

be interested in or affected by the BLM decision on the Tracy to Silver Lake Power Line Project are urged to participate in the EIS process. It is important that those interested in the proposed activities participate in the scoping and commenting processes of the EIS. To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible.

Dated: May 14, 2002.

John Singlaub,

Manager, Carson City Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-110-1060-DU]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment and Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for an Amendment to the White River Resource Management Plan (RMP) Regarding Management of Wild Horses in the West Douglas Herd Area.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), White River Field Office proposes to prepare an EA and consider an amendment to the White River RMP regarding management of wild horses in the West Douglas Herd Area. The purpose of this planning process is to identify the most appropriate strategy for management of wild horses in the West Douglas Herd Area of the White River Resource Area, while protecting resource values, providing for multiple uses, and improving the health of public lands. The planning process will allow BLM, with integrated public involvement, to develop and conduct detailed analysis of a full range of alternatives specifically focused on wild horses and other resources within this herd area. BLM has determined that such detail and focus may not have been sufficiently addressed and documented in the current RMP, which has a resource-area-wide scope. BLM will hold public meetings in Rangely and Grand Junction, CO, to share information and identify specific concerns and issues pertaining to this plan amendment.

DATES: The official public scoping period for this planning effort commences with the publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit scoping comments to the address listed

below until August 26, 2002. BLM will publish exact dates, times, and locations for public meetings through media announcements, internet postings, and mailings at least 15 days in advance of the meetings.

ADDRESSES: Send scoping comments to the White River Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 73544 Hwy 64, Meeker, CO 81641, or e-mail scott_pavey@co.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The West Douglas Herd Area is located in Rio Blanco County, within the southwestern portion of the White River Resource Area in Northwestern Colorado. It contains 123,390 acres of public, and 4,754 acres of private land. The herd area also encompasses Texas and Oil Spring Mountains; portions of Douglas, Missouri, and Texas Creek Watersheds; a portion of the Oil Springs Mountain Wilderness Study Area; and a portion of the Canyon Pintado National Historic District.

BLM invites the public to identify issues that they feel should be addressed during the planning process. Thus far, BLM has identified the following preliminary issues:

Issue 1: Wild Horse Management. Have all reasonable management options been considered and analyzed? Do management alternatives meet statutory requirements?

Issue 2: Wilderness. Can wild horse management activities and wilderness values within Oil Spring Mountain Wilderness Study Area co-exist?

Issue 3: Oil and Gas Development. Will there be additional stipulations for oil and gas development? Will oil and gas development cause wild horses to disperse into areas outside of the herd area?

Issue 4: Forage Allocation. What proportions of available forage should be allocated to livestock, wild horses, and wildlife?

Public participation will be an essential component of this planning process. Anyone wishing to be placed on the BLM mailing list for this action should contact the person listed below or mail a letter containing contact information to the White River Field Office (address listed earlier in this notice). BLM will review all comments and take them into consideration when developing the Environmental Assessment and the plan amendment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Pavey, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, White River Field Office (970) 878-3831, E-mail: scott_pavey@co.blm.gov.

Dated: March 25, 2001.

James A. Cagney,
Associate Field Manager.

Editorial Note: This document was received in the Office of the Federal Register on June 20, 2002.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-610-02-1220-AA]

Notice of Public Meeting of the California Desert District Advisory Council

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Public Laws 92-463 and 94-579, that the California Desert District Advisory Council to the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, will meet in formal session on Friday, June 28, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 29, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Barstow Community College, located at 2700 Barstow Road, Barstow, California.

Agenda items for the Council meeting will include the following topics:

- Review of District Advisory Council charter, Council role and function
- Election of Officers
- Public Comment for items not on the agenda (Friday morning)
- Overview and update on the West Mojave Plan
- Status report on current District Planning efforts: Northern and Eastern Colorado Plan, Northern and Eastern Mojave Plan, Draft BLM Coachella Valley Plan Amendment—Environmental Impact Statement, Draft Western Colorado Plan, Draft Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area Resource Management Plan
- Plan Implementation strategies and priorities
- Council involvement in future Districtwide projects
- Public comment (Saturday afternoon)
- Select future Council meeting date(s), location(s), and agenda topics

All Desert District Advisory Council meetings are open to the public. Time for public comment is scheduled at the beginning of the meeting for topics not on the agenda, and will be made available by the Council Chairman during the presentation of various agenda items. Time for public comment is also scheduled at the end of the meeting.

Written comments may be filed in advance of the meeting for the