

maintenance of the Project under rules and regulations approved by the Secretary.

As of August of 2002, there were 134,788 total acres in the project; 127,535 of which were assessed acres, with 7,252 designated as temporarily non-assessed acres. Approximately 10 percent of the project's irrigated lands are held in trust by the United States for the benefit of individual Indian landowners and for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribes. Trust land totals 11,771 acres, while land in fee status totals 115,764 acres. The primary source of the water for the Project originates from the Mission Mountains which border the east side of the reservation. Project facilities include 17 major storage reservoirs, 1,300 miles of canals and laterals and more than 10,000 structures. The project is divided into the Mission, Post, Pablo, Camas, and Jocko divisions. Primary irrigated crops are hay and alfalfa, grains, potatoes, canola, and some fruit orchards.

Currently, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Flathead Agency Superintendent is the Officer in Charge of the Project and administers activities through the Irrigation Systems Manager. The Irrigation Systems Manager supervises the operation and maintenance of the Project works.

Non-Indian irrigation interests are represented by three irrigation districts, the Flathead Irrigation District, the Mission Irrigation District, and the Jocko Valley Irrigation District. These Districts signed repayment contracts with the United States in 1928, 1931, and 1934 respectively, and are collectively represented by the Flathead Joint Board of Control (FJBC), which is chartered under state law and represents only owners of fee lands. Individual Indians and the tribes that irrigate lands held in trust by the United States are statutorily excluded from representation by the FJBC.

Repayment of Project construction conditions were fulfilled in early January 2004. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the tribes and the FJBC are developing proposed standard operating procedures for the Project and are proposing to contract the management of the Project under a Cooperating Management Entity, made up of representatives from the FJBC and the tribes with BIA providing oversight functions and maintaining its traditional role as trustee.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has been delegated the responsibility to serve as the Lead Agency for National Environmental Policy Act compliance in connection with the proposed

operations and maintenance of the Flathead Indian Irrigation project upon transfer. Issues to be addressed in the environmental analysis include, but are not limited to, irrigation and farming, rights-of-ways, treaty-protected fisheries, aquatic habitat, biological resources, wildlife habitat, and Indian traditional and cultural properties and resources.

Alternatives to the proposed operations and maintenance of the project to be examined in the EIS may include a variety of measures, such as various Project management control structures, certain operating and maintenance methods or procedures, system rehabilitation, and alternative water delivery regimes. The range of environmental issues and alternatives will be further developed based upon comments received during the scoping process.

Authority: This notice is published in accordance with section 1501.7, Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 1.6) and is within in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.1.

Dated: May 27, 2004.

David W. Anderson,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 04-12814 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ES-930-04-1310-MSES 047099]

Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease, Mississippi

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease, MSES 047099, Forrest County, Desoto N.F., Mississippi, was timely filed and accompanied by all required rentals and royalties. No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rental and royalties at rates of \$10 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent. Payment of \$500 in administrative fees and a \$155 publication fee has been made.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Ann Dickerson, Land Law Examiner, BLM Eastern States Office, 7450 Boston

Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia at (703) 440-1512.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective the date of termination, May 1, 2002, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above. This is in accordance with section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 199(d) and (e)).

Dated: April 14, 2004.

Michael D. Nedd,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 04-12754 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-010-1430-ES; NMMN 100202]

Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) Act Classification; New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of realty action.

SUMMARY: The following public lands in Sandoval County, New Mexico have been examined and found suitable for classification for patent to the Cuba Soil and Water Conservation District under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). The Cuba Soil and Water Conservation District proposes to use the lands for an outdoor classroom and administrative site.

New Mexico Principal Meridian

T. 20 N., R. 1 W., Sec. 5, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Containing 15.00 acres, more or less.

The lands are not needed for Federal purposes. Patent is consistent with current BLM land use planning and would be in the public interest.

The patent will be subject to the following terms, conditions and reservations:

1. Provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and all applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.

2. A right-of-way for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States.

3. All minerals shall be reserved to the United States, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals.

4. All valid existing rights documented on the official public land records at the time of patent issuance.

5. Any other reservations that the authorized officer determines appropriate to ensure public access and proper management of Federal lands and interests therein. Detailed information concerning this action is available for review at the office of the Bureau of Land Management, Albuquerque Field Office, 435 Montano NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107.

