

Idaho 83709, 208–373–3867, or Steve Robison, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401, 208–236–7573.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Notice of Proposed Withdrawal was published in the **Federal Register** on May 23, 2003, (68 FR 28251–28252). Notice is hereby given that three public meetings as provided for by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714, (2000) will be held at the dates and times specified above.

All persons who wish to submit comments in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views in writing at the public meeting or to the Idaho State Director of the Bureau of Land Management at the address above within 30 days after the public meetings. A complete legal description is available from the Idaho State Office at the address shown above or at the Caribou-Targhee National Forest office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401. Public scoping, as part of the environmental analysis process required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, will be conducted concurrently at the meetings.

The withdrawal will continue to be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4.

Jimmie Buxton,
Branch Chief for Lands and Minerals.
[FR Doc. 04–5096 Filed 3–5–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA–680–04–1430–ES; CACA–13189]

Termination of a Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Classification and an Order Providing for Opening of Land; California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Order.

SUMMARY: This order terminates a BLM R&PP classification affecting 240 acres of public land near Lucerne Valley, California. Termination of the classification will open the land to the public land laws generally, including the mining laws. The land has been and remains open to mineral leasing.

DATES: The termination/opening order is effective April 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Barstow Field Office, 2601

Barstow Road, Barstow, California 92311.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Richard Rotte, Realty Specialist, at the address above or by telephone at (760) 252–6026.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The land is described as follows:

San Bernardino Meridian, California

T. 4 N., R. 2 E.,
Sec. 18: E½SE¼;
Sec. 22: NE¼;

The area described contains 240 acres in San Bernardino County, California.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by the R&PP Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*), it is ordered as follows:

1. Pursuant to the regulations in 43 CFR 2091.7–1(b)(1) and the authority delegated by BLM Manual Section 1203 (43 FR 85), the classification decision of July 15, 1983, which classified 280 acres of public land as suitable for recreation and public purposes under the Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*), under Serial Number CACA13189, that 240 acre portion which was not patented is hereby revoked.

2. At 8 a.m. on April 7, 2004, the land 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 application received at or prior to 8 am on April 7, 2004, shall be considered as simultaneous filed at that time. Those received thereafter shall be considered in the order of filing.

3. At 8 a.m. on April 7, 2004, the land 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 land described in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. State law governs acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession where not in conflict with Federal law. BLM will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

Dated: January 12, 2004.

Harold E. Johnson,

Acting Field Manager, Barstow Field Office.

[FR Doc. 04–5095 Filed 3–5–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID–076–1220–BA]

Notice of Closure to Off-Highway Vehicle Use in the Bennett Hills

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice to the public of closure on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Shoshone Field Office, Idaho.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the issuance of an emergency motorized closure in the Bennett Hills. Certain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Shoshone Field Office are closed to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use and over-the-snow vehicles, with the exception of designated routes. A description of the closed area is provided below. The closure will remain in effect until such time as the authorized officer of the Shoshone Field Office determines the closure may be lifted, after the snowmelts in the spring and designated roads are dry. The closure is in accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The BLM Shoshone Field Office, 400 West F. Street, Shoshone, ID 83352, telephone: (208) 732–7200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An emergency motorized closure has gone into effect in the Bennett Hills. The motorized closure area consists of all BLM administered land within King Hill creek on the west, below 5,000 feet elevation on the north, Highway 93 on the east, and Highway 26 on the south. Designated routes that remain are identified on a detailed map available at the Shoshone Field Office. The BLM Shoshone Field Office coordinated with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to identify crucial big game winter range that is now closed to motorized travel. Due to the harsh winter and deep snow pack, big game are congregating on historic winter range areas and experiencing additional stress. Throughout the Bennett Hills, motorized travel, including snowmobiles, is restricted to designated routes and county roads which enable motorized access to higher elevation areas, above 5,000 feet. These upper elevation areas are typically not used by big game animals in the winter and therefore can still be accessed and remain open to over-the-snow vehicles. The BLM advises public land users to avoid wildlife if encountered in these open areas.