

The amendment to reinstate Desert Hot Springs proposes that the Plan provisions and boundaries be revised according to the February 2006 CVMSHCP, with modifications as described in the September 2007 Final Recirculated CVMSHCP, to provide for the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's future flood control facility. Therefore, the current Conservation Area boundaries would be amended to include all of the private lands within Desert Hot Springs' city limits and restore the original boundaries of the Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon and Whitewater Canyon Conservation Areas within Desert Hot Springs' city limits. Adding Desert Hot Springs as a Permittee requires a Major Amendment to the CVMSHCP in accordance with the requirements outlined in Section 6.12.4 of the Plan. The procedures outlined in Section 6.12.4 state that major amendments require the same process to be followed as the original CVMSHCP approval, including California Environmental Quality Act and NEPA compliance.

In addition, MSWD, not previously a participating agency, has also applied to join the CVMSHCP as a Permittee. MSWD and Desert Hot Springs have proposed that a number of infrastructure projects be included as Covered Activities under the Plan. Covered Activities include certain activities carried out or conducted by Permittees, Participating Special Entities, Third Parties Granted Take Authorization, and others within the CVMSHCP Plan Area, as described in Section 7 of the CVMSHCP, that will receive Take Authorization under the Service's section 10(a)(1)(B) permit and the State NCCP Permit, provided these activities are otherwise lawful. Examples of Desert Hot Springs proposed Covered Activities include roadway improvement projects. Examples of MSWD proposed Covered Activities include construction of wells, water storage facilities, water transmission lines, recycled water lines, and sewer lines. Refer to Table 2-1 and 2-2 in the Supplemental EIR/EIS for Desert Hot Springs and MSWD Covered Activities list, respectively.

Covered activities will increase the existing permitted take by 34 acres, but inclusion of Desert Hot Springs and MSWD will expand conservation area boundaries in Desert Hot Springs to include 770 acres of land to be managed consistent with the CVMSHCP's conservation goals and objectives. Fifteen of the 27 Covered Species and 5 of the 27 Natural Communities will be affected by the Major Amendment.

Additional take, in acres, for Covered Species and Natural Communities are listed in Table 4.1-1 and 4.1-2 in the Supplemental EIR/EIS, respectively.

#### National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

We formally initiated an environmental review of the draft Supplemental EIR/EIS through publication of a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare a draft Supplemental EIR/EIS in the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, March 30, 2011 (76 FR 17666). That notice also announced a public scoping period, during which we invited interested parties to provide written comments expressing their issues or concerns related to the proposal. A public scoping meeting was held in Desert Hot Springs on April 4, 2011.

Based on public scoping comments, we have prepared a draft Supplemental EIR/EIS for the proposed action and have made it available for public inspection (see **ADDRESSES**). NEPA requires that a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action be described. The draft Supplemental EIR/EIS analyzes the proposed action and a no action alternative, which were derived in response to scoping comments. Additionally, the alternatives from the 2007 Recirculated EIR/EIS were retained and analyzed as part of the proposed major amendment to determine if adding Desert Hot Springs and MSWD as permittees under the Plan would change any conclusions contained in each of the alternatives identified in 2007. The alternatives addressed include a Public Lands Alternative; Core Habitat with Ecological Processes Alternative; and an Enhanced Conservation Alternative.

#### Public Review

The Service invites the public to comment on the permit applications, revised CVMSHCP, and draft Supplemental EIR/EIS during the public comment period. Copies of the documents will be available during a 45-day public comment period (see **DATES**). If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments to the address listed in **ADDRESSES**. Before including your address, phone number, email 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 may 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.

#### Next Steps

We will evaluate the applications, associated documents, and comments submitted to prepare a Final EIR/EIS. A permit decision will be made no sooner than 30 days after the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's Final EIS notice in the **Federal Register** and completion of the Record of Decision.

Dated: August 28, 2013.

**Alexandra Pitts**,

*Deputy Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[DR.5B711.IA000813]

#### Indian Gaming

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of approved Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes the approval of the Class III Tribal-State Gaming Compact between the Wiyot Tribe and the State of California.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* September 6, 2013.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the **Federal Register** notice of approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The Compact between the State of California and the Wiyot Tribe provides for certain payments to the Tribe from the Wiyot Trust Fund established by the State under this Compact and the compact between the State of California-North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians. In exchange for these payments, the Tribe agrees to forgo operation of Class III gaming on its lands. Pursuant to 25 CFR 293.4, all compacts are subject to review and approval by the Secretary. Pursuant to 25 CFR 293.15, an approved compact takes effect on the date that notice of its approval is published in the **Federal Register**. The compact terminates on December 31, 2033.

