

Individuals may nominate themselves for Council membership. You may obtain nomination forms from the Grand Junction Field Office, Bureau of Land Management or download the application from the Internet site (see **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, above). To make a nomination, you must submit a completed nomination form, letters of reference from the represented interests or organizations, as well as any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications, to the Grand Junction Field Office. You may make nominations for the following categories of interest:

(1) A member of, or nominated by, the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners.

(2) A member of, or nominated by, the permittees holding grazing permits within the National Conservation Area or Wilderness.

(3) A member of, or nominated by, the Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council.

(4) Seven members residing in, or within reasonable proximity to, Mesa County, Colorado, with recognized backgrounds reflecting—

(A) The purposes for which the National Conservation Area or Wilderness was established; and

(B) The interests of the stakeholders that are affected by the planning and management of the National Conservation Area and Wilderness.

The specific category the nominee would like to represent should be identified in the letter of nomination and in the nomination form. The Grand Junction Field Office will collect the nomination forms and letters of reference and distribute them to the officials responsible for submitting nominations (commissioners of Mesa County, grazing permittees holding grazing allotments within the National Conservation Area or Wilderness, the Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council, and the Bureau of Land Management). The Bureau of Land Management will then forward recommended nominations to the Secretary of the Interior who has responsibility for making the appointments.

The purpose of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area Advisory Council is to advise the Bureau of Land Management on the management of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness. Each member will be a person who, as a result of training and experience, has knowledge or special expertise which qualifies him or

her to provide advice from among the categories of interest listed above.

Members will serve without monetary compensation, but will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees.

Dated: May 14, 2001.

Nina Rose Hatfield,

Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

(WY-050-2001-1060-JJ)

Notice of Intent To Remove Excess and Stray Wild Horses

SUMMARY: The Wild, Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act (Pub. L. 92-195) requires that, among other things, horses that exceed the Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) established for them or stray from designated Herd Management Areas (HMAs) be removed. In order to accomplish that, the Lander Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management plans to remove 350 excess and stray horses from four contiguous herd areas within the Lander Field Office known as the Muskrat Basin HMA, Conant Creek HMA, Rock Creek Mountain HMA, Dishpan Butte HMA and an area north and east of the Muskrat Basin HMA into which horses have strayed outside of the HMA. The removal is scheduled for the summer/fall seasons of 2001. Specific dates depend on the weather and soil conditions, and other factors unforeseen at this time. The Appropriate Management level for these four contiguous areas is 320 horses. An Environmental Analysis (EA), and Gather Plan for this removal will be available on June 15, 2001 for a thirty (30) day comment period. from: Jack Kelly, Field Manager, P.O. Box 589, Lander, Wyoming 82520; (307) 332-8400. These documents are also available for review on the Wyoming BLM homepage at www.wy.blm.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information please contact Roy Packer, Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office, 1335 Main Street, P.O. Box 589, Lander, Wyoming 82520, (307) 332-8400.

Dated: May 9, 2001.

Roy Packer,

Acting Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[ID-075-1330-AC-241E]

North Rasmussen Ridge Mine, BLM Pocatello Field Office and Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Caribou County, ID

AGENCIES: Bureau of Land Management, USDI and Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Pocatello Field Office and the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS), Caribou-Targhee National Forest, will jointly prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to document the analysis and disclose the environmental and human effects of the proposed North Rasmussen Ridge Mine and Reclamation Plan for future operations at the existing Rasmussen Ridge Mine, Caribou County, Idaho, located approximately 25 miles northeast of Soda Springs, Idaho. The proposed mining operations would utilize land administered by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. Mining will take place on Federal Phosphate Leases I-04375, I-07619 within the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, and in State Lease I-7957 adjacent the Federal Phosphate Leases.

Nu-West Industries, Inc. (Agrium) must obtain federal and state permits prior to mining under the proposed mine plan. The existing mining operation was authorized by Decision Records (DR) associated with two environmental analyses prepared—the DR first issued in 1990 for the South Rasmussen Ridge Mine and the second DR in 1997 for Central Rasmussen Ridge Mine. The conditional permits granted by the BLM and USFS at the beginning of the Rasmussen Ridge mining operations required that subsequent site-specific mine plans for the individual mine panels be submitted to the agencies for their review and that appropriate mitigation measures be developed using further environmental analysis.

The environmental effects from the South and Central Rasmussen Ridge mining panels were assessed in the 1990 and 1997 EAs, however this EIS would evaluate the effects of the proposed North Rasmussen Ridge Mine and