

office: BLM-Winnemucca Field Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michael Bilbo, Outdoor Recreation Planner, or Les Boni, Assistant manager, Non-Renewable Resources, at (775) 623-1500, or write to: BLM-Winnemucca Field Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, Nevada 89445. A map showing the temporary closure area is available from the following BLM office: Winnemucca Field Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, Nevada 89445, (775) 623-1500. BLM contact person is Michael Bilbo at above address and phone.

**Authority:** 43 CFR part 8340, 43 CFR subpart 8341, 43 CFR subpart 8341.2, 43 CFR part 8360, 43 CFR subpart 8364.

**Penalty:** Any person failing to comply with the closure orders may be subject to imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571, or both. Any person who fails to comply with this closure notice issued under 43 CFR, part 8364, may be subject to the penalties provided for in 43 CFR 8360.0-7.

Dated: August 25, 2000.

**Terry Reed,**

*Field Manager, Winnemucca Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 00-23084 Filed 9-7-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-1020-PH-WEED]

#### Use of Weed-Free Forage on Public Lands in Nevada

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed action.

**SUMMARY:** The State Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Nevada is proposing a requirement that all BLM visitors, permittees, and operators in Nevada use certified noxious weed seed-free hay, straw, or mulch when visiting, or conducting authorized activities on BLM-administered lands in Nevada. This requirement will affect visitors who use hay, straw, or mulch on the BLM-administered lands in Nevada such as: recreationists using pack and saddle stock, ranchers with grazing permits, outfitters, and contractors and operators who use straw or other mulch for re-seeding or reclamation purposes. These individuals or groups would be required to use certified noxious weed seed-free

forage and mulch products, or use other approved products such as processed grains and pellets while on BLM-administered lands in Nevada.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the proposal should be received on or before October 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments concerning the Nevada requirement to: Deputy State Director (930), USDI, Bureau of Land Management, 1340 Financial Blvd, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada 89520-0006. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of any NEPA documentation associated with this proposed rulemaking. 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. 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:**

Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office, Brian C. Amme, Environmental Protection Specialist, Division of Natural Resources, Lands, and Planning, at the above address, or telephone (775) 861-6645.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Noxious weeds are a serious problem in the western United States. Estimates of the rapid spread of weeds in the west include 2,300 acres per day on BLM-administered lands and 4,600 acres per day on all western public lands. Species like perennial pepperweed (tall whitetop), purple loosestrife, yellow starthistle, hoary cress (short whitetop), leafy spurge, spotted knapweed, russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed, squarrose knapweed, scotch thistle, dalmatian toadflax, rush skeletonweed, and many others are non-native to Nevada and the United States and have no natural enemies to keep their populations in balance. Consequently, these undesirable weeds rapidly invade healthy ecosystems, displace native vegetation, reduce species diversity, destroy wildlife habitat, and degrade designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, and other special areas including areas of critical environmental concern

(ACECs) and National Conservation Areas (NCAs). Widespread infestations lead to soil erosion and stream sedimentation. Furthermore, noxious weed invasions weaken rehabilitation and landscape restoration efforts, reduce domestic and wild ungulates' grazing capacity, occasionally irritate public land users by aggravating allergies and other ailments, and threaten federally protected plants and animals.

To curb the spread of noxious weeds, a growing number of Western States have jointly developed noxious weed-free forage certification standards, and, in cooperation with various federal, state, and county agencies, passed weed management laws. Because hay, straw, mulch, and other forage products containing noxious weed seed contribute to the spread and establishment infestations, the State of Nevada has recently implemented, a state hay inspection-certification program, participates in a regional inspection-certification-identification process, and encourages, on a voluntary basis, forage producers in Nevada to grow noxious weed-free products. The Nevada Division of Agriculture has documented that growers in Nevada produced 250 acres of certified Timothy hay as of October 30, 1999. The State of Nevada encourages growers to request voluntary certification inspections of all forage products including grass hay, alfalfa hay, a mixture of grass and alfalfa hay, as well as barley and wheat straw.

Region Four of the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, implemented a similar policy for National Forest lands outside of the State of Nevada in 1994, and Forest Units within the State of Nevada on January 1, 2000. The BLM in Nevada encourages all BLM Field Offices to attach a standard stipulation on all Special Recreation Permits and other use authorizations, requiring holders of those permits and authorizations to use certified weed seed-free products. This proposal will provide a standard regulation for all users of BLM public lands in Nevada and will provide for coordinated management with National Forest lands across jurisdictional lines.

