

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[A2407-014-004-065516, #O2509-014-004-125222;LLAK930000.L13100000.EI0000]

Notice of Availability of the 2025 Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska, Integrated Activity Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Alaska State Office, announces the availability of the record of decision (ROD) for the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska, Integrated Activity Plan (NPR—A IAP).

DATES: The Secretary of the Interior signed the ROD on December 22, 2025.

ADDRESSES: The ROD is available on the BLM ePlanning website at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/117408/510>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Serena Sweet, BLM Alaska State Office Planning and Project Management Branch, phone 907-271-4543 or email, ssweet@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services for contacting Ms. Sweet. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act (NPRPA) of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*), as amended, and its implementing regulations, require oil and gas leasing in the NPR—A and the protection of surface values to the extent consistent with the exploration, development, and transportation of oil and gas. The NPRPA, a dominant-use statute, excludes the NPR—A from the application of section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712), as amended, which provides the statutory authority for the BLM to develop resource management plans to guide management of the public lands. Because of this exemption, the BLM conducts planning of all BLM-managed lands within the NPR—A with an IAP, which is not developed as a resource management plan and does not

implement the multiple use mission otherwise applicable on BLM lands.

The ROD being noticed here completes the priorities set forth in sections 3(b)(xii) and (xiv) of Executive Order 14153, “Unleashing Alaska’s Extraordinary Resource Potential.” In the ROD, the Secretary adopted alternative E as described and analyzed in the 2020 IAP EIS and the 2025 IAP environmental assessment. The ROD, effective immediately as the Department’s operative decision for the NPR—A IAP, is consistent with section 50105 of Public Law 119-21 (known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act), enacted July 4, 2025, and Public Law 119-47, enacted December 5, 2025, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the 2022 NPR—A IAP ROD under the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801-808.

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*)

Kevin J. Pendergast,
State Director, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 2026-03784 Filed 2-24-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4331-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Ocean Energy Management**

[Docket No. BOEM-2023-0046]

Gulf of America, Outer Continental Shelf, Record of Decision To Reaffirm Decisions for Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Lease Sales 259 and 261 and Gulf of America Regional OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales and Post-Lease Activities: Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; record of decision.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announces the availability of the record of decision (ROD) to reaffirm decisions for Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Lease Sales 259 and 261 (Lease Sales 259 and 261) and its intent to use the Gulf of America Regional OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales and Post-Lease Activities: Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS) for, among other things, a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis that can be tiered to when conducting post-lease and site-specific reviews of plans, permits and other approvals. This ROD concludes

the programmatic NEPA process for the GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS.

ADDRESSES: The ROD and associated information are available on BOEM’s website at <https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/gulf-america-lease-sales-259-and-261-supplemental-environmental-impact-statement>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Helen Rucker, Supervisor, Environmental Assessment Section, Office of Environment, 1201 Elmwood Park Blvd. (MS GM 623E), New Orleans, LA 70123-2394, by telephone at 504-736-2421, or by email at BOEMGOANEPA@boem.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: BOEM is reaffirming the decisions for Lease Sales 259 and 261 as they were held and is also relying on the GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS for that decision. Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum issued Secretary’s Order (S.O.) 3423 (February 7, 2025), which directed the renaming of the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) to the Gulf of America (GOA) in accordance with Executive Order (E.O.) 14172, “Restoring Names that Honor American Greatness”, (January 20, 2025). Throughout this ROD, BOEM uses the new GOA name where appropriate. However, legacy documents, such as previously published reports and environmental documents, remain unchanged as the GOM.

On March 6, 2023, in *Healthy Gulf v. Burgum*, several environmental nonprofit organizations (plaintiffs) filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, against the Secretary of the Interior and BOEM challenging Lease Sale 259.

Additionally, on August 25, 2023, the same plaintiffs filed a complaint challenging Lease Sale 261. In those complaints, Plaintiffs allege that the ROD and SEIS violate the National Environmental Policy Act and the Administrative Procedure Act, and request that the court find that any bids that BOEM received during the lease sales are not acceptable, vacate the ROD and SEIS, and vacate or enjoin any leases executed pursuant to the ROD and any lease activities executed pursuant to the lease sales. On November 29, 2023, the court stayed the Lease Sale 261 pending resolution of Lease Sale 259 litigation.

On March 27, 2025, in the challenge to Lease Sale 259, the court found that BOEM’s NEPA analysis for Lease Sale 259 had improperly evaluated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and impacts to the Rice’s whale. Concerning BOEM’s GHG analysis, the court found that BOEM had not adequately

examined laws and policies postdating its modeling baseline. The court also found that BOEM failed to address a National Marine Fisheries Service determination that the Rice whale's habitat extends into the western and central Gulf of America. The court ordered briefing from the parties on remedy. The parties' final remedy briefs were filed on June 6, 2025. Plaintiffs' Remedy Brief modified their request and asked the court to vacate the SEIS and remand it to BOEM and partially vacate the leases issued pursuant to Lease Sale 259. Federal Defendants and Intervenor argued that the analysis can be remedied without vacatur of the SEIS, the lease sale, or the leases. The Court has not yet issued a remedy and there is no injunction restraining BOEM's management of the leases in question.

During the pendency of the above litigation, BOEM was in the process of preparing a programmatic environmental impact statement for potential future lease sales and ongoing and future post-lease activities in the GOA. On August 29, 2025, the notice of availability for the Gulf of America Regional OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales and Post-Lease Activities: Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS) was published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 42243). In addition to the analysis of a proposed Federal action to hold an oil and gas lease sale offered on the U.S. OCS within BOEM's GOA Western, Central, and Eastern Planning Areas, the GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS also addresses the court's findings regarding BOEM's previous assessment of GHG emissions and potential impacts to the Rice's whales. On August 27, 2025, counsel for Defendants notified the court handling the Lease Sale 259 litigation that BOEM had completed the GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS, and that BOEM would begin acting on pending plans.

The GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS also provides the context and setting of future proposed actions, including future discretionary oil and gas lease sales, site-specific OCS oil- and gas-related activities, the potential impact-producing factors associated with these activities, and the reasonably foreseeable impacts on GOA resources. BOEM plans to use the GOA Oil and Gas Programmatic EIS for, among other things, a NEPA analysis that can be tiered to when conducting post-lease and site-specific reviews of plans, permits and other approvals, regardless of when the leased area on which the activities are proposed may have been

leased. The Programmatic EIS may also inform extraordinary circumstance reviews to ensure categorical exclusions are used appropriately.

After careful consideration, the Department of the Interior decided to reaffirm the decision for holding Lease Sales 259 and 261 according to the terms in the notices of sale published in 2023 and to reaffirm the leases issued as a result of those sales.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.* (National Environmental Policy Act) and 43 CFR part 46.

Matthew N. Giacona,

Acting Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

[FR Doc. 2026-03727 Filed 2-24-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4340-98-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

[RR85672000, 21XR0680A2, RX.31480001.0040000; OMB Control Number 1006-0028]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Recreation Survey Questions

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), are proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Please provide a copy of your comments to Ronnie Baca, Bureau of Reclamation, Asset Management Office, 86-67200, P.O. Box 25007, Denver, CO 80225-0007; or by email to rbaca@usbr.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1006-0028 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ronnie Baca by email at rbaca@usbr.gov, or by telephone at (303) 445-

3257. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on December 23, 2025 (90 FR 60123). No comments were received.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

- (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you