

the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill under the Oil Pollution Act 1990 (OPA; 33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*). Pursuant to OPA, Federal and State agencies act as trustees on behalf of the public to assess natural resource injuries and losses and to determine the actions required to compensate the public for those injuries and losses. The OPA further instructs the designated trustees to develop and implement a plan for the restoration, rehabilitation, replacement, or acquisition of the equivalent of the injured natural resources under their trusteeship, including the loss of use and services from those resources from the time of injury until the completion of restoration to baseline (the resource quality and conditions that would exist if the spill had not occurred).

The *Deepwater Horizon* Trustees are:

- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), as represented by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), on behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- State of Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and Department of Natural Resources;
- State of Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality;
- State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Geological Survey of Alabama;
- State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and
- State of Texas: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas General Land Office, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

On April 4, 2016, the Trustees reached and finalized a settlement of their natural resource damage claims with BP in a Consent Decree approved by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Pursuant to that Consent Decree, restoration projects in the Alabama Restoration Area are now chosen and managed by the AL TIG. The AL TIG comprises the following Trustees: State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Geological Survey of Alabama; DOI; NOAA; EPA; and USDA.

Background

In preparation for the draft AL RP III/EA planning process, on December 19, 2018, the AL TIG posted a notice on two websites: The NOAA Gulf Spill web portal at <http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov>, and the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Project Portal at <http://www.alabamacoastalrestoration.org/>. The notice requested public input on restoration project ideas in the Alabama Restoration Area, asking the public to focus their input on “Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities” and “Birds” restoration types. The AL TIG reviewed and considered these restoration project ideas and prepared a draft AL RP III/EA. Notice of availability of the draft AL RP III/EA was published in the **Federal Register** on September 3, 2019 (84 FR 46033). The AL TIG provided the public 30 days to review and comment on the draft AL RP III/EA. Comments submitted during that time were reviewed and addressed by the AL TIG before finalizing the AL RP III/EA. Details, including the AL TIG's responses to the comments, are provided in the final AL RP III/EA. Additional restoration planning for the Alabama Restoration Area will continue.

Overview of the Final AL RP III/EA

The final AL RP III/EA is being released in accordance with OPA NRDA regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 15 CFR part 990, NEPA and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508, the Final PDARP/PEIS, and the Consent Decree. In the final AL RP III/EA and FONSI, the AL TIG selected projects to implement addressing two restoration types. Five were selected for funding under the “Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities” restoration type allocation proposing to use approximately \$13,500,000 in DWH settlement funds. Two were selected for funding under the “Birds” restoration type allocation, using approximately \$8,700,000 in DWH settlement funds. The following projects were selected for implementation (immediate or future):

Restoration Type—Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities

- Perdido River Land Acquisition (Molpus Tract)
- Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvement Phases IIa and IIb
- Gulf State Park Pier Renovation
- Perdido Beach Public Access Coastal Protection *
- Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge Recreation Enhancement—Mobile

Street Boardwalk *
Restoration Type—Birds
 Stewardship of Coastal Alabama
 Beach Nesting Bird Habitat
 Dauphin Island West End Acquisition

Based on the NEPA analysis provided in the AL RP III/EA, the AL TIG Federal Trustees issued a FONSI in accordance with 40 CFR part 1508.13 and 15 CFR part 990.23. The FONSI is available in Appendix J of the AL RP III/EA.

Administrative Record

The documents comprising the Administrative Record for the AL RP III/EA can be viewed electronically at <https://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/adminrecord>.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), its implementing Natural Resource Damage Assessment regulations found at 15 CFR part 990, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508.

Mary Josie Blanchard,

Director of Gulf of Mexico Restoration, Department of the Interior.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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 LVRWF1906190.19X; N–84631;
 MO#4500141706]

Notice of Availability for the Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Gemini Solar Project in Clark County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of

* The Trustees are not proposing to exceed the allocation for “Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities” in this RP III/EA. Implementation of the selected alternatives, noted with an asterisk, is therefore pending fund availability. Additional funds could become available to the “Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities” restoration type for various reasons (*e.g.*, project cancellation or modification, projects under budget), at which time the AL TIG could allocate those recreational use funds to those noted alternatives, consistent with this RP III/EA, through TIG resolution.

Land Management (BLM) Las Vegas Field Office has prepared a Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gemini Solar Project and by this notice is announcing the opening of the protest period.