In cooperation with the State of Nevada and other federal agencies, the BLM is proposing—for all BLM-administered lands within Nevada—a ban on hay, straw or mulch that has not been certified as weed seed-free. This proposal includes a public information plan to ensure that: (1) This ban is well publicized and understood; and (2) BLM visitors and land users will know where they can purchase state-certified hay or other products. Similar to other agency closure orders, a grace period will be in

effect prior to the implementation date of this proposed supplementary rule. This proposal is in conformance with all Land Use Plans within Nevada and consistent with BLM policy on establishing weed-free hay, straw and mulch programs as identified in Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 99-076 (2/25/99).

This supplementary rule will not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations.

The principal author of the proposed supplementary rule is Brian C. Amme, Environmental Protection Specialist, of the Nevada State Office, BLM.

For the reasons stated above, under the authority of 43 CFR 8365.1-6, the Nevada State Office, BLM, proposes the supplementary rule to read as follows:

**Supplementary Rules To Require the Use of Certified Noxious Weed Seed-Free Forage on Bureau of Land Management-Administered Lands in Nevada**

(a)(1) To prevent the spread of weeds on BLM-administered lands in Nevada, effective October 1, 2001, all BLM lands within the State of Nevada, at all times of the year, shall be closed to possessing or storing hay, straw, or mulch that has not been certified as free of prohibited noxious weed seed.

(2) Certification will comply with "Regional Standards" jointly developed by the states of Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, and Nebraska for noxious weed seed-free and noxious weed-free forage.

(3) The following persons are exempt from this order: anyone with a permit signed by BLM's authorized officer at the Field Office or Field Station specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission within that Field Office or Station's administered area.

(b) Any person who knowingly and willfully violates the provisions of these supplemental rules regarding the use of non-certified noxious weed-free hay, straw, or mulch when visiting Bureau of Land Management administered lands in Nevada, without authorization required, may be commanded to appear before a designated United States Magistrate and may be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months, or both, as defined in 43 United States Code 1733(a).

**Robert V. Abbey,**

*State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada.*

[FR Doc. 00-23023 Filed 9-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[ES-032-0-1430-EU; MNES-050506]

**Realty Action; Direct Sale of Public Lands in Kanabec County, Minnesota**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of realty action.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management has determined that the below listed public lands located in Kanabec County, Minnesota, are suitable for sale utilizing direct non-competitive procedures, at not less than the fair market value. In accordance with Section 7 of the Act of June 28, 1934, as amended, 43 U.S.C. 315f and EO 6964, the described lands are hereby classified as suitable for disposal under the authority of Section 203 of the Act of October 21, 1976; 43 U.S.C. 1713.

**Fourth Principal Meridian**

T. 28 N., R. 39 W.,

Section 28, SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
E $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$

The above lands aggregate 2.5 acres.

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments to Field Manager, Milwaukee Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 450, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Salvatore, Realty Specialist, (414) 297-4413.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Bureau of Land Management proposes to sell the surface estate of the above described lands to Mr. Stanley Erickson, by direct sale, at fair market value. The disposal of this land will resolve an inadvertent unauthorized use on public land.

The proposed sale is consistent with the Minnesota Management Framework Plan and would serve important public objectives which could not be achieved by other means. The lands contain no other known public values. The planning document and environmental assessment covering the proposed sale are available for review at the Bureau of Land Management, Milwaukee Field Office, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Conveyance of the above described public lands will be subject to:

1. Reservation of a right-of-way to the United States for ditches and canals pursuant to the Act of August 30, 1890, 43 U.S.C. 945.

2. Reservation of all minerals pursuant to section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1719.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the above described lands will be segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for leasing under the mineral leasing laws.

For a period of 45 days after issuance of this notice, interested parties may submit comments to the Field Manager at the address above. Any adverse comments will be evaluated by the State Director who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any objections, this proposed realty action will become final.

Dated: September 1, 2000.

**James W. Dryden,**

*Milwaukee Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 00-23040 Filed 9-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-PN-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[NV-930-1430-EU; N-62434, N-62831]

**Notice of Realty Action: Non-Competitive Sale of Public Lands**

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

**ACTION:** Non-Competitive Sale of Public Lands in Clark County, Nevada.

**SUMMARY:** The following described public lands in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada have been examined and found suitable for sale utilizing non-competitive procedures, at not less than the fair market value of \$310,000.00. Authority for the sale is section 203 and section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Pub.L. 105-263).

**Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada**

T. 22 S., R. 60 E.,

Sec. 23, S $\frac{1}{2}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
S $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Containing 2.5 acres, more or less, located at Blue Diamond Road (State Route 160), Redwood Street and Rainbow Boulevard.

These parcels of land, situated in Las Vegas are being offered as a direct sale to Donald Tripoli, the adjacent property owner. This land is not required for any federal purposes. The sale is consistent with current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest.

In the event of a sale, conveyance of the available mineral interests will occur simultaneously with the sale of the land. The mineral interests being offered for conveyance have no known mineral value. Acceptance of a direct