

Midway, then east along the Transmission Pass Road through State Trust lands located in Butler Valley. The route re-enters public lands for a short distance west of Alamo Lake Road, then re-enters State Trust Lands in Butler Valley, then onto public lands again on the Butler Valley Road northwest of Graham Well and proceeds west to the "Bouse Y", which is located north of Bouse, Arizona. The route then proceeds north along the Bouse-Midway Road to Midway. From Midway, it proceeds west along the north boundary of the East Cactus Plain Wilderness Area to the Parker-Swansea Road. It then proceeds west on the Parker-Swansea Road to the CAP Canal, along the north boundary of the Cactus Plain Wilderness Study Area to Osborne, Wash. From there it proceeds west along the Osborne, Wash to the CRIT Reservation boundary.

Dated: October 25, 2002.

Donald Ellsworth,

Field Manager, Lake Havasu Field Office.

[FR Doc. 03-590 Filed 1-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-090-1220-AA]

Notice of Seasonal Closure of Public Lands to Motorized Vehicle Use

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of seasonal closure of certain public lands located in Lincoln County, Wyoming, to all types of motor vehicle use.

SUMMARY: The Record of Decision (ROD) and approved Kemmerer Resource Management Plan (RMP) ROD, dated April 29, 1986, states that big game winter ranges may be closed to minimize stress to wintering animals.

After consulting with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, all Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surface, including existing roads and two-tracks, are closed in the Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA), Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek winter ranges to all types of motorized vehicle travel (e.g., snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, pickups, motorcycles, sport utility vehicles, etc.) from January 1, 2003, until April 30, 2003. Use of these areas by nonmotorized means is still allowed. This action is necessary for the protection of crucial winter range habitat for elk, moose, antelope, and

mule deer. No motorized vehicle travel into these areas will be allowed unless specifically authorized (in writing) by the authorized officer (BLM Kemmerer Field Manager), except for highways or county roads. Personnel of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Department of Agriculture, APHIS, Wildlife Services, Lincoln and Uinta County Sheriff's Offices, and the BLM are exempt from this closure when performing official duties. Operators of existing oil and gas facilities may perform maintenance and pumping, as approved, and livestock operators may perform permitted activities. After April 30, motorized vehicle access is limited to existing roads and two-tracks, as described in the Kemmerer RMP ROD dated April 29, 1986.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM Kemmerer Field Office is responsible for management of crucial winter range habitat located on public lands within Lincoln County. These crucial wildlife winter range habitat areas and the management thereof, are addressed in the Kemmerer RMP. The RMP states that seasonal closures for motorized vehicles may be used to protect big game winter range. Closures will vary depending on conditions and are implemented in coordination with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Kemmerer RMP, page 25 and 27). The Raymond Mountain WSA, Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek areas are crucial wintering ranges for elk, moose, antelope, and mule deer. This seasonal closure is necessary to protect wintering deer, moose, and elk, which are suffering from the effects of a 3-year drought. Low forage production associated with the drought has caused animals to go into winter in very poor condition. Additionally, forage production on winter ranges is also reduced. These impacts to wintering wildlife are currently compounded by significant human activity, such as day and night wildlife observation, photo/videography, snowmobiling, and antler gathering. The use of motorized vehicles during difficult winter periods can increase the number of animals that will die on the winter range and can decrease production of young during the following summer. Therefore, a seasonal closure is necessary to relieve impacts from the use of motorized vehicles on wintering big game animals.

The following BLM-administered lands are included in this closure: The Raymond Mountain WSA is located approximately 15 miles north of Cokeville and contains 32,956 acres. The Slate Creek area includes all BLM-administered lands south of Fontenelle

Creek, west and north of Route 189, and east of the crest of Slate Creek Ridge, and contains 111,100 acres. The Rock Creek area includes all BLM-administered lands south of County Road 204 (Pine Creek Road), west of the crest of Dempsey Ridge, west of Fossil Butte National Monument, north and east of Highway 30, and contains 105,750 acres. The Bridger Creek area includes all BLM-administered lands south of Highway 30, west of Fossil Ridge, west of Bear River Divide, north of the Uinta—Lincoln County line, east of the Utah—Wyoming border, and southeast of Highway 89, and contains 98,400 acres.

Maps of these seasonal closure areas will be posted with this notice at key locations that provide access into the closure areas, as well as at the Kemmerer Field Office, 312 Highway 189 North, Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101-9710.

