

Commencing at the SW corner of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18, Township 6 South, Range 5 West, thence run North 349.97 feet to the point of beginning; thence S 89 46 58 E, 2632.46 feet to the East line of Section 18. Said right-of-way contains 3.02 acres, more or less.

Also for the purpose and duration of the initial construction and installation of the proposed pipeline, a temporary right-of-way and work space twenty-five (25) feet in width located on the north side of the proposed right-of-way.

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is currently considering the merits of approving this application.

DATES: Interested persons desiring to comment on this application should do so on or before February 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments by any one of several methods. You may mail comments to Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Room 420, Atlanta, Georgia 30345. You may also comment via the Internet to *Sam ___ Hamilton@fws.gov*. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: Brenda Johnson" and your name and return address in your internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Realty, Brenda Johnson, 1-800-419-9582. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 400, Atlanta, Georgia 30345. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Johnson, Realty Specialist, at the above Atlanta, Georgia, address (404) 679-7202 or FAX (404) 679-7273.

Right-of-way applications are filed in accordance with Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (41 Stat. 449:30 U.S.C. 185), as amended by Public Law 93-153.

Sam D. Hamilton,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00-847 Filed 1-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection to be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposal for the collection of information described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau clearance officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192, telephone (703) 648-7313.

Specific public comments are requested as to:

1. whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. the accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Assessment of the Use and Benefits of Waterfowl Production Areas in Minnesota.

OMB approval number: New collection.

Abstract: Respondents supply information on (1) preferences for recreational and educational activities

and experiences associated with Waterfowl Production Areas, (2) the non-economic benefits they accrue from visiting Waterfowl Production Areas, and (3) their attitudes and support toward federal management and acquisition of Waterfowl Management Areas. This information will be used to help improve management of Waterfowl Production Areas and improve the operation of the Waterfowl Production Area program.

Bureau form number: Various.

Frequency: Annually during 2000, 2001, and 2002.

Description of respondents: Visitors to Waterfowl Production Areas in the state of Minnesota.

Estimated completion time: 0.33 hours (20 minutes).

Annual responses: 600.

Annual burden hours: 200.

Bureau clearance officer: John Cordyack 703-648-7313.

Dated: January 6, 2000.

Dennis B. Fenn,

Chief Biologist.

[FR Doc. 00-846 Filed 1-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-7Y-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-104-6333-HD; GPO-0076]

Closure of Access Roads: Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg District, Swiftwater Field Office.

ACTION: Closure of Bureau of Land Management Administered Roads—Douglas County, Oregon.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain BLM roads in Douglas County, Oregon are hereby closed to all types of motorized vehicles from January 20, 2000, until this notice is rescinded. The purpose of this road closure is to prevent excessive erosion, and to protect recent BLM investments in road maintenance work.

Personnel that are exempt from the road closure include any federal, state, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire-fighting force in the performance of an official duty. Additional persons authorized by the BLM, Swiftwater Field Manager, may be allowed but must be approved in advance in writing.

The roads included in this closure are designated with the following road numbers: 25-3-19.0, 25-3-30.0, 25-3-30.1, 25-3-32.0, 25-4-13.0, 25-4-14.0, 25-4-35.0, and 25-4-35.1. The spur

roads connected to the designated roads are also closed. The roads are located in Sections 19, 30, and 32 of T.25S., R.3W., and Sections 25, 26, and 35 of T.25S., R.4W., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Maps showing the above described area are available at the BLM's Roseburg District Office for public review. The roads closed under this order will be posted with signs at barricaded locations.

The closure is made under the authority of 43 CFR 9268.3(d)(1)(ii) and 8364.1(a). Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this closure order may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.0-7, which include a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, as well as the penalties provided under Oregon State law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This closure is effective from January 20, 2000, until this notice is rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Patrick, Civil Engineer Technician, at (541) 440-4931, ext. 261.

Dated: January 7, 2000.

William O'Sullivan,

Field Manager, Swiftwater Field Office.

[FR Doc. 00-840 Filed 1-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT019-1060-DH]

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Amendment to the Billings Resource Area Management Plan and Revision of the Herd Management Area Plan, Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an amendment to the Billings Resource Area Management Plan in order to establish an appropriate management level for wild horses, based on the results of eight years of ecological research studies on population genetics and ecosystem modelling. This research represents a synthesis of important issues pertaining to a landscape scale, interdisciplinary evaluation of the effects of wild horses and native ungulates on the rugged Pryor Mountain ecosystem. In addition, the existing 1984 Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, Herd Management Area Plan, and the subsequent 1992 Revision, will be revised to update the management of these horses and to consider issues

pertaining to public safety and commercial use within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range.

SUMMARY: An RMP Amendment/Environmental Assessment will be prepared to establish the appropriate management level for the number of horses in the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Herd. This amendment will incorporate results of eight years of ecological research studies on population genetics and ecosystem modelling. Specific studies addressed competitive interactions between the three ungulates inhabiting the area (Bighorn sheep, mule deer, and wild horses), the effects of all ungulates on the vegetation, the conservation genetics of the wild horses and simulations of the predicted effects of different wild horse management scenarios. These efforts resulted from a comprehensive interagency approach involving six agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the U.S. Forest Service. Major research direction and effort came from the U.S. Geological Survey and Natural Resources Ecology Lab, Colorado State University with participating efforts from Montana State University and the University of Kentucky.

In addition, the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, Herd Management Area Plan, will be revised. Based on previously stated public concern and input, the planned revision will consider issues pertaining to, but not necessarily limited to: long-term preservation of the genetic viability of the Pryor Mountain herd; maintaining an ecological balance within the Pryor ecosystem; use of immunocontraceptive (fertility control) techniques for population control within the wild horse herd; range expansion efforts in order to support a genetically viable wild horse herd; management of existing and/or proposed water sources within the Pryors while considering impacts on horse and wildlife distribution and forage use; permanent road closures in an effort to create retreat areas for wildlife; road improvements on the Pryor horse range for reasons of public safety; limiting indiscriminate shooting on the Pryor horse range for reasons of public safety; and options for controlling future commercialization of the Pryors.

DATES: The Billings Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, plans to hold public scoping meetings, in order to provide opportunities for public comment, during late March 2000.

Tentatively, meetings are scheduled for Billings, Montana on March 29 and Lovell, Wyoming on March 30, 2000. Details, regarding planned locations and specific times for these meetings, will be published in local news releases. Any issues, concerns, additional information, or alternatives should be submitted to the BLM at the address below on or before April 7, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandra S. Brooks, Field Manager, or Linda Coates-Markle, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, BLM, PO BOX 36800, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59107 or 406-896-5013.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Listings, and a brief summary of the above stated research efforts pertaining to the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, may be requested at the above address. Final reports for all research studies should be available to the BLM by mid-February 2000 and this information will then be available to public members upon request. This research represents the "best available information" which currently exists with respect to the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range. If other documents exist, which public members wish to identify for consideration during the revision process, please provide a copy to the Billings Field Office (address above), on or before April 7, 2000.

Dated: January 7, 2000.

Larry E. Hamilton,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 00-795 Filed 1-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Status of Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective with this publication, the following Leasing Maps (Louisiana and Texas) and Official Protraction Diagrams (OPDs) last revised on the date indicated are the latest date documents available. These maps and diagrams are on file and available for information only, in the Gulf of Mexico OCS Regional Office, New Orleans, Louisiana. In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, these maps and diagrams are the basic record for the description of mineral and oil and gas lease sales in the geographic areas they represent.