

north of Gillette, Wyoming, applied to lease the tract as a maintenance tract to extend the life of their existing mining operations under the provisions of the Leasing on Application regulations at 43 CFR 3425. This tract, case number WYW151634, is referred to as the West Hay Creek Coal tract.

On November 5, 2001, BLM received a request from Triton to modify the West Hay Creek Coal tract. The following lands in Campbell County, Wyoming are included in the tract as currently filed:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming

T. 52 N., R. 72 W.

Sec. 17, lot:

5(S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ )—10.265 acres

6(S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ )—10.265 acres

7(S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ )—10.3475 acres

8(S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ )—10.3475 acres

9—41.32 acres

10—41.32 acres

11—41.12 acres

12—41.12 acres

13—41.18 acres

14—41.18 acres

Sec. 18, lot:

13(E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—21.035 acres

20(E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—20.75 acres

Sec. 19, lot:

5(E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—20.71 acres

12(E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—20.84 acres

13(E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—20.935 acres

20(E $\frac{1}{2}$ ) 21.065 acres

Sec. 20, lot:

2(W $\frac{1}{2}$ ,W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ) 31.1175 acres

3—41.39 acres

4—41.28 acres

5—41.30 acres

6—41.41 acres

7(W $\frac{1}{2}$ ,W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—31.1325 acres

10(W $\frac{1}{2}$ ,W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ )—31.1475 acres

11—41.42 acres

12—41.32 acres

13—41.34 acres

14—41.44 acres

Total Acres: 838.0975

The tract as currently filed includes an estimated 130 million tons of in-place coal.

The Buckskin Mine is adjacent to the lease application area and has an approved mining and reclamation plan from the Land Quality Division of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Mine has an approved air quality permit from the Air Quality Division of the Wyoming DEQ to mine up to 27.5 million tons of coal per year.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the DEIS. If the tract is leased as a maintenance tract, the new lease will be incorporated into the existing mining and reclamation plan for the adjacent mine. The Secretary of the Interior must approve the revision to the MLA (Mineral Leasing Act) mining plan

before the Federal coal can be mined. If the tract is leased, OSM is the Federal agency that would be responsible for recommending approval, approval with conditions, or disapproval of the revised MLA mining plan to the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

The DEIS analyzes leasing the tract as applied for as described above as a separate Proposed Action. As part of the coal leasing process, BLM has identified and is evaluating other tract configurations which add, or subtract, Federal coal to avoid bypassing coal or to prompt competitive interest in the unleased Federal coal in this area. The tract configuration that BLM has identified is described and analyzed as a separate alternative in the DEIS. The DEIS also analyzes the alternative of rejecting the application to lease Federal coal as the No Action Alternative. The other two alternatives evaluate alternate tract configurations considered by BLM. Under these alternatives, a competitive sale would be held and a lease issued for Federal coal lands included in a tract modified by the BLM.

The Proposed Action and Alternatives being considered in the DEIS are in conformance with the "Approved Resource Management Plan for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management Buffalo Field Office" (April 2001), the USDA Forest Service "Final EIS for the Northern Great Plains Management Plans Revision" (May 2001) and the BLM "Platte River Resource Area Resource Management Plan" (1985).

Dated: January 17, 2003.

**Alan L. Kesterke,**

*Associate State Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-110-6332-DQ; HAG-02-0284]

#### **Notice of Availability of the Proposed Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the 27-Mile Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River (From the Mouth of the Applegate River to Grave Creek)**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Medford District Office, Grants Pass Resource Area.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with section 202 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, a Recreation

Area Management Plan and FEIS have been completed for a portion of the Medford District. The FEIS describes and analyzes future options for managing the 27-mile section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River (from the mouth of the Applegate River to Grave Creek) in southern Josephine County, Oregon.

The Rogue River was one of eight rivers identified as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System when the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed in 1968. Designated rivers are classified as wild, scenic, or recreational. The 27-mile stretch of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Hellgate Recreation Area from the confluence of the Applegate River to Grave Creek was classified as a recreational river.