Authority for closure orders is provided in regulation 43 CFR, subparts 8341.2 and 8364.1. Violations of this closure are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1000.00, and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

DATES: This seasonal closure will be effective from January 1, 2003, until April 30, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wally Mierzejewski, Outdoor Recreation Planner, or Jim Wright, Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Land Management, 312 Highway 189 North, Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101, or contact by telephone at 307-828-4500.

Dated: October 10, 2002.

Alan L. Kesterke,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 03-592 Filed 1-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-054-1220-AA; GP-03-0019]

Notice of Closure; Notice of Permanent Motor Vehicle Restriction on Public Lands; Deschutes/Crook County, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Prineville District, Deschutes Resource Area/Field Office.

ACTION: Notice is hereby given that off-highway vehicle (OHV) travel within the Millican Valley OHV Trail System is restricted to designated routes only. The Millican Valley OHV Trail System is located approximately 20 miles East of Bend, Oregon in Crook and Deschutes Counties. Specifically, this closure order

applies to all public lands within the following perimeter description:

Perimeter Description: Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 20 and BLM road #6521, then southeast on Highway 20 to the Horse Ridge summit, then southwest to road #6515-A and northwest. The perimeter then goes south through private property until it reaches road # 6515-AA and south to the junction with road #6515-C, then along road #6515-C south to County Road 2015, then east to County Road 2016. The perimeter then follows the BLM/Forest Service property boundary east, south and east again crossing Forest Service roads 23 and 25 perpendicularly. The perimeter turns north between ranges 14 and 15 east, turning east on the north edge of section 19 of T20S R15E. It follows the BLM/private property boundary north running into the old Bend to Burns road. The perimeter then follows the old road east, continuing into the airstrip and finally Highway 20. At section 32 of T19S R 16E the perimeter follows the BLM/private property boundary north. The perimeter continues along the property boundaries in a generally northeasterly direction until it runs into and follows road #6522 northwest. It then turns north on the section line between 14 and 15 and 10 and 11 and turns west following the northern section lines of 10, 9, 8 and 7 of T19S R16E and section 12 of T19S R15E. The perimeter then turns north again following the section line between 1 and 2 of T19S R 15 E. At this point it follows the contour of West Butte until it runs into the southwest corner of the private property in section 18 of T18S R16E. The perimeter then goes north along the west section line of 7 and 6 to the middle of 6 where it follows the BLM/private property line east and north to the north section line of section 6. It turns north and goes through private property in the east quarter of section 31 in T17S R16E. It again follows the private property boundary east and north through sections 30 and 29. In section 29 it follows an existing road east and north until it meets SW Reservoir Road. The perimeter crosses SW Reservoir Road and follows road # 6555-B in a northwesterly direction until it runs into private property. It follows the private property line west and north to the north quarter of section 35, T16S R15E. Here, it turns west and runs into the high voltage transmission line with steel supports. It follows the transmission line south to the southern section line of section 21, T17S R15E. The perimeter follows section 21 west and continues west on Alfalfa Market

Road to the powerline supported by double wooden poles. The perimeter follows this powerline south to its intersection with the previously mentioned transmission line and again goes south following the steel tower transmission line to road #5620-B. The perimeter follows #5620-B until it intersects with #6521 and follows #6521 to the point of beginning.

SUMMARY: The BLM is required to restrict motorized use to designated trails within the Millican Valley OHV Trail System. In addition, there are seasonal restrictions on those portions of the trail system called North and South Millican. North Millican is considered that portion of the trail system between Highway 20 and Kitchen Hill and is closed to OHV's from December 1st through April 30th. South Millican is the area of the trail system south of Highway 20. It is closed to OHV's from December 1st through July 31st. These restrictions are necessary to comply with the federal consent judgment in *Central Oregon Forest Issues Committee, Oregon Natural Desert Association and Oregon Natural Resources Council v. James G. Kenna, Deschutes Area Manager, Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management, Civil Action No. 98-29-ST (D. OR.)* that was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Oregon on November 23, 1999.

This 1999 federal consent judgment resulted from the settlement of a lawsuit between the Oregon Forest Issues Committee and other environmental organizations who took BLM to federal court in 1998, regarding its environmental assessment/management plan for the Millican Valley OHV Trail System. In December 1999, the federal court requested BLM obtain public comments regarding the proposed federal court consent judgment.

Public comments were considered and reviewed by the federal court judge before the consent judgment was finalized. The Millican Valley OHV Trail System interim map was produced as a result.