DATES: This notice initiates the protest period for proposed plan amendment. In accordance with CFR 1610.5–2 protests may be submitted in writing until January 27, 2020. Any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest which is or may be adversely affected by the approval or amendment of a RMP may protest such approval or amendment. A protest may raise only those issues which were submitted for the record during the planning process. The protest shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Director. The protest shall contain: (i) The name, mailing address, telephone number and interest of the person filing the protest; (ii) A statement of the issue or issues being protested; (iii) A statement of the part or parts of the plan or amendment being protested; (iv) A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party, or an indication of the date the issue or issues were discussed for the record; and (v) A concise statement explaining why the State Director's decision is believed to be wrong. The BLM will issue a Record of Decision approximately 90 days after the protest period opens which will be announced in a Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: All protests must be in writing and mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail: Director (210), Attn: Protest Coordinator, P.O. Box 71383, Washington, DC 20024–1383

Overnight Delivery: Director (210), Attn: Protest Coordinator, 20 M Street SE, Room 2134LM, Washington, DC 20003

Electronic protests will not be accepted as valid protests unless the protesting party also provides the original letter by either regular mail or overnight delivery postmarked by the close of the protest period. Under these conditions, the BLM will consider the electronic protest as an advance copy and will afford it full consideration. If you wish to provide the BLM with such advance notification, you can submit your protest through the project's ePlanning page at <https://go.usa.gov/xntTQ>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicholas Pay, Acting Energy &

Infrastructure Project Manager, telephone 702–515–5284; address 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130–2301; email blm_nv_sndg_geminisolar@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS 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 applicant, Solar Partners XI, LLC (Arevia) has proposed to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a 690 megawatt photovoltaic solar electric generating facility and associated generation tie-line and access road facilities on approximately 7,100 acres of federal lands administered by the BLM. The proposed solar facility would be located approximately 33 miles northeast of Las Vegas and directly south of the Moapa River Indian Reservation in Clark County, Nevada. The expected life of the project is 30 years.

The Final EIS analyzed the direct, indirect and cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives. The Final EIS analyzed the Proposed Action, the Hybrid (BLM Preferred), All Mowing and the No Action Alternatives. All of the alternatives involve development on approximately 7,100 acres of land; however, each action/alternative differs in how the facility is constructed. The Proposed Action would involve solar development utilizing traditional development methods, which include disk and roll that removes all vegetation in the solar array areas. The Hybrid (BLM Preferred) Alternative would involve solar development utilizing a combination of traditional development methods in solar array areas (on approximately 2,500 acres) and mowing that leaves vegetation and natural land contours in place on the remaining solar array areas (on approximately 4,600 acres). The All Mowing Alternative would involve development of the facility utilizing only mowing in solar array areas. Where mowing is utilized in each alternative, desert tortoise would be reintroduced into the solar array areas after completion of construction, since habitat would remain. The No Action Alternative would be a continuation of existing conditions.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS for the proposed Gemini Solar Project was published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 2018 (83 FR 32681).

The public scoping period closed August 27, 2018. The BLM held two public scoping meetings. The BLM received 34 public scoping comment letters during the 45-day scoping period. The scoping comments focused on biological resources (desert tortoise and threecorner milkvetch); visual resources; recreation and public access; and impacts to the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

A Notice of Availability (NOA) to prepare RMP Amendment and Draft EIS for the proposed Gemini Solar Project was published in the **Federal Register** on June 7, 2019 (84 FR 26701) The BLM held two public meetings. The public comment period closed September 5, 2019. The BLM received 114 substantive letters containing 1,147 individual substantive comments during the 90-day public comment period. The comments focused on range of alternatives; Mojave Desert Tortoise; bighorn sheep and migratory birds; threecorner milkvetch, other sensitive plants and native vegetation communities; Old Spanish National Historic Trail; change to Visual Resource Management Class; impacts to recreation; drainage impacts and hydrologic changes, erosion, and dust; and tribal concern. Comments on the Draft RMP Amendment and EIS were considered and incorporated as appropriate into the Proposed RMP Amendment and Final EIS. Public comments did not result in the addition of substantive revisions to the Draft RMP Amendment and EIS that were published in June of 2019. Responses to all comments are located in Appendix L of the Final EIS.

The BLM has utilized and coordinated the NEPA scoping and comment process to help fulfill the public involvement requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3.) The information about historic and cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed project has assisted the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources in the context of both NEPA and the NHPA.

The BLM has consulted and will continue to consult with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175 and other policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts to Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources have been analyzed in the Final EIS.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your protest, be advised that your entire protest—including your personal

identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your protest to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The BLM Director will make every attempt to promptly render a decision on each protest. The decision will be in writing and will be sent to the protesting party by certified mail, return receipt requested. The decision of the BLM Director shall be the final decision of the Department of the Interior on each protest. Responses to protest issues will be compiled and formalized in a Director's Protest Resolution Report made available following issuance of the decisions.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10.

