

Dated: June 21, 2000.

P. Patrick Leahy,

Chief Geologist.

[FR Doc. 00-17215 Filed 7-06-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-910-0777-XQ]

Call for Nomination for Resource Advisory Council

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

ACTION: Notice of vacancy on Resource Advisory Council and call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to solicit public nominations for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC) in Nevada, to fill a vacancy on that RAC for an employee of the State of Nevada. The RAC provides advice and recommendations to BLM's Winnemucca and Carson City Field Offices on land use planning and management of the public lands within their geographic areas. Public nominations will be considered for 45 days after the publication date of this notice.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM. Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10 to 15 member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As required by the FACA, the interests represented by the individuals appointed to the RAC must be balanced and representative of the various issues concerned with the management of public lands.

These include three categories, one of which is Category three, holders of State, county or local elected office, employees of a State agency responsible for management of natural resources, academicians involved in natural sciences, representatives of Indian tribes, and the public-at-large.

The employee of a State agency whose term has not yet expired has resigned from this RAC, and this notice is to solicit nominations for a replacement. Nominations should be sent to Jo Simpson, Nevada State Office, BLM,

P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada, 89520-0006; Telephone (775) 861-6586.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jo Simpson, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Office of Communications, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada, 89520-0006.

Dated: June 20, 2000.

Robert E. Stewart,

Acting Chief, Office of Communications.

[FR Doc. 00-17135 Filed 7-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-910-00-1020-PB]

New Mexico Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of council meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), 5 U.S.C. appendix 1, The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announces a meeting of the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The meeting will be held on August 23-25, 2000, at the Best Western Inn and Suites, 3009 West Highway 66, Gallup, NM 87301.

There will be an optional all day a field trip on Wednesday, August 23, 2000. Planned for the first stop will be the Pittsburgh and Midway Mine to view the mining process and reclamation/revegetation of the mine area. The tour will proceed to the El Malpais National Conservation Area for an overview of the geology of the area, and a final stop at the bat caves. The optional tour will start at the Best Western Inn and Suites in Gallup, NM, at 8:30 a.m. and return to Gallup by 9 p.m. Transportation will be provided for RAC members. The meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2000, starts at 8:00 a.m. and will end about 5 p.m. The three established RAC Subcommittees may have late afternoon or evening meetings on this day. The exact time and location of the Subcommittee meetings will be established by the Chairperson of each Subcommittee earlier in the day during the RAC meeting.

On Friday, August 25, 2000, the meeting starts at 8 a.m. and will end about 3 p.m. The ending time of 3 p.m. may be changed depending on the work remaining for the RAC. The draft agenda

for the RAC meeting includes an agreement on the meeting agenda, any RAC comments on the draft minutes of the last RAC meeting on June 14 through 16, 2000, in Taos, NM, a check in from the RAC members, and the following planned presentations that also include discussions; a progress report on House Memorial 15, and a Standards and Guidelines update. The time from 10 a.m. until 12 noon will be taken up with a review of the Off Highway Vehicle issue. There will be a discussion on a handout from the previous meeting and review of the outcome of three Listening Meetings on the topic being held throughout the State during July.

Starting at 1 p.m. on August 24, 2000, there will be a 15 minute Public Comment Period for members of the public who are not able to be present for the regular Public Comment Period on Friday, August 25th, to address the RAC. Following will be presentations on the Pittsburgh and Midway Coal Mine, which also include discussions. The main focus will be on reclamation and revegetation of the mine areas. Planned presentations included will be representatives from the Pittsburgh and Midway Mine, the Navajo Nation, the State of NM, the Bureau of Land Management, and a speaker representing an environmental group. The meeting on Thursday will end about 5 p.m. The three established RAC Subcommittees may have late afternoon or evening meetings on this day. The exact time and location of the Subcommittee meetings will be established by the Chairperson of each Subcommittee earlier in the day during the RAC meeting.