DATES: This closure will take effect on the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. The closure will remain in effect until the BLM modifies or rescinds this order.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Deschutes Resource Area, 3050 NE. 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Sarah Schartz, OHV Coordinator, 3050 NE. 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. (541) 416-6865.

Discussion of Rules: The public lands affected by this proposed OHV restriction are all lands administered by the BLM within the Millican Valley OHV Trail System. Maps are available at entry points to the trail system as well as BLM and Forest Service offices in Central Oregon. In addition, maps are distributed to OHV dealerships around Central Oregon and they are available on the World Wide Web. Trails are numbered and signed on the ground, as are the seasonal closures.

For the purpose of this restriction "off-highway vehicle" is defined as any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) Any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies.

Prohibited Acts: Under 43 CFR 8360.0-7 The Bureau of Land Management will enforce the following rules within the Millican Valley OHV Trail System:

- a. Operation of an OHV off designated routes is prohibited, and
- b. Operation of an OHV within the North Millican portion of the Millican Valley OHV Trail System is prohibited from December 1st through April 30th, and
- c. Operation of an OHV within the South Millican portion of the Millican Valley OHV Trail System is prohibited from December 1st through July 31st.

Exemptions: This closure does not apply to persons who are exempt from these rules (including: Federal, State, or local officer or employee in the scope of his or her duties, members of any organized rescue or fire-fighting force in performance of an official duty, and any person authorized in writing by the Bureau of Land Management).

Penalties: The authorities for this closure are section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733(a) and 43 CFR 8360.0-7. Any person who violates this closure may be fined no more than \$1000 or imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Such violations may

also be subject to the higher fines provided for by 18 U.S.C. 3571.

Rachel A. Carver,

Acting, District Manager, Prineville District, Oregon, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 03-600 Filed 1-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-1310-01; NMNM 105874]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease NMNM 105874 for lands in Eddy County, New Mexico, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from March 1, 2002, the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective March 1, 2002, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lourdes B. Ortiz, BLM, New Mexico State Office, (505) 438-7586.

Dated: November 22, 2002.

Lourdes B. Ortiz,

Land Law Examiner.

[FR Doc. 03-593 Filed 1-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-1430-ET; NMNM 20]

Public Land Order No. 7550; Revocation of Public Land Order No. 4146; New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order revokes a public land order in its entirety as to 190.36 acres withdrawn to protect the Mexican Duck Habitat Development Project. The withdrawal is no longer needed. The lands will be opened to surface entry and mining.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 12, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanette Espinosa, BLM New Mexico State Office, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502, 505-438-7597.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Mexican Duck has been removed from the threatened and endangered species lists for both the State of New Mexico and the Federal Government. Therefore, the withdrawal is no longer needed.

Order

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Public Land Order No. 4146, which withdrew 190.36 acres to protect the Mexican Duck Habitat Development Project, is hereby revoked in its entirety as it affects the following described lands:

New Mexico Principal Meridian

T. 25 S., R. 21 W.,

Sec. 31, lots 3 and 4.

T. 26 S., R. 22 W.,

Sec. 1, lots 8 and 9, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 190.36 acres, in Hidalgo County.

2. At 10 a.m. on February 12, 2003, the lands will be opened to the operation of the public land laws generally, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law. All valid applications received at or prior to 10 a.m. on February 12, 2003, shall be considered as simultaneously filed at that time. Those received thereafter shall be considered in the order of filing.

3. At 10 a.m. on February 12, 2003, the lands will be opened to location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law. Appropriation of any of the lands included in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38 (1994), shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a

right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determination in local courts.

Dated: December 23, 2002.

Rebecca W. Watson,

Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 03-598 Filed 1-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau Of Land Management

[NV-930-1430-FM; N-74701]

Esmeralda County, Nevada; Notice of Realty Action: Termination of Segregation; Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Notice of termination of segregation.

SUMMARY: This notice terminates the segregative effect on land known as the Chiatovich Land Exchange and opens the land to operation under the public land laws and the mining laws.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 12, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to: Bureau of Land Management, William S. Fisher, Assistant Field Manager, Tonopah Field Station, Post Office Box 911, Tonopah, NV 89049-0911.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wendy Barlow, Realty Specialist, at the above address or telephone (775) 482-7806.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the authority delegated by appendix 1 of Bureau of Land Management Manual 1203 dated November 25, 1998, that portion identified below as being part of the Chiatovich Exchange is hereby terminated in its entirety:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

Silver Peak

T. 2 S., R. 39 E.,

Sec. 15, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 21, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 22, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, (portion of)

NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, (portion of)

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,

E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.