

As part of a successful application of waterflood technology, the proponent proposed to expand its waterflood operations by drilling 600 to 900 additional wells within the Monument Butte-Myton Bench oil field through the year 2015. Based on a 40 acre spacing pattern, Inland Resources, Inc. would drill approximately 50 percent of the wells as producing wells and 50 percent as water injection wells. The water injection wells would allow reservoir pressure to be managed and oil recovery to be maximized. Estimated new surface disturbance for the project would include 1,710 acres. The existing road network within the project area would provide the primary access routes to the new well sites. No additional compression facilities is expected to be required to accommodate the new wells.

Major issues include potential impacts to status plants and animals, air quality, and soils. Alternatives identified at this time include the proposed action and the no action alternatives.

DATES: This notice announces the public scoping process. Comments on issues can be submitted in writing to the address listed below. All public meetings will be announced through the local news media, and the BLM Vernal Field Office web site (www.blm.gov/utah/vernal) at least 15 days prior to the event.

Public Participation: Public meetings will be held during the scoping period. In order to ensure local community participation and input, public meeting locations will be in Duchesne and Uintah Counties, Utah. In addition, formal opportunities for public participation will be provided through comment on the alternatives and upon publication of the BLM draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Environmental Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, 170 South 500 East, Vernal, Utah 84078; Fax 435-781-4410. Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Vernal Field Office located in Vernal, Utah. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Vernal Field Office located in Vernal, Utah during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EIS. 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 and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Duane De Paepe, Telephone 435-781-4403, or e-mail dddepaepe@ut.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The management of BLM public lands and resources encompassed by the project area is directed and guided by the BLM's Record of Decision for the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan. The majority of the proposed project lies within an area that was previously partially developed for oil and gas production and is designated as Category 2 for oil and gas leasing by the BLM. Category 2 areas are those that are open to oil and gas leasing with stipulations to protect sensitive surface resources.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-579, 43 CFR 8364.1.

Dated: March 18, 2002.

Sally Wisely,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 02-11435 Filed 5-7-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-\$\$-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-029-02-1610-DO-082L]

Notice of Intent To Prepare Plan Amendments to the 1995 Fort Greely Resource Management Plan and 1995 Fort Wainwright Resource Management Plan and Associated Environmental Assessments (EAs)

AGENCY: Northern Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, Fairbanks, Alaska, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare plan amendments to the 1995 Fort Greely Resource Management Plan (RMP) and 1995 Fort Wainwright RMP and associated Environmental Assessments (EAs).

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) intends to prepare two plan amendments with associated EAs. BLM will work closely with the U.S. Army, Alaska (USARAK) while developing the amendments. The amendments will encompass approximately 624,000 acres for Fort

Greely and 248,000 acres for Fort Wainwright. The affected lands are on the Fort Greely military withdrawal near the town of Delta Junction, Alaska, and on the Fort Wainwright withdrawal near Fairbanks, Alaska. The amendments will fulfill the needs and obligations set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and Pub. L. 106-65, BLM and USARAK management policies. The BLM will work closely with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to the needs of the public. This collaborative process will take into account local, regional, and national needs and concerns. This notice initiates the public scoping process to identify planning issues and to develop planning criteria.

DATES: The scoping comment period will commence with the publication of this notice. Formal scoping will end 60 days after publication of this notice. Comments on issues and planning criteria should be received on or before the end of the scoping period at the address listed below.

Public Participation: Two public meetings will be held during the scoping and preparation period. These meetings will be held in Fairbanks and Delta Junction, Alaska. Early participation by all those interested is encouraged. At least 15 days public notice will be given for activities where the public is invited to attend. Written comments will be accepted throughout the amendment process at the address shown below. Meetings will be announced through the local news media.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Northern Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1150 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844, attention Gary Foreman. Documents pertinent to these amendments may be examined at the Northern Field Office located in Fairbanks, Alaska. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Northern Field Office during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EAs. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish BLM 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 and businesses, and

from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Gary Foreman, Telephone (907) 474-2339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RMPs for Fort Greely and Fort Wainwright were signed in 1995. Recently evaluations of the RMPs were performed and three issues were found that require amendments to the 1995 RMPs. These issues are: (1) The withdrawals have been extended for an additional 25 years; (2) Through their planning, USARAK is recommending some changes to vehicle access designations within the withdrawal areas; (3) BLM has drafted new land health standards and will implement them if they are approved in time for these amendments.