The need for action is based on BLM visitor use reports that show increases in water-based visitor use activities, a recreation use study, and public scoping efforts, which identified visitor use conflicts, particularly between jet boaters and floaters during the summer months and between jet boaters and anglers during the fall fishing season. The purpose of the action is to: (1) Replace the 1978 Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Activity Plan for the Hellgate Recreation Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, (2) provide management direction and guidance on the management of the Hellgate section pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Public Law 90-542, October 2, 1968), (3) conform with management direction contained in the 1995 Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, and (4) maintain a mix of river recreation uses and users common to the river since its designation in 1968 as a National Wild and Scenic river.

The FEIS analyzes five alternatives ranging from fewer watercraft and less visitor use to maximum watercraft and visitor use. The Proposed Action (Alternative E) manages the level of recreational use while protecting the environment and the outstandingly remarkable values. The Proposed Action minimizes potential impacts to the fisheries resource and increases fishing opportunities. The Proposed Action also maximizes floating opportunities. Except for commercial motorized tour boats, commercial motorized angling boats, and special boating events, overall recreational use levels would be unregulated and continue to increase until the use limit is reached. The number of permits for commercial motorized tour boats, commercial motorized angling boats, and special boating events is unchanged from the

current level, however, limited changes are recommended to reduce visitor use conflicts.

**DATES:** Release of the FEIS initiates a 30-day review period.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Chris Dent, Rogue River Manager, Grants Pass Resource Area, Bureau of Land Management, Medford District Office, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504. Individual copies of the FEIS may be obtained by contacting the Planning Team Leader, Cori Cooper, at (541) 618-2428.

Comments, including names and addresses, will be available for public review. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/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.

Dated: November 13, 2002.

**Lynda L. Boody,**

*Acting, District Manager, BLM Medford District Office.*

[FR Doc. 03-5302 Filed 3-20-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

[CA-668-03-1610-DP]

#### Notice of Availability of Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior and Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument draft resource management plan and draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning regulations, title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1610.2(f)(3) and title 40 CFR 1502.9(a), the BLM and Forest Service (FS) hereby gives notice that the Draft Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan, and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is available for public review and

comment. The 272,000 acre Monument encompasses 86,400 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands, 64,400 acres of Forest Service lands, 23,000 acres of Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians lands, 8,500 acres of California Department of Parks and Recreation lands, 35,800 acres of other State of California agencies lands, and 53,900 acres of private land.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS will be accepted for 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. Future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be mailed to Danella George, Monument Manager, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, P.O. Box 581260, 690 W. Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, CA 92258. You may also comment via the Internet to [ca\\_srsj\\_nm@ca.blm.gov](mailto:ca_srsj_nm@ca.blm.gov). Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include in the subject line: "National Monument Management Plan and EIS" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact Connell Dunning at (760) 251-4817. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the address listed above. Oral comments will be accepted and recorded at any of three public meetings to be held during the month of March or April, 2003. Please contact Connell Dunning at (760) 251-4817 or [cdunning@ca.blm.gov](mailto:cdunning@ca.blm.gov) for further information as to exact dates, place and time. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of

organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Connell Dunning at (760) 251-4817 or [cdunning@ca.blm.gov](mailto:cdunning@ca.blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A copy of the Draft Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan, and Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for review via the internet at <http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings>. Electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper copies may also be obtained by contacting Connell Dunning at the aforementioned addresses and phone number. This draft Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan is being developed cooperatively between BLM and FS. The draft plan includes strategies for protecting and preserving the biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, scientific, and scenic values that the Monument was established to protect. The preferred alternative supports the protection and preservation of the above values and includes efforts to achieve consistency between Forest Service and BLM as well as with other land managing agencies within the boundary of the Monument. The range of alternatives in this draft plan does not reevaluate planning decisions recently brought forward through the BLM Coachella Valley California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment or items being addressed through the Forest Service San Bernardino National Forest Plan Revision. Records of Decision will be prepared by the BLM and FS for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan in accordance with planning regulations at 43 CFR 1610 and NEPA. The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument was established by Pub. L. 106-351 and will be cooperatively managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 affects only Federal lands and Federal interests located within the established boundaries. The BLM and the Forest Service will jointly manage Federal lands in the National Monument in coordination with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, other Federal agencies, State agencies and local governments.