

(Critical, Full, Limited, and Modified) are identified in the plan. The four management options offer land managers a choice of the full range of suppression alternatives. Aggressive initial attack to surveillance to be implemented by the suppression organizations are options that have been included. BLM-managed lands in Alaska have designated management options. However, wildland fire management encompasses more than suppression actions. A spectrum of fire and fuels management activities to achieve ecosystem sustainability, accomplish resource-related objectives and protect communities or public safety are available. Current Federal fire policy states that land use plans will define and identify overall wildland fire and fuel management direction to meet land use and resource management objectives.

The proposed plan amendment and planning process would improve wildland fire management on BLM-managed lands in Alaska and more adequately integrate fire management direction with resource objectives by: (1) Reviewing management option designations and documenting related resource objectives and criteria to evaluate changing those designations (2) establishing broad objectives for wildland fire and fuels management, (3) identifying general guidelines for fuel treatments, and (4) identifying general restrictions for fire management practices. Anticipated issues for the plan amendments include: protection of human life, protection of property, protection of natural and cultural resources, integration of fire and resource management, and wildlife habitat. The interdisciplinary planning team will be comprised of resource specialists with the expertise necessary to address these issues.

The planning process will allow the public, Native organizations, State and Federal agencies, local elected officials, and BLM subject matter specialists to participate in scoping and alternative development and analysis. Public scoping to identify specific issues to be addressed in the plan will be an early opportunity for the public to provide input. Subsequent opportunities for public involvement will occur at specific stages in the planning process. Agency representatives and interested persons are invited to contact Alaska Fire Service officials at any time during the EA process.

Dated: August 19, 2003.

Henri Bisson,

Alaska State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-260-09-1060-00-24 1A]

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces that the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will conduct a meeting on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet Monday, November 3, 2003, from 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., local time, and on Tuesday, November 4, 2003, from 8 a.m., to 3 p.m., local time.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board will meet at the Capital Hilton, 1001 16th St. NW., Washington, DC 20036, (202) 393-1000.

Written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, National Wild Horse and Burro Program, NV-960, Attention: Ramona DeLorme, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada, 89520. Submit written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting no later than close of business October 29, 2003. *See* **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access and filing address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Neal, Wild Horse and Burro Public Outreach Specialist, (775) 861-6583.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may reach *Ms. Neal* at any time by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Meeting

Under the authority of 43 CFR part 1784, the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board advises the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the BLM, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Chief, Forest Service, on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands. The tentative agenda for the meeting is:

Monday, November 3, 2003 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

8 a.m.: Call to Order & Introductions:
8:15 a.m.: Old Business:
FY 03 Program Update
FY 04 Gather Strategy
Herd Areas at AML
9:30 a.m.: Break
9:45 a.m.: Old Business (continued):
12:30 p.m.: Lunch
1:30 p.m.: Old Business (continued):
Fertility Control Research
2:30 p.m.: Break
2:45 p.m.: New Business
Action Sub-Committee Report on
Adoption Program
4 p.m.: Public Comments
4:45 p.m.: Recap/Summary
5-6 p.m. Adjourn: Roundtable
Discussion

Tuesday, November 4, 2003 (8 a.m.-3 p.m.)

8 a.m.: New Business (continued):
Further Board Discussion on Sub-
Committee Report
9:45 a.m.—10 a.m.: Break
New Business (continued):
12 p.m.: Lunch
1 p.m.: Board Recommendations
2:30 p.m.: Next Meeting/Date/Site
3 p.m.: Adjourn

The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability needing an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting, such as interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format, must notify the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although the BLM will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it.

The Federal advisory committee management regulations [41 CFR 101-6.1015(b),] require BLM to publish in the **Federal Register** notice of a meeting 15 days prior to the meeting date.

II. Public Comment Procedures

Members of the public may make oral statements to the Advisory Board on November 3, 2003, at the appropriate point in the agenda. This opportunity is anticipated to occur at 4 p.m., local time. Persons wishing to make statements should register with the BLM by noon November 3, 2003, at the meeting location. Depending on the number of speakers, the Advisory Board may limit the length of presentations. At previous meetings, presentations have been limited to three minutes in length. Speakers should address the specific

wild horse and burro-related topics listed on the agenda. Speakers must submit a written copy of their statement to the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section or bring a written copy to the meeting.