Additional issues to be addressed in these amendments can be submitted to the BLM by interested agencies, groups, and individuals throughout the planning process.

Robert W. Schneider,

Field Manager, Northern Field Office, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 02-11440 Filed 5-7-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM 050-02-1610-DO]

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Resource Management Plan Revision/Environmental Impact Statement

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

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Socorro Field Office, New Mexico.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Socorro Field Office will prepare an RMP Revision and complete an EIS on the Revision for approximately 1.5 million acres of public lands managed by the Socorro Field Office in west-central New Mexico, located within Socorro and Catron Counties. The revised land use plan will guide resource

management in these areas into the foreseeable future. The RMP Revision will be prepared under guidance provided through 43 CFR part 1600 (BLM Planning Regulations). The BLM will work closely with interested parties to identify issues, resolve disputes, and develop management actions that are best suited to the management of the resources and the needs of the public. This collaborative process will take into account local, regional, and national concerns. This Notice formally initiates the public Scoping process to identify planning issues and to review preliminary planning criteria.

DATES: The Scoping comment period will commence with the publication of this Notice and Scoping comments would be most effective if received not later than 30 days after the last public meeting. Meetings and comment closing dates will be announced through local news media, newsletters, and the BLM Web site: <http://www.nm.blm.gov>.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to "RMP COMMENTS", BLM, Socorro Field Office, 198 Neel Ave., NW, Socorro, NM, 87801, Fax: 505-835-0223. Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Socorro Field Office. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Socorro Field Office during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the RMP/EIS. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or 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 and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Charles Carroll, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, BLM, Socorro Field Office, 198 Neel Ave., NW, Socorro, NM, 87801, phone: 505-838-1278.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Opportunities to participate will occur throughout the planning process. To ensure local community participation and input, public scoping meetings will be held, at a minimum, in three towns

strategically located in or near the planning area. Early participation by all interested parties is encouraged and will help guide the planning process and determine the future management of public lands. At least 15 days public notice in local news media will be given for activities where the public is invited to attend. The minutes and list of attendees for each meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days to any participant who wishes to clarify their views. Written comments will be accepted throughout the planning process at the address shown above. Additional formal opportunities for public participation and comment will be provided upon publication of the draft RMP Revision and draft EIS.

Preliminary issues and management concerns have been identified by BLM personnel, other agencies, and in meetings with individuals and user groups. The preliminary issues are: Management of public land resources at the watershed level; off-highway vehicle management; fluid and solid mineral development; effects of urban interface; land tenure adjustments; status of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; identification of resource values on recently acquired public lands; and public interest/benefits with regard to recent cultural/recreation initiatives—e.g., El Camino Real International Heritage Center, Fort Craig, El Camino Real National Historic Trail, etc.

Preliminary Management Concerns include: Management of current/future special status species; maintaining government-to-government relationships with tribal governments; effect on disproportionate impacts to disadvantaged communities resulting from execution of land management decisions (Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898); the potential for the spread of noxious weeds; and the management of designated streams (Clean Water Act, Section 303-d). Public comments on the issues will be placed in one of three categories: (1) issues to be resolved in the plan; (2) issues resolved through policy or administrative action; or (3) issues beyond the scope of this plan. The public is encouraged to help identify issues, questions, and concerns during the scoping phase.

Planning Criteria will be developed during public scoping to help guide the planning effort. Preliminary Planning Criteria being considered for the Socorro planning effort include: Recognize valid existing rights; comply with existing law, executive orders, regulation, and BLM policy and program guidance; seek public input; consider adjoining non-public lands when making management