

availability and development of construction mineral materials; and land ownership (land tenure) pattern. The primary issues driving alternative development are: mineral development; visitor health and safety; recreation management; wildlife habitat; open space; land use authorizations; and land tenure adjustment.

Six alternatives were analyzed in detail:

1. Alternative A, Continuation of Existing Management Direction or the "No Action" Alternative;
2. Alternative B, Reduced Land Use Restrictions with Higher Levels of Mineral Development and Recreation;
3. Alternative C, Continuation of Existing Management Direction with Reduced Motor Vehicle Access, Increased Wildlife Habitat Protection and Solitude Opportunities, and Possible Consolidation of Public Land Parcels;
4. Alternative D, Disposal of Lands Currently Administered by the BLM;
5. Alternative E, Limited Disposal or Exchange of Lands Currently Administered by the BLM, and
6. Proposed Plan, Transfer of Public Land Parcels To Another Federal Land Management Agency or Disposal of Public Land to Other Governmental Entities With Conveyance Contingent on Continuation of RMP Management Direction.

Background information and maps used in developing the final RMP EIS are available for public viewing at the Pinedale Field Office.

If adopted, this proposed RMP does not authorize any land uses or site-disturbing activities. Decisions regarding these site-specific implementation activities are subject to further NEPA analysis and appeal, as provided by applicable regulations.

Protest Instructions: Publication of this EIS prepared for a RMP affords the public the opportunity to protest. Instructions for filing a protest with the Director of the BLM regarding the State Director's proposed Snake River RMP may be found at 43 CFR 1610.5. Any person who participated in the planning process, has an interest, or may be adversely affected by the approval of the proposed RMP, may protest such approval. The protest must be in writing and must be filed with the Director. The protest must be filed within 30 days from the date the EPA publishes its NOA in the **Federal Register**. The protest must contain:

- i. The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest;
- ii. A statement of the issue or issues being protested;

iii. A statement of the part, or parts, of the plan or amendment being protested;

iv. A copy of all documents addressing the issue, or issues, that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party or an indication of the date the issue, or issues, were discussed for the record; and

v. A concise statement explaining why the State Director's decision is believed to be wrong.

E-mail and faxed protests will not be accepted as valid protests unless the protesting party also provides the original letter by either regular or overnight mail postmarked by the close of the protest period. Under these conditions, BLM will consider the e-mail or faxed protest as an advance copy and it will receive full consideration. If you wish to provide BLM with such advance notification, please direct faxed protests to the attention of the BLM protest coordinator at 202-452-5112, and e-mails to Brenda_Hudgens-Williams@blm.gov

The Director will respond to protests. The response will be in writing and will be sent to the protesting party by certified mail, return receipt requested. The decision of the Director will be the final decision for the Department of the Interior.

Protest Filing Addresses: Protests submitted electronically will not be accepted. File written protests by Surface Mail: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Director (210), Attn: Ms. Brenda Williams, Protest Coordinator, P.O. Box 66538, Washington DC 20035 or overnight (WO-210), 1620 L Street, NW., Room 1075, Washington, DC 20036.

Alan Kesterke,

Associate State Director.

[FR Doc. 03-24154 Filed 9-25-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-010-1220-AD]

Notice of Closure of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Billings Field Office, Montana State Office.

ACTION: "Notice of Extension of Emergency Closure of Firearms Target Shooting for One Year on Certain Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Yellowstone County, Montana."

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain areas are closed to firearms target shooting from October 1st, 2003 to September 30th, 2004, to protect public safety and natural resources. The closed areas are Shepherd Ah-Nei, 21-Mile, and Acton Ah-Nei areas and are legally described as:

That area of public lands commonly referred to the "Shepherd Area," or "Shepherd Ah Nei" located at:

T 4 N, R 27 E,

Sec. 24, NE¹/₄, S¹/₂;

Sec. 25, all.

Sec. 36, all.

T 3 N, R 27 E,

Sec. 1, all.

T 4 N, R 28 E,

Sec. 19, all.

Sec. 20, W¹/₂.

Sec. 30, Lots 1, 2, N¹/₂NE¹/₄.

Sec. 31, all

T 3 N, R 28 E,

Sec. 6, Lots 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, E¹/₂,

Principal Montana Meridian, and That area of public lands commonly referred to the "21-Mile Area" located north of Billings and west of the Roundup Road, Highway 87 North and the 21 Mile Road at:

T 4 N, R 25 E,

Sec. 24, all. Principal Montana Meridian, and

That area of public lands commonly referred to as the "Acton Area" or "Acton Ah-Nei" located east of Broadview, Montana at:

T 4 N, R 25 E,

Sec. 31, E¹/₂.

T 3 N, R 25 E,

Sec. 5, all.

