

Geothermal resources are indirectly used to generate electric power and directly used for many things such as heating buildings and aquaculture. Energy markets are driving increased demand for renewable geothermal energy. Advances in the engineering, technology and economics of geothermal exploration and improvements in the design and development of energy generation facilities have resulted in increased interest in areas with geothermal potential. Several recent Federal and state actions also are driving the increase in renewable energy activity, including geothermal energy leasing, exploration and development activity. These actions include the President's National Energy Policy; the Western Governors' Association Geothermal Task Force Report; and the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

The goal of the PEIS is to examine the potential impacts of geothermal leasing on certain lands administered by the BLM and the USFS. Completion of the PEIS will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the geothermal leasing and application process on Federal lands. The analysis in the PEIS will serve the following two purposes.

(1) Analyze the impacts of leasing in areas that are determined through scoping to have reasonable near-term exploration/development potential for geothermal resources, including areas for which leasing applications have not yet been filed. The PEIS will thereby assist the BLM in determining how best to amend, as appropriate, its land use plans for these areas, by identifying the potential for geothermal development in the areas and determining the areas where geothermal development will be considered as an allowable use. The PEIS will similarly address USFS-managed lands that have potential for geothermal resources and provide the basis for future geothermal leasing availability analysis and decisions.

(2) Enable the BLM to reduce the backlog of lease applications that were pending on BLM- and USFS-administered lands as of January 1, 2005 by at least 90 percent as required by section 225(b)(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This Act gives the BLM until August 8, 2010, to achieve this goal. As of January 1, 2005, there were nearly 100 applications for geothermal leases pending on BLM and USFS lands. The PEIS will include the necessary site specific analysis to facilitate processing of these pending lease applications by deciding whether geothermal leasing is appropriate and under what stipulations they may be leased.

Comments are being solicited so as to determine: (1) The scope of this analysis, (2) significant issues or concerns related to the proposed actions, and (3) alternatives to the proposed actions.

The BLM will provide further information at the scoping meetings regarding the locations of, and the planning areas and forests that may be affected by, the actively pending applications. The purpose of the public scoping process is to identify issues that should be addressed in the environmental analysis and the scope of the alternatives. You may submit comments in writing at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them using one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section above. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware 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 your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Douglas Burger,

Acting Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty and Resource Protection, Bureau of Land Management.

Frederick Norbury,

Associate Deputy Chief for National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID 100 1220MA 214A: DBG071008]

Notice of Public Meeting: Joint Recreation Resource Advisory Council Subcommittee to the Boise and Twin Falls Districts, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 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) Boise and Twin Falls District Recreation Resource Advisory Council (Rec-RAC) Subcommittee, will hold a meeting as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held July 12, 2007, beginning at 9 a.m. and adjourning at 12 noon. The meeting will be held at the Oregon Trail Interpretative Center, West Madison Street, Glenns Ferry, Idaho. Public comment periods will be held before the conclusion of the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: MJ Byrne, Public Affairs Officer and RAC Coordinator, BLM Boise District, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705, Telephone (208) 384-3393, or Heather Tiel, Public Affairs Officer, BLM Twin Falls District, 2536 Kimberly Rd., Twin Falls, ID 83301, (208) 735-2076.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 4 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act of 2005, a Subcommittee has been established to provide advise to the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, in the form of recommendations that relate to public concerns regarding the implementation, elimination or expansion of an amenity recreation fee; or recreation fee program on public lands under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service and the BLM in both the Boise and Twin Falls Districts located in southern Idaho. The Resource Advisory Councils in each District have formally approved the members of the new Joint Rec-RAC Subcommittee, including any non-RAC member. Items on the agenda include introductions; review and discussion of roles and responsibilities of the subcommittee members as well as the Coordinators from each of the two agencies. A draft charter will be presented for discussion review and for approval at the Joint RAC meeting of the Boise and Twin Falls RACs to be held in the fall of 2007. Information about the proposed fee changes at sites under the jurisdiction of the two agencies will be presented to enable subcommittee member's time for review prior to the next meeting when they will be asked to approve fee changes. Agenda items and location may change due to changing circumstances, including wildfire emergencies. All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Subcommittee. Each formal subcommittee meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM Coordinators as provided above. Expedited publication

is requested to give the public adequate notice.

