plan, would assist the recovery and delisting of the desert tortoise in the Northeastern Mojave Recovery Unit. This amendment is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 which mandates that all federal agencies conserve and recover listed species within their administrative units. The accompanying Final EIS satisfies the National Environmental Policy Act, which mandates that federal agencies analyze the environmental consequences of major federal actions.

The planning area for this amendment consists of approximately 754,600 acres of public land in southern Lincoln County, administered by the Caliente Field Station, within BLM's Ely Field Office. No private lands would be directly affected by management

direction described under the Proposed Action or alternatives. The planning area is located within the Northeastern Mojave Recovery Unit, as defined by the Recovery Plan. The document discusses several alternatives for the protection of desert tortoise habitat and recovery of the species.

The Proposed Plan Amendment may be protested by any person who participated in the planning process, and who has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the approval of the Proposed Plan Amendment. A protest may raise only those issues which were submitted for the record during the planning process (see 43 CFR 1610.5-2).

All protests must be written and must be postmarked on or before *July 23, 1999* and shall contain the following information:

- The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.
- A statement of the issue or issues being protested.
- A statement of the part or parts of the document being protested.
- A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues previously submitted during the planning process by the protesting party, or an indication of the date the issue or issues were discussed for the record.
- A concise statement explaining precisely why the Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Director's decision is wrong.

Upon resolution of any protests, an Approved Plan Amendment and Record of Decision will be issued. The Approved Plan Amendment/Record of Decision will be mailed to all individuals who participated in this planning process and all other interested publics upon their request.

**DATES:** All written protests must be postmarked no later than July 23, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Protests must be filed with: Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attn. Ms. Brenda Williams, Protests Coordinator, WO-210/LS-1075, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

Copies of the Proposed Plan Amendment/FEIS may be obtained from the Ely Field Office, HC33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301 and the Caliente Field Station, U.S. Highway 93, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008.

Public reading copies are available for review at the public libraries of Clark, White Pine and Lincoln Counties, all government document repository libraries and at the following BLM locations:

Office of External Affairs, Main Interior Building, Room 5000, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC.;  
Public Room, Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV;  
The Caliente Field Station and the Ely Field Office at the above addresses.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gene L. Drais, Project Manager at (775) 289-1880 at the Ely Field Office.

Dated: June 4, 1999.

**Gene A. Kolkman,**  
*Field Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-066-99-1990-00; CACA-20139 and CACA-22901]

#### Extending the Public Comment on the Proposed Sand and Gravel Mining Operation, Los Angeles County, CA Until September 13, 1999

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, Palm Springs—South Coast Field Office, Desert District, CA.

**ACTION:** Extension of the public comment period until September 13, 1999 for the draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and 40 CFR 1503.1(a), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Transit Mixed Concrete (TMC) Company Sand and Gravel Mining Project proposed for construction and operation off of Soledad Canyon Road and State Highway 14, Los Angeles County, California. The project site is within an unincorporated area of the County, north of Soledad Canyon Road, south of Antelope Valley Freeway, and west of Agua Dulce Canyon.

Interested citizens are invited to review the Draft EIS and submit comments. Copies of the Draft EIS may be obtained by telephoning or writing to the contact person listed below. Public reading copies of the Draft EIS are available at the following County of Los Angeles public libraries: Canyon Country Library, 18536 Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91351; Newhall Library, 22704 W. Ninth Street, Santa Clarita, CA 91321; Valencia Library, 23743 W. Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, CA 91355.