Sec. 6, Lots 1, 2, S¹/₂, NE¹/₄;

Sec. 7, Lots 1, 2, E¹/₂ NW¹/₄, E¹/₂ SW¹/₄, E¹/₂;

Sec. 8, all.

Sec. 9, all.

Sec. 17, all.

Sec. 20, N¹/₂ N¹/₂. Principal Montana Meridian, all in Yellowstone County, in the State of Montana.

Closure signs will be posted at the major entry points to this area. Maps of the closure and information may be obtained from the Billings Field Office.

DATES: This Closure will be in effect from October 1st, 2003 to September 30, 2004, unless superceded by permanent rulemaking action.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandra S. Brooks, Field Manager, BLM, Billings Field Office, P.O. Box 36800, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 50107-6800 or call 406-896-5013.

Discussion of the Emergency Closure:

This extension of the emergency closure is necessary for the management of actions, activities, and public use on certain public lands which may have, or are having, adverse impacts on persons using public lands, on property, and on resources located on public lands until permanent management action can be taken. The Billings Field Office, in conjunction with the Resource Advisory

Committee will host a working group of interested members of the public to resolve the issues of resource damage and conflicts with other users.

While hikers, horseback riders, mountain bicyclists and other users can schedule their use around published hunting seasons for safety reasons; they are not able to avoid random target shooting. Local conditions including heavy timber and rough terrain reduce visibility and increase the hazard to other users from target shooters. As a result recent incidents involving random target shooting have resulted in endangerment and injury to other users. In addition, resource damage is occurring from the accumulation of debris from target materials. To reduce the incidence of future conflicts, three areas of public land known as the Acton Area, 21-Mile Area, and Shepherd Ah-Nei, located north of Billings, Montana are being closed to target shooting with firearms. These areas will remain open to hunting by licensed hunters during seasons administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

This Emergency Closure does not apply to other lands, specifically the "17-Mile" area located west of Highway 87, north of Billings, Montana, on the Crooked Creek Road.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the authority of 43 CFR 9268.3 (d)(1)(i) and 43 CFR 8364.1(a) the Bureau of Land Management will enforce the following Emergency Closure on public lands within the closed area.

Emergency Closure

1.0 Emergency Closure of Certain Public Lands to Target Shooting.

The following is prohibited:

The discharge of firearms for the purpose of target shooting.

(2.0) Exceptions:

(a) This regulation does not apply to the hunting of lawful game by licensed hunters during seasons administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

(b) This regulation does not apply to archery marksmanship at fixed targets affixed to a backstop sufficient to stop and hold target or broad-head arrows or the use of compressed gas paintball projectors.

(c) This regulation does not apply to special target shooting events, which may be authorized by the authorized officer under special permit.

Penalties: The authority for this closure is found under section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733 (a) and 43 CFR 9268.3(e)(2), 43 CFR 8360.0-7, and 43 CFR 8365.1-6). Violations of this regulation are

punishable by a fine in accordance with the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (18 U.S.C. 3551 *et seq.*), and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months for each offense.

Dated: September 18, 2003.

Sandra S. Brooks,

Field Office Manager, Billings Field Office.

[FR Doc. 03-24340 Filed 9-25-03; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1020 (Final)]

Barium Carbonate From China

Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject investigation, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1673d(b)) (the Act), that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from China of barium carbonate, provided for in subheading 2836.60.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that have been found by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).

Background

The Commission instituted this investigation effective September 30, 2002, following receipt of a petition filed with the Commission and Commerce by Chemical Products Corporation, Cartersville, GA. The final phase of the investigation was scheduled by the Commission following notification of a preliminary determination by Commerce that imports of barium carbonate from China were being sold at LTFV within the meaning of section 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b(b)). Notice of the scheduling of the final phase of the Commission's investigation and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of April 16, 2003 (68 FR 18670). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on July 31, 2003, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.2(f)).

The Commission transmitted its determination in this investigation to the Secretary of Commerce on September 19, 2003. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3631 (September 2003) entitled *Barium Carbonate from China: Investigation No. 731-TA-1020 (Final)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: September 22, 2003.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-24338 Filed 9-25-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1023 (Final)]

Certain Ceramic Station Post Insulators from Japan

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Revised schedule for the subject investigation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 17, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Cutchin (202-205-3396), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <http://edis.usitc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 21, 2003, the Commission established a schedule for the conduct of the final phase of the subject investigation (68 FR 43162). The Commission is changing its hearing date and subsequently revising its schedule.

The Commission's new schedule for the investigation is as follows: Requests to appear at the hearing must be filed with the Secretary to the Commission not later than October 20, 2003; the prehearing conference will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building at 9:30 a.m. on October 23, 2003; the prehearing staff report will be placed in the nonpublic record on October 15, 2003; the deadline for filing prehearing briefs is