The meeting on Friday, August 25th will start at 8 a.m. with a review of the agenda thus far. At 8:15 a.m., BLM State of the Field Office reports will take place, presented by the Field Office managers. The regular Public Comment Period for the Public to address the RAC is on the Friday, August 25, 2000, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The RAC may reduce or extend the end time of 12:00 noon depending on the number of people wishing to address the RAC. Anyone wishing to address the RAC should be present at the 10 a.m. starting time. The length of time available for each person to address the RAC will be established at the start of the public comment period and will depend on how many people there are that wish to address the RAC. At the completion of the public comments the RAC may continue discussion on its agenda items. At 1 p.m. RAC Subcommittee reports from the Urban and Open Space Subcommittee, the Roads and Trails

Subcommittee, and the Oil and Gas Subcommittee, are scheduled. These reports are followed by RAC discussions and any RAC recommendations, development of draft agenda items and selection of a location for the next RAC meeting, and a RAC assessment of the current meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary White, Nex Mexico State Office, Office of External Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, 1474 Rodeo Road, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115, telephone (505) 438-7404.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Resource Advisory Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with the management of public lands. The Council's responsibilities include providing advice on long-range planning, establishing resource management priorities and assisting the BLM to identify State and regional standards for rangeland health and guidelines for grazing management.

Dated: June 29, 2000.

M.J. Chavez,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 00-17180 Filed 7-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1010-AA]

Notice of meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana, Billings and Miles City Field Offices, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council will have a meeting on August 10 at the Forsyth Country Club, Forsyth, Montana starting at 8:00 a.m. Primary agenda topics include an update on coalbed methane development, continued discussion on access, and the status of the Weatherman Draw proposal.

The meeting is open to the public and the public comment period is set for 11 a.m. on August 10. The public may make oral statements before the Council or file written statements for the Council to consider. Depending on the number of persons wishing to make an oral statement, a per person time limit may be established. Summary minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marilyn Krause, Public Affairs Specialist, Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana 59301, telephone (406) 233-2831.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management. The 15 member Council includes individuals who have expertise, education, training or practical experience in the planning and management of public lands and their resources and who have a knowledge of the geographical jurisdiction of the Council.

Dated: June 27, 2000.

Timothy M. Murphy,
Miles City Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 00-17217 Filed 7-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-250-00-1220-PA-24 1A]

Notice of Bureau of Land Management National Off-Highway-Vehicle Strategy; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Responding to an increasing public interest in issues surrounding the use of off-highway-vehicles (OHVs) on public lands, the Bureau of Land Management is announcing the public involvement phase of the National Off-Highway Vehicle Strategy, seeking public comments on OHV-related issues.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking ideas and solutions from the public on how best to ensure that the use of off-road vehicles on public lands will be controlled and directed so as to protect the resources of those lands. The BLM will develop a strategy based on public input to address land-management issues prompted by the growing popularity of OHV use.

DATES: You should submit your comments by August 31, 2000. BLM will not necessarily consider comments postmarked or received by messenger or electronic mail after the above date in the decisionmaking process on the OHV strategy.

ADDRESSES: Mail: Director (250), Bureau of Land Management, Administrative

Record, Room 204 LS, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

Personal or messenger delivery: Room 204, 1620 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Internet e-mail: Special comment site at www.blm.gov.

Mailer: We will send you an OHV mailer if you contact the Bureau of Land Management at 1849 C Street NW., LSB 406-C, Washington, DC 20240, Attn: Correspondence—WO 615

Other: We will also accept comments at local or State "listening meetings" which will be held by BLM or BLM Resource Advisory Councils (RACs).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rodger E. Schmitt, National Recreation Group Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, DC, at (202) 452-7771.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The goal of the OHV strategy is to provide local managers a framework for addressing issues such as current OHV designations, executive orders, regulations, trends in management and management approaches, route inventory needs, resource issues, special management and sensitive areas and resources, monitoring, education, law enforcement, and budget.

BLM management of OHVs is guided by Executive Orders 11644 made in 1972 and 11989 made in 1977, when only about five million OHVs were in use nationally. Today, that number has risen dramatically. In addition, technological advances now make it possible for these vehicles to travel over lands that were formerly inaccessible. Many of BLM's land use plans do not adequately address the increases in OHV use. In addition, BLM's budget-related resources—including the number of recreation specialists and law enforcement personnel—have not kept pace with the past decade's growth in OHV use. These factors, plus litigation over OHV management issues, have created the need for a national OHV management strategy.

Comments will be collected through August and will be analyzed and used to help BLM develop guidance for local solutions by November 30. Once the guidance is written, BLM will implement it locally with the help of public and private partners to achieve on-the-ground goals.

Jack Peterson,

Acting National Recreation Group Manager.

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