Participation in the Advisory Board meeting is not a prerequisite for submission of written comments. The BLM invites written comments from all interested parties. Your written comments should be specific and explain the reason for any recommendation. The BLM appreciates any and all comments, but those most useful and likely to influence decisions on management and protection of wild horses and burros are those that are either supported by quantitative information or studies, or those that include citations to and analysis of applicable laws and regulations. Except for comments provided in electronic format, speakers should submit two copies of their written comments where feasible. The BLM will not necessarily consider comments received after the time indicated under the **DATES** section or at locations other than that listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

In the event there is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for a copy of your comments, the BLM will make them available in their entirety, including your name and address. However, if you do not want the BLM to release your name and address in response to a FOIA request, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. The BLM will honor your request to the extent allowed by law. The BLM will release all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, in their entirety, including names and addresses.

Electronic Access and Filing Address

Speakers may transmit comments electronically via the Internet to: Janet_Neal@blm.gov. Please include the identifier "WH&B" in the subject of your message and your name and address in the body of your message.

Dated: October 8, 2003.

James G. Kenne,

Acting Deputy Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Eastern Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Oil and Gas Lease Sale 189

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Final Notice of Sale (FNOS) 189.

SUMMARY: On December 10, 2003, MMS will open and publicly announce bids received for blocks offered in Eastern GOM Oil and Gas Lease Sale 189, pursuant to the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, as amended) and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR part 256).

The Final Notice of Sale 189 Package (FNOS 189 Package) contains information essential to bidders, and bidders are charged with the knowledge of the documents contained in the Package.

DATES: Public bid reading will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, December 10, 2003, in the Grand Ballroom of the Royal Sonesta Hotel, 300 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. All times referred to in this document are local New Orleans times, unless otherwise specified.

ADDRESSES: Bidders can obtain a FNOS 189 Package containing this Notice of Sale and several supporting and essential documents referenced herein from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Unit, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736-2519 or (800) 200-GULF.

Filing of Bids: Bidders must submit sealed bids to the Regional Director (RD), MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on normal working days, and from 8 a.m. to the Bid Submission Deadline of 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2003. If bids are mailed, please address the envelope containing all of the sealed bids as follows:

Attention: Mr. John L. Rodi, MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, Contains Sealed Bids for Sale 189.

If the RD receives bids later than the time and date specified above, he will return those bids unopened to bidders. Bidders may not modify or withdraw their bids unless the RD receives a written modification or written withdrawal request prior to 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2003. Should an unexpected event such as flooding or travel restrictions be significantly disruptive to bid submission, the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region may extend the Bid Submission Deadline. Bidders may

call (504) 736-0557 for information about the possible extension of the Bid Submission Deadline due to such an event.

Areas Offered for Leasing: The MMS is offering for leasing all of the unleased whole blocks located within the portion of the Eastern GOM Planning Area that is west of 87 degrees 30 minutes West Longitude and which range from 100 to 196 miles south of Alabama, and from about 70 to 148 miles offshore Louisiana. Please see the map included in the final NOS 189 Package: "Lease Terms, Economic Conditions, and Stipulations, Sale 189, Final." All of these blocks are shown on the following Official Protraction Diagrams (which may be purchased from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Unit):

Outer Continental Shelf Official Protraction Diagrams (These diagrams sell for \$2.00 each)

NG16-02 Lloyd Ridge (revised November 1, 2000)

Please Note: ACD-NH16-11 De Soto Canyon (revised November 1, 2000)

Please Note: A CD-ROM (in ARC/INFO and Acrobat (.pdf) format) containing all of the GOM Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams, except for those not yet converted to digital format, is available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Unit for a price of \$15.00. For additional information, please call Mr. Charles Hill (504) 736-2795.

All blocks are shown on these Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams. The available Federal acreage of all blocks in this sale is shown in the document "List of Blocks Available for Leasing in Sale 189" included in the FNOS 189 Package.

Areas Not Available for Leasing: The following whole blocks located within the sale area are currently leased and are therefore not available for bid in this sale:

De Soto Canyon Blocks 133-137, 177, 179-182, 223-226, 267-270, 309, 311, 314, 354, 401, 402, 443, 445-447, 485, 488-491, 529, 530, 534, 535, 573, 574, 576, 577, 617-624, 664-666, 668, 709, 710, 793, 794, 796, 798, 837, 838, 840, 842, 843, 883, 887, 927, 929, 932, 970, 971, 975, 976

Lloyd Ridge Blocks 1, 2, 5-7, 45-52, 91, 94-96, 133-137, 139, 140, 177, 183, 221, 265, 267, 268, 309, 315, 316, 354, 355, 359, 360, 399-402, 443-446

Statutes and Regulations: Each lease issued in this sale is subject to the OCS Lands Act of August 7, 1953, 67 Stat. 462; 43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq., as amended (92 Stat. 629), hereinafter called "the Act"; all regulations issued pursuant to