Jon K. Raby,

Nevada State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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LVRCA19SA090; AZ-SRP-030-15-01]

Notice of Temporary Closure and Temporary Restrictions of Selected Public Lands in La Paz County, AZ

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of temporary closure and restrictions.

SUMMARY: As authorized under the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, notice is hereby given that temporary closures and temporary restrictions of activities will be in effect on public lands administered by the Lake Havasu Field Office, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to minimize the risk of potential collisions with spectators and racers during the annual Best In The Desert (BITD) off-highway vehicle (OHV) race events, Parker 250 and Parker 425, authorized under a Special Recreation Permit (SRP).

DATES: This notice is effective upon publication. The temporary restrictions for the Parker 250 take effect at noon, January 9, 2020, through 2 a.m. January 12, 2020. The temporary closure for the Parker 250 takes effect at 5 a.m. January 11, 2020, through 2 a.m. January 12, 2020. The temporary restrictions for the Parker 425 take effect at noon January 22, 2020, through 11:59 p.m. January 25,

2020. The temporary closure for the Parker 425 takes effect at 5 a.m. January 24, 2020, through 11:59 p.m. January 25, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jason West, Field Manager, BLM Lake Havasu Field Office, 1785 Kiowa Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403, 928-505-1200. Also see the Lake Havasu Field Office website: <https://www.blm.gov/office/lake-havasu-field-office>. Persons who use a telecommunications device for hearing impaired (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 6, 2015, the Decision Record authorizing the BITD Parker Races SRP was signed. This permit authorizes the BITD to utilize the Parker 400 course for the Parker 250 race event on January 11 through 12, 2020, and for the Parker 425 race event on January 24 through 25, 2020. The permit is authorized from 2015 through 2024. The Environmental Assessment analyzing these routes (EA #DOI-BLM-AZ-C030-2014-0040) concluded that allowing permitted motorized racers exclusive use of the *Lake Havasu Field Office Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan* (2007) designated Parker 400 course would mitigate safety concerns. These routes receive the most intense and concentrated high-speed use during the two annual permitted events.

These temporary closures and restrictions affect public lands in and around the Parker 400 course near the communities of Parker and Bouse in La Paz County, Arizona. The temporary restriction area begins on public lands east of the eastern boundary of the Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT) Reservation, along Shea Road, then east into Osborne Wash onto the Parker-Swansea Road to the Central Arizona Project (CAP) Canal, then north on the west side of the CAP Canal, crossing the canal on the county-maintained road, running northeast into Mineral Wash Canyon, then southeast on the county-maintained road, through the four-corners intersection to the Midway (Pit) intersection, then east on Transmission Pass Road, through State Trust Land located in Butler Valley, turning north into Cunningham Wash to North Tank; continuing south to Transmission Pass Road and east (reentering public land) within two miles of Alamo Dam Road. The temporary restriction area boundary

turns south and west onto the wooden power line road, onto the State Trust Land in Butler Valley, turning southwest into Cunningham Wash to the Graham Well, intersecting Butler Valley Road, then north and west on the county-maintained road to the "Bouse Y" intersection, two miles north of Bouse, Arizona. The temporary restriction area boundary proceeds north, paralleling the Bouse-Swansea Road to the Midway (Pit) intersection, then west along the north boundary (power line) road of the East Cactus Plain Wilderness Area to Parker-Swansea Road. The temporary restriction area boundary turns west into Osborne Wash crossing the CAP Canal, along the north boundary of the Cactus Plain Wilderness Study Area; it continues west staying in Osborne Wash and crossing Shea Road along the southern boundary of Gibraltar Wilderness, rejoining Osborne Wash at the CRIT Reservation boundary. The closure area follows the Parker 400 course as designated in the 2007 Lake Havasu Resource Management Plan.

The temporary closures and restrictions are necessary because of the high speed nature of the race event and the added safety concerns due to the limited visibility when there is no daylight. Roads leading into the public lands under the temporary closure and restrictions will be posted with copies of the temporary closure, temporary restrictions, and associated maps to notify the public. The temporary closure and restriction orders will be posted in the Lake Havasu Field Office and online at <https://www.blm.gov/office/lake-havasu-field-office>. Maps of the affected area and other documents associated with this temporary closure are available at the Lake Havasu Field Office, 1785 Kiowa Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

The closures and restrictions are issued under the authority of 43 CFR 8364.1 which allows the BLM to establish closures for the protection of persons, property, and public lands and resources. Violation of any of the terms, conditions, or restrictions contained within this closure order may subject the violator to citation or arrest with a penalty or fine or imprisonment or both as specified by law.

Temporary Closure and Restrictions and Existing Regulations

1. Environmental Resource Management and Protection

- a. No person may deface, disturb, remove, or destroy any natural object.