

environmentally sensitive land, available for oil and gas leasing. Alternative A makes 100 percent available for oil and gas leasing, Alternative B makes 96 percent available, and Alternative C makes 47 percent available. Stipulations would provide protection for natural and cultural resources under all alternatives, but their nature, number and scope varies between the alternatives.

Authority for developing this document is derived from the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Henri R. Bisson,
State Director, Alaska.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-027-1610-PG; G-04-0036]

Notice of Public Meetings, Steens Mountain Advisory Council

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Burns District Office.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings for the Steens Mountain Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Steens Act), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) will meet as indicated below:

DATES: The SMAC will meet at the BLM, Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, on February 17, 18 and 19; April 12 and 13, 2004; June 14 and 15, 2004; August 9 and 10, 2004; and November 15 and 16, 2004. A meeting in Bend, Oregon, (location to be determined) will be held on May 10 and 11, 2004 and one in Frenchglen, Oregon, on September 13 and 14, 2004. All meeting sessions will begin at 8 a.m., local time, and will end at approximately 4:30 p.m., local time.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SMAC was appointed by the Secretary of Interior on August 14, 2001 pursuant to the Steens Act and re-chartered in August 2003. The SMAC's purpose is to provide representative counsel and advice to the BLM regarding (1) new

and unique approaches to management of the land within the bounds of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA), (2) cooperative programs and incentives for landscape management that meet human needs, maintain and improve the ecological and economic integrity of the area and (3) preparation and implementation of a management plan for the CMPA.

Topics to be discussed by the SMAC at these meetings include categories such as transportation, recreation/public use, wildlife, special designated areas, partnerships/programs, cultural resources, watersheds, projects, education, volunteer-based information, adaptive management, planning process (Andrews Management Unit/Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement), science committee/consultants, socioeconomic, and other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC.

All meetings are open to the public in their entirety. Information to be distributed to the SMAC is requested at least 10 days prior to the start of each SMAC meeting. Public comment is generally scheduled for 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., local time, both days of each meeting session. The amount of time scheduled for public presentations and meeting times may be extended when the authorized representative considers it necessary to accommodate all who seek to be heard regarding matters on the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information concerning the SMAC may be obtained from Rhonda Karges, Management Support Specialist, Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4400 or Rhonda_Karges@or.blm.gov or from the following Web site: <http://www.or.blm.gov/Steens>.

Dated: November 24, 2003.

Karla Bird,

Andrews Resource Area Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-29896 Filed 12-1-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of new information collection survey.

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to conduct a new survey on Potential Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Activities on Bowhead Whale Hunting Activities in the Beaufort Sea. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

DATES: Submit written comments by January 2, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments either by fax (202) 395-6566 or email (OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov) directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-NEW). Mail or hand carry a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. If you wish to e-mail your comments to MMS, the address is: rules.comments@mms.gov. Reference Information Collection 1010-NEW in your subject line and mark your message for return receipt. Include your name and return address in your message text.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Arlene Bajusz, Rules Processing Team, at (703) 787-1600, to obtain a copy of the survey instruments. For more information on the survey itself, contact Dr. Dee Williams in the MMS Alaska Regional Office, at (907) 271-6680.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Survey Instruments—Quantitative Description of Potential Impacts of OCS Activities on Bowhead Whale Hunting Activities in the Beaufort Sea.

OMB Control Number: 1010-NEW.

Abstract: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) of the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI) is responsible for oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) under the OCS Lands Act of 1953, the OCS Lands Act Amendments of 1978 (OCSLA), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. OCSLA (Section 18) and NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) require assessment of the effects of OCS oil and gas activities on adjacent human and physical environments. Therefore, USDOI/MMS acquires and analyzes and/or oversees collection and analysis of environmental, socio-economic, and