

the White River Field Office RMP of 1997.

The planning area is northwest of the town of Rifle, Colorado. It generally includes all BLM managed public lands west of State Highway 13 and north of Interstate 70, east of Parachute Creek, and roughly south of the Garfield County Rio Blanco County line. The amendment will consider management changes to the on approximately 73,367 acres (68,447 surface and 4,455 sub-surface, including 4,455 surface/sub-surface acres within the White River Resource Area). Boundaries may be adjusted after the scoping phase of planning is completed.

The BLM proposes to develop a scientifically sound, community supported strategy for the management of the public lands in the Roan Plateau area. The EIS will be prepared using an inter-disciplinary approach to insure the integration of biological, social and environmental values. The disciplines of the preparers shall be appropriate to the scope and issues identified in the scoping process. The analysis for the amendment will be embodied with the analysis for the EIS.

The amendment will focus on the major needed land use allocation decisions including; oil and gas management, wilderness suitability, special area designations (Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Wilderness Study Area, etc.) and travel management. The amendment will also review and analyze the multiple of public land uses and resource issues as identified by scoping and necessary to develop a proactive integrated management strategy.

DATES: The BLM can best utilize your input if you submit written comments pertaining to management concerns; important social, economic and environmental values; resource use; resource development and resource protection before January 31, 2001. A public scoping meeting will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on December 13, 2000 at the Rifle Fire Department, 1850 Railroad Ave in Rifle, Colorado 81650.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Field Manager, Glenwood Springs Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 50629 Highway 6 & 24, P.O. Box 1009, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests to be placed on a mailing list should be mailed to the address above. You can also telephone Brian Hopkins at (970) 947-2840 or e-mail him at bhopkins@co.blm.gov. Documents and maps relevant to the planning process

will be available for public review at the Glenwood Springs Field Office and, as feasible, available on the Glenwood Springs Field Office website <http://www.co.blm.gov/gsra/roanplateau.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In November, 1997 Public Law 105-85 directed the transfer of jurisdiction of the area formally known as the (NOSR) from the Department of Energy (DOE) to the BLM. The transfer directed that the lands be managed in accordance with laws applicable to public lands, including Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA.).

BLM has been providing custodial surface management for some activities on the Naval Oil Shale Reserve (NOSR) for many years under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Energy. The formal transfer of the lands to the BLM has broadened BLM's overall management responsibilities and created the need to amend the RMPs for the GSFO and the WRFO. From a planning and public involvement standpoint it is efficient to include the identified adjacent lands in the planning process.

The foremost goal of the planning process is to ensure opportunities for the public to participate in the planning process. Individuals will have the opportunity to attend public meetings and field trips, write letters, telephone and meet with directly with the planning staff.

Anne Huebner,

Glenwood Springs Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-160-1220-00]

Meeting of the Central California Resource Advisory Council

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

ACTION: Meeting of the Central California Resource Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (sec. 309), the Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Council for Central California will meet in Sacramento.

DATES: Thursday and Friday, November 30-December 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: BLM-California State Office, 2135 Butano Drive, Sacramento, CA 95825.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 12 member Central California Resource Advisory Council is appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to advise the Bureau of Land Management on public land issues. On Friday morning, the Council will hold a satellite teleconference with Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, and will meet with new BLM-California State Director Mike Pool. Other agenda items for the two meetings include a discussion of the BLM land exchange program, and a review of Council's proposed standards and guidelines for the recreation program. There will be a public comment period at 11:30 a.m. Thursday and at 1 p.m. on Friday at which time the Council will hear comments on any public land issue. Written comments will also be accepted, either at the meeting or at the address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Mercer, Public Affairs Officer, Bureau of Land Management, 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308, telephone 661-391-6010.

Dated: November 9, 2000.

Ron Fellows,

Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-670-00-1220-00, C00-0927 WHA-ADR]

Imperial Sand Dunes Vehicular Use Closure

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, El Centro Field Office, California Desert District.

ACTION: Temporary closure of parts of the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Management Area to off-highway vehicle and other vehicular use in compliance with court-approved stipulations resulting from a lawsuit involving the Endangered Species Act.

SUMMARY: On March 16, 2000 a lawsuit was filed against the Bureau of Land Management by Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club and Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. The basis of the lawsuit is that BLM has not yet consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as required by the Endangered Species Act, on the effects of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan on species listed by the Service as threatened or