Dated: June 7, 2007.

Jerry L. Taylor,
District Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-050-1430-FR; MTM 95482]

Notice of Realty Action: Recreation and Public Purposes Act Classification and Conveyance; Beaverhead County, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Realty Action.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has examined and found suitable for classification for conveyance to Beaverhead County under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, two parcels of public lands located near Dillon, in Beaverhead County, Montana. One of the parcels has been leased under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to the Dillon Rifle and Pistol Club for use as a shooting range since 1965. Beaverhead County intends to further develop and expand the existing shooting range facility.

DATES: For a period until July 30, 2007, interested parties may submit comments to the Field Manager, BLM Dillon Field Office at the address below.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana 59725.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Brown, Realty Specialist, Dillon Field Office, (406) 683-8045 or via e-mail at angela_brown@mt.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following described public land in Beaverhead County, Montana has been examined and found suitable for classification for conveyance under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*) and is hereby classified accordingly:

Principal Meridian, Montana

T. 7 S., R. 9 W.,
Sec. 7, lots 1, 2 and 3.
T. 7 S., R. 10 W.,
Sec. 12, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 169.81 acres in Beaverhead County.

The parcel of land described in section 7 (lots 1, 2 and 3 encompassing

89.81 acres) was previously classified for lease under the R&PP Act, for shooting range purposes. The purpose of this notice is to classify the entire 169.81 acres of the land described above as suitable for conveyance under the R&PP Act.

Beaverhead County has filed an R&PP application and plan of development to patent the public land (the previously leased land and additional acreage) in which it proposes to construct, operate, maintain, and further develop the shooting range. The additional acreage will serve as a safety buffer zone and expansion of the shooting range. The land is not needed for Federal purposes. Patent of the land conforms to the Dillon Resource Management Plan and would be in the public interest.

The patent document, when issued, will be subject to the provisions of the R&PP Act and applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior and would contain the following terms, conditions, and reservations to the United States:

1. A right-of-way thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. All minerals, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove such deposits from the lands under applicable law and such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

3. All valid, existing rights of record, including those documented on the official public land records at the time of patent issuance.

4. Those rights for electric power line purposes granted to Vigilante Electric Cooperative, its successors and assigns, by right-of-way number MTM 60935, pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976, (43 U.S.C. 1761) as to lot 3, section 7, T. 7 S., R. 9 W.

5. Those rights for a water pipeline to the City of Dillon located in lot 3, section 7, T. 7 S., R. 9 W. to transport water from Kelly Reservoir to a storage facility near Dillon for fire suppression.

6. No portion of the land patented shall revert back to the United States under any circumstance. In addition, the patentee shall comply with all Federal and State laws applicable to the disposal, placement, or release of hazardous substances (substance as defined in 40 CFR Part 302) and indemnify the United States against any legal liability or future costs that may arise out of any violations of such laws.

7. Pursuant to the requirements established by section 120(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)) (CERCLA), as

amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1988, (100 Stat. 1670) notice is hereby given that the above-described lands have been examined and no evidence was found to indicate that any hazardous substances had been stored for one year or more, or had any hazardous substances been disposed of or release on the subject property.

Additional detailed information concerning the proposed action, including but not limited to documentation relating to compliance with applicable environmental and cultural resource laws, is available for review at the BLM, Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the above described public lands will be segregated from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for patent under the R&PP Act and leasing under the mineral leasing laws.

Classification Comments: Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for conveyance. Comments on the classification are restricted to whether the land is physically suited for the proposal, whether the use will maximize the future 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.

Patent Comments: Interested parties may submit comments regarding the patent and 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 R&PP use.

Confidentiality of Comments: Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the Dillon Field Manager, who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification of the land described in this notice will become effective on August 13, 2007. The land will not be offered for patent