

ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. BLM will analyze any comments sent in response to this notice and include them with its request for extension of approval from OMB under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

In 1980 the BLM published two final rules to establish procedures for managing activities related to prospecting, exploration, mining, and processing on lands subject to the operation of the mining law. These regulations occur at 43 CFR 3802 and 3809 and are referred to collectively as the "surface management" regulations by BLM and the public. Under the terms of the regulations, anyone planning to conduct activities on the public lands under the mining law must submit various types of information to BLM to obtain or keep a benefit. Depending on the lands involved in the activity, the information is contained in either a Notice (43 CFR 3809.1-3) or a Plan of Operations (43 CFR 3809.1-4 and 3809.1-5).

The types of information generally contained within each type of response include: (1) The claimant/operator's name, address, and phone number; (2) the activity's location; (3) when available, the mining claim recordation numbers; (4) a description of the methods and equipment to be employed during the operation; (5) a description of the proposed activity sufficient to locate it on the ground; (6) a description of reclamation and mitigation measures to be employed to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation; and (7) a description of measures to be taken during periods of non-operation.

BLM is not the only approving party in the process of conducting mineral development on public lands. Before the surface management regulations were promulgated, the western states developed their own programs. In recognition of these programs, the regulations at 43 CFR 3809.3-1(a) explicitly rejected a federal preemption of state law and at 43 CFR 3809.3-1(c) allowed for the creation, by memoranda of agreement, of joint federal/state programs for administering and enforcing the regulations. The regulations at 43 CFR 3809.2-2 require claimants/operators to comply with "pertinent federal and state laws." The language acknowledges the large array of federal, state, and local requirements

placed on operators by environmental laws and state mining and reclamation laws and regulations.

Submitting all information described in the last two paragraphs is required to obtain and keep a benefit, the use of federal lands to develop federally owned mineral resources pursuant to the General Mining Law of 1872.

BLM estimates that the annual number of respondents is 1,300 and that the total annual burden hours is 25,960. This number is based on an estimated 1,150 notices and 150 plans of operation being filed each year. Estimated burden hours are an average of 16 hours per notice and an average of 32 hours for each plan of operation. BLM is currently reviewing these estimates per the public comments received on the information collection package that it filed in connection with the proposed 3809 regulations. These comments indicated a need to review the burden estimate for plans of operation to determine whether it reflected the actual resources (money, personnel, and time) spent in collecting or compiling the needed information. They also indicated that BLM's information burden was by far larger than the information burden imposed by other federal, state, and local authorities.

To assist us in reviewing the burden estimate for plans of operation, please provide information about the following:

(1) An estimate of the information burden imposed by federal, state, and local authorities other than BLM. A list of the major federal, state, and local permits required for mining operations would be helpful for this purpose; and

(2) An estimate of the information burden imposed by BLM for environmental analysis purposes, whether environmental assessments or environmental impact statements.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 13, 1999.

**Carole J. Smith,**

*Bureau of Land Management, Information Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-1492-00]

#### Notice of Availability and Extension of Comment Period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Bureau of Land Management, Carson City and Battle Mountain, Nevada Field Offices and Department of the Navy, Naval Air Station, Fallon, NV

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior and Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada, Department of the Navy.

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Yomba Shoshone Tribe, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Nevada Division of Wildlife, Eureka, Lander, and Churchill County Commissions, and Kingston Town Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and extension of comment period of a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Naval Air Station Fallon's proposed Fallon Range Training Complex Requirements.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 40 CFR 1500-1508 Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ), notice is given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Carson City and Battle Mountain, Nevada Field Offices and the Department of the Navy (Navy) Naval Air Station Fallon have jointly prepared, with the assistance of a third-party consultant, a Draft EIS on the proposed Fallon Range Training Complex Requirements, and has made the document available for public and agency review. The original Notice of Availability was published by the Environmental Protection Agency and the BLM in the **Federal Register** on August 13, 1999 and provided for a 60-day comment period with comments due on October 13, 1999. Five public hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIS were conducted in Eureka, Austin, Gabbs, Fallon, and Reno, NV in September, 1999.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted until November 12, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701, Attn: Terri Knutson, Project Manager. Comments may also be sent via

electronic mail to the following address: [tknutson@nv.blm.gov](mailto:tknutson@nv.blm.gov) or via fax: (775) 885-6147. A limited number of copies of the Draft EIS may be obtained at the above BLM Field Office in Carson City, NV, as well as, BLM Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV 89820. In addition, the Draft EIS is available on the internet via the Carson City Field Office Home Page at: [www.nv.blm.gov/carson](http://www.nv.blm.gov/carson).

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours (7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EIS. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. Such requests will be honored 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 made available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terri Knutson, Carson City BLM, at (775) 885-6156 or Gary Foulkes, Battle Mountain BLM, at (775) 635-4060, or Larry Jones, NAS Fallon, at (775) 426-2405.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Naval Air Station Fallon completed the Fallon Range Training Complex Requirements Document in November 1998 which identifies and updates Navy training on public and Navy-owned lands in central Nevada. This Draft EIS analyzes the environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, three action alternatives, and the no action alternative.

To assist the BLM and Navy in identifying and considering issues and concerns regarding the proposed action and alternatives, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters in the document. Comments may address the adequacy of the Draft EIS and/or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the document.

After the extended comment period ends for the Draft EIS, comments will be analyzed and considered jointly by the BLM and the Navy in preparing the Final EIS.

Dated: October 13, 1999.

**Karl Kipping,**

*Associate Manager, Carson City Field Office.*  
[FR Doc. 99-27271 Filed 10-18-99; 8:45 am]  
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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-060-3809]

#### Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period for the South Pipeline Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Expansion of Existing Gold Mining/Processing Operations; Lander County, NV

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management.  
**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** Nevada Division of Wildlife, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the comment period of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is extended to November 19, 1999.

**DATES:** Written comments must be postmarked or otherwise delivered by 4:30 p.m. on November 19, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published in the EIS. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. Such requests will be honored 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 made available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Foulkes at (775) 635-4060.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The end of the comment period, as noted in the Draft EIS for the South Pipeline EIS, was October 5, 1999. The comment period is now extended to November 19, 1999.

Dated: October 12, 1999.

**M. Lee Douthit,**

*Associate Field Manager, Battle Mountain Field Office.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-050-1430-00; NMMN 95102]

#### Public Land Order No. 7415; Withdrawal of Public Land for Datil Well Special Recreation Management Area; New Mexico

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

**ACTION:** Public Land Order.

**SUMMARY:** This order withdraws 680 acres of public land from surface entry and mining for a period of 20 years, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect scenic, interpretive, educational, and recreational values, and a developed campground within the Datil Well Special Recreation Management Area. The land has been and will remain open to mineral leasing.  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 19, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lois Bell, BLM Socorro Field Office, 198 Neel Avenue, NW, Socorro, New Mexico 87801, 505-835-0412.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public land is hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect scenic, interpretive, educational, and recreation values and facilities within the Datil Well Special Recreation Management Area:

#### New Mexico Principal Meridian

T. 2 S., R. 10 W.,

Sec. 10;

Sec. 11, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 680 acres in Catron County.

2. The withdrawal made by this order does not alter the applicability of those public land laws governing the use of the land under lease, license, or permit, or governing the disposal of their mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.