

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[NV-030-1232-PM-NV14; Closure Notice No. NV-030-07-001]

Sand Mountain Recreation Area, NV, Motorized Travel Restrictions**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Emergency Restriction on Motorized Use on Federal Lands, Churchill County, NV.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that motorized travel is restricted on 3,985 acres on certain public lands located in and adjacent to Sand Mountain Recreation Area, Churchill County, Nevada. These restrictions are necessary because motorized travel is adversely affecting wildlife and BLM finds that in order to prevent further adverse effects to the habitat of the Sand Mountain blue butterfly (*Euphilotes pallelescens arenamontana*) restricting motorized travel is required. These restrictions will remain in effect until such time as the Resource Management Plan has been updated to address the long-term management of the wildlife, cultural, vegetation and recreation resources in the area or until the Field Office Manager determines it is no longer needed. Resource damage has already taken place and the potential for additional adverse effects occurring as a result of unrestricted off-highway vehicle (OHV) use within this area is substantial and significant.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This restriction goes into effect immediately and will be verified upon publication in the **Federal Register**. It will remain in effect until the Manager, Carson City Field Office, determines it is no longer needed.

Authority: The authority for these restrictions is 43 CFR 8341.2, 8364.1, and 9268.3.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donald T. Hicks, Field Office Manager, Carson City Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, Nevada 89701. Telephone (775) 885-6000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Sand Mountain blue butterfly is known to occupy habitat only at Sand Mountain, Churchill County, Nevada, where it is completely dependent on its host plant, Kearney buckwheat (*Eriogonum nummularre*). Approximately 1,000 ac (405 ha) of dune shrub habitat remained in 2003, an estimated reduction of about 50 percent over the past 25 years. Moreover, much of this remaining habitat has been highly fragmented by over 200 miles (320 km) of OHV routes.

The public lands affected by this order are located east of Fallon, Nevada and North of U.S. Highway 50, in Churchill County, Nevada and include certain public lands within:

Mt. Diablo Meridian

T. 17 N., R. 32 E.
 Sec. 13, SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 14, S¹/₂S¹/₂;
 Sec. 16, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 20, SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 21, All;
 Sec. 22, N¹/₂, SW¹/₄;
 Sec. 23, N¹/₂, SW¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄;
 Sec. 24, W¹/₂NW¹/₄;
 Sec. 29, All;

And lands within Secs. 28, 32, and 33 of the Sand Mountain Recreation Area.

These lands are depicted on maps located in the Carson City Field Office and at maps posted at the Sand Mountain Recreation Area fee station and entrance area. Copies of these maps may be obtained from the Carson City Field Office. This restriction order applies to all forms of motorized vehicle use excluding (1) any emergency, law enforcement or other BLM vehicle while being used for emergency or administrative purposes, and (2) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized in writing by the Manager, Carson City Field Office.

Penalty: Any person who fails to comply with the restriction order may be subject to imprisonment for not more than 12 months or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571, or both.

Dated: December 12, 2006.

Donald T. Hicks,

Manager, Carson City Field Office.

[FR Doc. E7-4687 Filed 3-14-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[ID-310-1220-PA-241A]

Notice of Order Closing Public Lands to Human Entry, Idaho**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: To protect fragile, wintering mule deer, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is closing to human entry seasonally, during each of three consecutive years starting in 2007, certain public lands near the South Fork of the Snake River, east of Heise, Idaho. Also, BLM will be considering a permanent, seasonal closure to protect wintering mule deer herds.

DATES: The closure for the winter of 2007-2008 will take effect on December 1, 2007. Closures in 2008 and 2009 will take effect on December 1 of each year, respectively. Closures will end on April 30 of the following year, unless sooner terminated by the BLM authorized officer.

ADDRESSES: The address of the BLM Authorized Officer is: Field Manager, Upper Snake Field Office (USFO), 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Monica Zimmerman, BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner, (208) 524-7543; or Theresa Mathis, BLM Wildlife Biologist, (208) 524-7547.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: While monitoring the progress of wintering wildlife in February of 2006, field personnel of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), Region 6 office in Idaho Falls, became aware of an increase in mule deer fawn and adult mortality rates due to recent cold temperatures and increasing human disturbances. The IDFG, therefore, requested that BLM order the closure to human entry seasonally, during 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, of public lands in the Stinking Springs and Wolf Flat areas near the South Fork of the Snake River, east of Heise, Idaho. Closure dates are as stated above. The purpose of the closures is to prevent undue and unnecessary disturbance and harm to mule deer herds and other big game populations migrating to crucial winter range habitat. This initiative is being implemented in partnership with the IDFG Region 6 office. The pertinent BLM case file is available for public review in the USFO office at the address stated above. The authority for the requested closures is 43 CFR 8364.1(a), which states "to protect persons, property, and public lands and resources, the authorized officer may issue an order to close or restrict use of designated public lands." This notice identifies by legal land description the precise areas that are closed to human entry.

Subject to valid existing rights, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Stinking Springs

Effective immediately, BLM-administered public lands located in the Stinking Springs area north of the South Fork of the Snake River near Heise, Idaho, described below, are closed to human entry within the dates specified above in this notice. Excepted from this closure order are entries for administrative use by BLM and use by BLM permittees, IDFG Conservation