Dated: August 30, 2013.

**Kevin K. Washburn,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

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LXSS015F0000 241A; 13–08807; MO#  
4500049371; TAS: 14X5017]

#### Notice of Availability of the Proposed Winnemucca District Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, NV

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Winnemucca District and by this notice is announcing its availability.

**DATES:** BLM planning regulations provide that any person who meets the conditions as described in the regulations may protest the BLM's Proposed RMP/Final EIS (43 CFR 1610.5–2). A person who meets the conditions and files a protest must file the protest within 30 days of the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS are available for public inspection at the BLM Winnemucca District Office, 5100 E Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada. Interested persons may also review the Proposed RMP/Final EIS on the Internet at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm\\_information/rmp.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/rmp.html). All protests must be in writing and mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail: BLM Director (210), Attention: Brenda Williams, P.O. Box 71383, Washington, DC 20024–1383.

Overnight Mail: BLM Director (210), Attention: Brenda Williams, 20 M Street SE., Room 2134LM, Washington, DC 20003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Johnson, RMP Team Lead, telephone: 775–861–6420; address: 5100 E Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca,

NV 89445; email [wdrmp@blm.gov](mailto:wdrmp@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Winnemucca District Proposed RMP would replace the existing 1982 Sonoma-Gerlach and Paradise-Denio Management Framework Plans and the 1999 Paradise-Denio and Sonoma-Gerlach Management Framework Plan-Lands Amendment. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS has been developed using a collaborative planning process.

Collaboration included working with nine cooperating agencies, development of alternatives using a sub-group of the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council, input through coordination and consultation with Native American/tribal interests, and input based on public scoping and public comments received on the Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The Winnemucca District Proposed RMP decision area encompasses approximately 7.4 million acres of public land administered by the BLM in Humboldt, Pershing, and parts of Lander, Lyon, Churchill, and Washoe counties, Nevada. The Proposed RMP does not include decisions on private lands, State lands, Indian reservations, Federal lands administered by other agencies or lands within the District's Black Rock Desert-Highrock Canyon, Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA), except for administratively combining portions of two wild horse herd management areas into one herd management area. The NCA is managed in accordance with the 2004 Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan for the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area and Associated Wilderness, and other Contiguous Lands in Nevada.

The Winnemucca District Proposed RMP/Final EIS includes goals, objectives and management actions for protecting and preserving natural resources including wildlife habitat, sensitive and threatened or endangered species habitat, watersheds, and wild horses and burros. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS also addresses protection and preserving cultural resources, scenic values, lands with wilderness characteristics, National Historic Trails,

and management of recreation. Multiple uses are addressed including: Management and forage allocations for livestock grazing; delineation of lands open, closed, or subject to special stipulations or mitigation measures relating to minerals; and management of lands and realty actions, including delineation of avoidance and exclusion areas applicable to rights-of-ways and land tenure adjustments. Recreation management includes designation of off-highway vehicle management areas. Three new areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) are proposed. The ACECs are proposed to protect natural and cultural resource values and traditional Native American use areas. The proposed Pine Forest ACEC contains important wildlife habitat values including habitat for sensitive species. The proposed Raised Bog ACEC contains a unique floating bog that is useful for scientific research. The proposed Stillwater ACEC contains important cultural resources and many traditional Native American use areas including traditional cultural properties. Management direction to protect sensitive plant species is proposed for the existing Osgood Mountain Milkvetch ACEC.

The Proposed RMP/Final EIS analyzes four management alternatives. Alternative A is the No Action Alternative, which is the continuation of current management; Alternative B emphasizes resource use; Alternative C emphasizes preservation and protection of ecosystems and contains two options: Option 1 allows livestock grazing and option 2 does not allow livestock grazing; and Alternative D, which is the Proposed RMP and provides a balance between resource protection and resource use.

Alternative D has been modified from the proposed alternative D in the Draft RMP/EIS based on public comments and input from the Cooperating Agencies. The proposed RMP balances resource uses and environmental protection, best fulfills the BLM's statutory mission and responsibilities as required under FLPMA, and complies with the BLM planning regulations.

The Winnemucca District worked with nine cooperating agencies in the development of the Proposed RMP. The Cooperating Agencies are: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Humboldt County, Pershing County, Washoe County, City of Winnemucca, and the N–2 Grazing Board.

The BLM issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare a Resource Management Plan*