

- Little Snake RMP (Colorado)—modifies 18 acres of VRM Class III to Class IV;
- Pony Express RMP (Salt Lake Field Office, Utah)—establishes the 1.3 miles of the Project right-of-way as a 250 foot wide utility corridor;
- Price Field Office, Utah—widens a portion of a utility corridor designated in a land use plan from 1 mile to 1.5 miles in width, to include the Project right-of-way; and
- Vernal Field Office, Utah—modifies 58 acres of VRM Class II to Class III.

The approved land use plan amendments specifically amend the RMPs to allow for the development of the Project and ancillary facilities on land managed by the BLM. NEPA disclosure of these plan amendments has been integrated with the EIS process for the Project, including the scoping and public availability periods for the EIS. With these amendments, the Selected Alternative will conform with the applicable the BLM land use plan along the project's route (43 CFR 1610.5–3).

On May 13, 2016, the Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Final EIS and Proposed Land use Plan Amendments for the Project was published in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 29912). The publication of the NOA initiated a 30-day protest period for the proposed land use planning decisions and a 60-day Governors' consistency review. At the close of the 30-day protest period, five protests were received and subsequently resolved as explained in the Director's Protest Resolution Report, available online at <http://bit.ly/2eErXWA>. The proposed land use plan amendments were not modified as a result of the protests. Individual protest response letters were sent to the protesting parties.

Copies of the ROD are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following locations.

- BLM, Wyoming State Office, Public Reading Room, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009;
- BLM, Colorado State Office, Public Reading Room, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215–7093; and
- BLM, Utah State Office, Public Reading Room, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101–1345.

Simultaneous with the protest period, the Governors of Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah conducted consistency reviews for the proposed land use plan amendments to identify any inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs. No inconsistencies were identified.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6.

Mary Jo Rugwell,

Wyoming State Director.

[FR Doc. 2016–30346 Filed 12–15–16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLOR936000.L1440000.ET0000.  
16XL1109AF; HAG 16–0075 ORE–03587]

#### Notice of Application for Extension of Public Land Order No. 1144, as Modified by PLO 7325, and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Miller Lake Recreational Area, Oregon

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Forest Service (USFS) has filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting that the Secretary of the Interior extend the duration of Public Land Order (PLO) No. 1144, as modified by PLO No. 7325, for an additional 20-year term subject to valid existing rights. PLO No. 1144, as modified by PLO 7325, withdrew 949.43 acres of Forest System Lands in the Fremont-Winema National Forest from location and entry under United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws. The purpose of the proposed withdrawal extension is to protect the Miller Lake Recreational Area. PLO No. 1144, as modified by PLO No. 7325 will expire on May 20, 2018, unless extended. This notice also gives the public an opportunity to comment on the application and to request a public meeting.

**DATES:** Comments and public meeting requests must be received by March 16, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and public meeting requests should be sent to the BLM Oregon/Washington State Director, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208–2965.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jacob Childers, BLM Oregon/Washington State Office, 503–808–6225 or Candice Polisky, USFS Pacific Northwest Region, 503–808–2479. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 to contact either of the above individuals. The Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USFS has filed an application requesting that the Secretary of the Interior extend PLO No. 1144, as modified by PLO No. 7325, for an additional 20-year term, subject to valid existing rights. PLO No. 1144 (20 FR 3151 (1955)), as modified by PLO No. 7325 (63 FR 19744 (1998)), withdrew 949.43 acres of National Forest System Lands from location and entry under the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, to protect the Miller Lake Recreational Area. The withdrawal encompasses Digit Point Campground and Miller Lake Trail. The USFS would not need to acquire water rights to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal extension.

#### Willamette Meridian

*Fremont-Winema National Forest*

T. 27 S., R. 6½ E.,

Sec. 11, those portions of Lots 1, 2, NE¼NW¼ lying outside the Mt. Thielsen Wilderness Area boundary, Lots 3 through 7, SE¼SW¼, and all of unsurveyed Miller Lake lying within the section;

PB 37, SW¼, SW¼SE¼ lying outside the Mt. Thielsen Wilderness area boundary, and all of unsurveyed Miller Lake lying within aforementioned parts of PB 37;

Sec. 13, Lots 1 through 7, NW¼SW¼; PB 38.

The area described contains 949.43 acres in Klamath County.

This legal description is identical in size, shape, and location as the description in PLO No. 7325, as published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 19745 (1998)).

Records related to the application may be examined by contacting Jacob Childers, Bureau of Land Management, at the address or phone number listed above.