On June 7, 2004, the lands will be segregated from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for lease or conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws. Interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed lease or classification of the lands to the Field Manager, Albuquerque Field Office, 435 Montano NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107 until July 22, 2004.

Classification Comments: Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for an outdoor classroom and administrative site. Comments on the classification are restricted to whether the land is physically suited for the proposal, whether the use will maximize the future use or uses of the land, whether the use is consistent with local planning and zoning, or if the use is consistent with State and Federal programs.

Application Comments: Interested parties may submit comments regarding the specific use proposed in the application and plan of development, whether the BLM followed proper administrative procedures in reaching the decision, or any other factor not directly related to the suitability of the land for an outdoor classroom and administrative site.

Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director. In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification will become effective on August 6, 2004.

Edwin J. Singleton,
Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 04-12753 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-100-04-1990-00]

Temporary Travel Restriction Order, Moffat County, CO

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This order limits certain public lands to foot and horse back use in the areas surrounding the Union Cellular communications facility in Browns Park, Moffat County, Colorado. This order modifies the current Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) classification of "open" in this area. The restriction includes an emergency limitation that prohibits the use of any motorized or non-motorized wheeled vehicles within the identified area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Maps of the designated area will be available at the Little Snake Field Office, 455 Emerson Street, Craig, Colorado.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John E. Husband, Field Manager, Little Snake Field Office, 455 Emerson Street, Craig, Colorado 81625; Telephone (970) 826-5000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This order is issued under the authority of 43 CFR 8364.1 and 43 CFR 8341.2(a) as a temporary measure while the off-highway vehicle (OHV) management portion of the Little Snake Field Office Resource Management Plan is reviewed and modified as needed to address public issues, concerns and needs, as well as resource uses, development, impacts, and protection.

This order affects public lands in Moffat County, Colorado thus described:

(1) Public Lands within:

T.9N., R.101W., Sections 18 and 19;
T.9N., R.102W., Sections 13, 14, 23,
and 24;

Approximately: 582 acres of Public Lands

This restriction order shall be effective May 1, 2004, and shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the Authorized Officer.

Current OHV use designation for public land in the area is "open" and was established in the Little Snake Resource Area Management Plan, Record of Decision (ROD) 1989. Increased OHV use in this area and on a prominent mesa top overlook have exposed a significant cultural resource and a Bureau of Land Management Special Status Species, Duchesne Milkvetch (*Astragalus duchensensis*), Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, 1997, to unacceptable impacts.

The modification of the current OHV use designation is necessary to adequately protect natural resources and cultural resources on public land. This

modification is a temporary travel restriction that prohibits the use of motorized and non motorized vehicles in the designated area. These issues will be thoroughly addressed during Land Use Planning for this area to start in 2004.

The designated area affected by this order will be posted with appropriate regulatory signs. Persons who are exempt from the restriction contained in this notice include:

1. Any Federal, State, or local Officers engaged in fire, emergency, and law enforcement activities.

2. Persons or agencies holding a special use permit or right-of-way for access to maintain and operate authorized facilities within the restricted area, for purposes related to access for maintenance and operation of said authorized facilities, and provided such motorized use is limited to the routes specifically identified in the special use permit or right-of-way.

3. Grazing permittees holding a valid grazing permit for the restricted area will contact the Authorized Officer for emergency grazing situations with the exact location of the emergency. The Authorized Officer will issue verbal instructions as needed to avoid the areas of concern within the designated area. All verbal instructions will be followed by the grazing permittee. Sick or injured animal(s) and the recovery of the animal(s) will be completed with as little resource damage as possible. Further, grazing permittees will notify the Authorized Officer, within 10 working days, of such actions in a letter describing the location and reason for the action. BLM mitigative measures related to the plant community and/or cultural resource will be developed to address any damages caused by the emergency situation.

Penalties: Violations of this restriction order are punishable by fines as specified in 43 CFR 8360.0-7 not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months. Further, the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979 and amendments (16 U.S.C. 470) at 470ee and 470ff provide for prohibited acts, Criminal and Civil penalties, respectively.

Authority: 43 CFR 8364.1 and 43 CFR 8341.2(a).

Dated: April 16, 2004.

John E. Husband,
Field Manager, Little Snake Field Office.

[FR Doc. 04-12755 Filed 6-4-04; 8:45 am]

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