

Dated: April 10, 2007.

**Ken McDermond,**

Acting Manager, California/Nevada Operations, Sacramento, CA.

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[NM-120-06-1610-AL]

**Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Socorro Draft Resource Management Plan Revision and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DRMPR/DEIS), New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning regulations, the BLM hereby gives notice that the Socorro DRMPR/DEIS is available for public review and comment.

**DATES:** To ensure that they will be considered, BLM must receive written comments on the DRMPR/DEIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its NOA in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, local media, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be mailed to Socorro Field Office, Attention: Brian Bellew, 901 S. Highway 85, Socorro, New Mexico 87801. You

may also comment via e-mail at: [Brian\\_Bellew@nm.blm.gov](mailto:Brian_Bellew@nm.blm.gov); or by fax at (505) 835-0223. Comments that are e-mailed or faxed must include "Comments on Draft RMPR/DEIS" in the subject line. You may also hand deliver comments to the address listed above. A minimum of two public meetings will be held during the 90-day public review and comment period during which oral comments will be accepted and recorded. Exact dates, places, and times of public meetings will be posted on the New Mexico BLM web page (<http://www.nm.blm.gov>) and advertised in local media.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Bellew, Planning Team Leader, at the Socorro Field Office (see address above), telephone (505) 838-1273.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The planning area encompasses all lands, regardless of jurisdiction, within Socorro and Catron counties, New Mexico totaling 8.7 million acres. A map of the planning area is available on the Web site (<http://www.nm.blm.gov>). The decision area for the DRMPR/DEIS

includes 1.5 million acres of BLM-administered public lands and 6.1 million acres of Federal mineral estate located in both counties.

The DRMPR/DEIS describes the physical, cultural, historic, and socioeconomic resources in and around the planning area and documents the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of four alternatives for BLM-administered lands and resources within the planning area. The impact analysis focuses on resource issues and concerns identified during scoping and public involvement activities. Issues identified during scoping (not in priority order) include areas of special designation, soil and vegetation conditions, energy development, transportation and access, land use, and recreation and heritage tourism opportunities.

Four alternatives were analyzed in detail. The No-Action Alternative, Alternative A represents the continuation of existing management, which is defined by the 1989 Socorro RMP and subsequent amendments. Alternative B, BLM's preferred alternative, proposes managing the public lands for multiple uses and sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the lands for present and future generations. Alternative C emphasizes resource protection, while Alternative D emphasizes commodity production and use while still complying with applicable law, regulation, and BLM policy. Within all alternatives, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) have been identified to protect resources. These ACECs and associated acreages are listed in the table below. More detailed management prescriptions in these areas are provided in Table 2-2 of the DRMPR/DEIS.

**ACRES OF BLM-MANAGED SURFACE ESTATE PROPOSED TO BE MANAGED AS ACECS UNDER THE ALTERNATIVES IN THE DRMPR/DEIS**

ACEC use limitations	Alternative A	Preferred alternative (Alternative B)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Agua Fria .....	9,571 .....	Incorporate into Cerro Pomo ACEC.	Incorporate into Zuni Salt Lake ACEC.	Eliminate.
Cerro Pomo: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Apply fluid mineral leasing stip. S-VRM-11.	.....	26,284 .....	Incorporate into Zuni Salt Lake ACEC.	449.
Horse Mountain: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Apply fluid mineral leasing stip. S-NSO-W. Exclude vegetative material sales. Exclude grazing on unallotted lands.	7,490 .....	5388 .....	5388 .....	2596.

## ACRES OF BLM-MANAGED SURFACE ESTATE PROPOSED TO BE MANAGED AS ACECS UNDER THE ALTERNATIVES IN THE DRMPR/DEIS—Continued

ACEC use limitations	Alternative A	Preferred alternative (Alternative B)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Ladron Mountain-Devil's Backbone Complex: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Apply fluid mineral leasing stip. S-NSO-W. Exclude grazing on unallotted lands. Withdraw from location and entry for locatable minerals on 23,567 for protection of desert bighorn sheep. Exclude vegetative material sales from San Lorenzo Canyon (2320 acres).	57,195 .....	57,474 .....	57,474 .....	20,155.
Mockingbird Gap: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes, apply fluid mineral leasing stip. S-CSU-C3.	.....	8,685 .....	8,685 .....	
Pelona Mountain: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Apply fluid mineral leasing stip S-CSU-W1 and S-VRM-11.	.....	51,091 .....	52,336 .....	34,547.
Sawtooth: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Apply fluid mineral leasing stip S-NSO-T&E. Maintain withdrawal from mineral entry. Exclude vegetative material sales.	125 .....	125 .....	125 .....	125.
Tinajas: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude ROW. Exclude mineral material disposals and mineral leasing.	3,463 .....	40 .....	6745 .....	22.
Zuni Salt Lake: Limit motor vehicle travel to designated routes. Exclude fluid mineral leasing. Withdraw locatable minerals on 2881 acres of federal mineral estate within the 4839 acre Zuni Salt Lake Protection Zone. Exclude ROW within the 4839 acre Zuni Salt Lake Protection Zone. Exclude woodcutting.	Managed as a 4,839-acre special management area.	46,746 .....	156,601 .....	2107.
Total Acres .....	77,844 .....	195,833 .....	287,354 .....	68,686.

Since the publication of the Notice of Intent to prepare an RMP/EIS in the **Federal Register** on May 8, 2002, scoping meetings, off-highway vehicle workshops, and mailings have been conducted to inform the public and solicit input. Three scoping meetings were held in Socorro, Quemado, and Zuni, New Mexico on August 27, 28, and 29, 2002, respectively, resulting in approximately 76 oral comments from the public. In addition, 214 letters and comment forms were received during the scoping period. Catron County and the Zuni Tribe are cooperating agencies for development of the RMP/EIS.

The Socorro DRMPR/DEIS is available for review via the Internet from a link at <http://www.nm.blm.gov> and in electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper format at the BLM, Socorro Field Office. Electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper copies may also be obtained by contacting Brian Bellew at the aforementioned address and phone number.

Dated: January 30, 2007.

**Jesse J. Juen,**

*Associate State Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-169-1220-AL]

#### Notice of Public Meeting, Carrizo Plain National Monument Advisory Committee and Carrizo Resource Management Plan Scoping Meeting

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2), the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carrizo Plain National Monument Advisory Committee will meet as indicated below.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2007, at the California Valley Community Services District building on Soda Lake Road. The center is located approximately 3 miles South of Hwy. 58 adjacent to the California Valley Fire Station 42. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and finish at 5 p.m. The public scoping period for the planning effort will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Lunch will be available for \$8.00.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The nine-member Carrizo Plain National Monument Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the

Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of public land issues associated with the public land management in the Carrizo Plain National Monument in Central California. This meeting will serve as an opportunity for the public to scope issues for the formulation of the resource management plan. This meeting is open to the public. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations should contact BLM as indicated below.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Johna Hurl, Monument Manager, 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308. Phone at (661) 391-6093 or e-mail: [jhurl@blm.gov](mailto:jhurl@blm.gov).

Dated: April 10, 2007.

**Johna Hurl,**

*Manager, Carrizo Plain National Monument.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### 60-Day Notice of Intention to Request Clearance of Collection of Information; Opportunity for Public Comment

**AGENCY:** The Department of the Interior, National Park Service.