For a period until March 16, 2017, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension may present their views in writing to the BLM Oregon/Washington State Office State Director at the address indicated above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the address indicated above during regular business hours. Be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information may be made publicly available. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public meeting is

afforded in connection with the withdrawal extension application. All interested parties who desire a public meeting for the purpose of being heard on the withdrawal extension application must submit a written request to the BLM State Director at the address indicated above by March 16, 2017. Upon determination by the authorized officer that a public meeting will be held, a notice of the time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** and a local newspaper at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

This extension will be processed in accordance with 43 CFR 2310.4.

**Steve Storo,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Land, Mineral, and Energy Resources.*

[FR Doc. 2016-30317 Filed 12-15-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLWY920000/L51010000.ER0000.16X/LVRWK09K1160/241A; WYW-177893, WYW-177893-01; COC-72929, COC-72929-01; UTU-87238, UTU-87238-01; NVN-86732, NVN-86732-01]

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the TransWest Express Transmission Project in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Nevada

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) approving the TransWest Express 600-kilovolt (kV) Direct Current Transmission Project (Project) right-of-way in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada and associated amendments to the Rawlins Field Office (FO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) in Wyoming, the Little Snake FO RMP in Colorado, the Vernal FO and Pony Express RMPs in Utah, and the Ely District RMP in Nevada.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD are being sent to Federal, State and local governments, public libraries in the Project area, and interested parties who previously requested a copy. Copies of the ROD and support documents are also available for public inspection at the locations identified in the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice and electronically on the following Web site: <http://bit.ly/TransWestExpress>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharon Knowlton, Project Manager, BLM Wyoming State Office, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003, by telephone at 307-775-6124, or by email at [sknowlto@blm.gov](mailto:sknowlto@blm.gov). Any persons wishing to be added to a mailing list of interested parties may write or call the Project Manager at this address or phone number. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. The Service 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:

In November 2007, National Grid filed a ROW application with the BLM to construct and operate an extra high voltage transmission line between Wyoming and delivery points in the Southwestern United States. An amended application was filed on September 2, 2008, and the Project application was transferred to TransWest Express LLC (TransWest), a subsidiary of the Anschutz Corporation. TransWest submitted additional amended applications to the BLM in 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2015 to reflect minor changes and refinements to the proposed Project.

In April 2010, the BLM and Western Area Power Administration (Western) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in which the BLM and Western agreed to act as joint lead agencies in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project. The BLM's status as a joint lead agency is based on the BLM's potential Federal action to grant a ROW across BLM lands. Western's status as a joint lead agency is based on its potential Federal action to provide Federal funds for the proposed Project. Western and TransWest entered into a development agreement (executed in September 2011, amended in June 2014) wherein Western agreed to support Project development by providing technical assistance and/or financing.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and Utah Reclamation Mitigation Conservation Commission are cooperating agencies in the proposed Project, based on their potential issuance of permits authorizing the use of lands under their management. Additional cooperating agencies include Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies. On January 4, 2011, the BLM and Western jointly published in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 379) a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in

compliance with the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To allow the public an opportunity to review information associated with the proposed Project, the BLM held public scoping meetings from January through March 2011 in Baggs, Rawlins, and Rock Springs, Wyoming; Craig, Grand Junction, and Rangely, Colorado; Castledale, Cedar City, Central, Delta, Duchesne, Enterprise, Milford, Moab, Nephi, Pine Valley, Richfield, and St. George, Utah; and Caliente, Henderson, Las Vegas, and Overton, Nevada. Issues and potential impacts to specific resources were identified during the scoping period and the preparation of the Draft EIS.

The BLM and Western, in coordination with the USFS and other federal, state, and local governments and agencies, considered all public scoping comments received, as well as TransWest's refinements to the Proposed Action, when they identified the Agency Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS. The Agency Preferred Alternative was developed through a comparative evaluation of routing opportunities and constraints and the relative impacts among the various alternative segments.

The Environmental Protection Agency published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft EIS/Draft RMP Amendments on June 28, 2013 in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 38975), which began a 90-day public comment period. The BLM and Western published their NOA for the Draft EIS/Draft RMP Amendments on July 3, 2013 in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 40163). To help facilitate the public review of and comment on the Draft EIS, the agencies held public meetings in July, August, and September 2013 in Baggs and Rawlins, Wyoming; Craig, Colorado; Cedar City, Delta, Duchesne, Fort Duchesne, Nephi, Price, St. George, and Vernal, Utah; and Henderson and Panaca, Nevada.

On December 6, 2013, the USFS published an additional NOA in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 73524) to initiate an additional 30-day public comment period specific to the USFS decision whether to authorize the Project across USFS-managed lands. Similarly, the USFS will publish their own NOA to notify the public of their decision whether to authorize the Project.

The agencies received over 1,800 comments, contained in 457 submissions, during the Draft EIS public comment periods. All submitted