

the **Federal Register**. Public meetings and other public-involvement activities will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media and via the Internet at <http://www.blm.gov/az/news.htm>.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be mailed to Mark Lambert, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, Ironwood Forest National Monument, Tucson Field Office, 12661 East Broadway Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona 85748-7208. You may also hand-deliver comments to the above listed address. Electronic comments will be accepted and should be sent to:

[AZ\\_IFNM\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:AZ_IFNM_RMP@blm.gov). Oral comments will also be accepted and recorded at public meetings held during the 90-day public review and comment period.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mark Lambert, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, Tucson Field Office, 12661 East Broadway Boulevard, Tucson, Arizona 85748-7208, Telephone 520-258-7200.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Ironwood Forest National Monument, established by Presidential Proclamation on June 9, 2000, encompasses approximately 128,686 acres of Federal land administered by the BLM. The DRMP/DEIS affects only Federal lands and Federal interests located within the established boundary of the monument. The BLM's Tucson Field Office has the responsibility of planning for and management of Federal lands within the monument. Issues identified as part of the planning process and addressed in the DRMP/DEIS include air resources, biological resources, cultural resources, fire management, grazing management, hazardous materials, lands and realty, mineral and energy resources, Native American issues, recreation, social and economic conditions, soils, wilderness characteristics, transportation and access, visual resources, and water resources. The DRMP/DEIS includes strategies for protecting and preserving the biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, scientific, and scenic values for which the monument was established. Four alternatives have been developed in response to the issues. The "no action" alternative represents current management of the Ironwood Forest National Monument. Three additional "action" alternatives present reasonable, yet varying, management scenarios. The alternatives range from emphasizing maintenance of the naturalness of Ironwood Forest National Monument (by restricting some

human uses) to emphasizing continued human uses, while still protecting the objects and resources for which the monument was established. The no-action alternative proposes the continued designation of the Waterman Mountains Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). This ACEC is approximately 3,342 acres and was designated to protect the endangered Nichol Turk's head cactus, provide optimum habitat for naturally occurring populations of Nichol Turk's head cactus, and assist in its recovery. The following resource-use limitation applies to this ACEC: Prohibit land use authorizations except along existing roads and trails. The action alternatives do not propose designation of this ACEC. For detailed information, refer to Chapter 2 of the DRMP/DEIS, Special Area Designations section.

The range of alternatives in the DRMP/DEIS evaluates planning decisions brought forward from current BLM planning documents, including the Phoenix Resource Management Plan (1989), Arizona Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Administration (1987), and the Arizona Statewide Land Use Plan Amendment for Fire, Fuels, and Air Quality Management (2003). A Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, as well as a Record of Decision will be prepared by the BLM for the Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan in accordance with planning regulations at 43 CFR part 1610 and NEPA at 40 CFR part 1502.

Public comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at: Bureau of Land Management, Tucson Field Office, 12661 East Broadway Boulevard Tucson, Arizona 85748-7208, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Copies of the Ironwood Forest National Monument DRMP/DEIS are available for review via the Internet at [http://www.blm.gov/az/env\\_docs/](http://www.blm.gov/az/env_docs/)

[library/rmps/rmps.htm](http://www.blm.gov/az/env_docs/library/rmps/rmps.htm). Electronic (CD-ROM) and paper copies are available for review at the BLM, Tucson Field Office. Electronic (on CD-ROM) and paper copies also may be obtained by contacting the BLM at the address and phone number provided above.

Dated: October 25, 2006.

**Michael A. Taylor,**  
*Acting State Director.*

**Editorial Note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on February 26, 2007.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

#### Notice of Availability of Eastern San Diego County Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the El Centro Field Office. The Draft RMP/EIS addresses public lands managed by the El Centro Field Office in the eastern portion of San Diego County, California, and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

**DATES:** To assure that they will be considered, BLM must receive written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. Future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities will be announced at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments at the public meetings or by any of the following methods:

- *Web Site:* <http://www.ca.blm.gov/elcentro>.
- *Fax:* (760) 337-4490.
- *Mail:* 1661 So. 4th St., El Centro, California 92243.
- *E-mail:* [caesdrmp@ca.blm.gov](mailto:caesdrmp@ca.blm.gov).

CD and paper copies of the Eastern San Diego County Draft RMP/EIS are available at the El Centro Field Office at

the above address and at the California BLM State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas Zale, (760) 337-4420.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Eastern San Diego County Planning Unit is comprised of 98,902 acres of public land, spanning a portion of the eastern escarpment of Southern California's Peninsular Ranges. The Eastern San Diego County RMP, when completed, will provide management guidance for use and protection of the resources managed by the El Centro Field Office in this area. The Draft RMP/EIS has been developed through a collaborative planning process and considers five alternatives. The primary issues addressed include: Conflicts between motorized, mechanized, and non-motorized/non-mechanized recreationists; protection of sensitive natural and cultural resources from impacts due to recreational use, livestock grazing, and other land uses; guidance for renewable energy development; and addressing other planning issues raised during the scoping process.

The Draft RMP/EIS also includes consideration of the designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). The preferred alternative includes the following ACECs: In-Ko-Pah ACEC—23,020 acres (currently 22,186 acres); Table Mountain ACEC—4,684 acres (currently 4,293 acres). Use of public lands within these ACECs would vary, depending on the resources and/or values identified (see Chapter 2 of the Draft RMP/EIS), but would likely include limitations on OHV use, livestock grazing, and development projects.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

**Editorial Note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on February 26, 2007.

Dated: September 6, 2006.

**Vicki L. Wood,**

*El Centro Field Office Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-169-07-1610-DO]

#### Revised Notice of Intent To Prepare a Resource Management Plan and Associated Environmental Impact Statement for the Carrizo Plain National Monument, California

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is a revision of the April 24, 2002 Notice of Intent (**Federal Register** Volume 67, Number 79, pages 20152-20153). In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), and the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2), notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) intends to initiate a new scoping process for a Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS). Previously, the BLM announced that an Environmental Assessment would be prepared in connection with the RMP for the Carrizo Plain National Monument. By this notice, the BLM is announcing public scoping meetings.

**DATES:** Specific dates and locations of public meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local news media and on BLM's Web site, <http://www.ca.blm.gov>. We will provide additional formal opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft RMP/EIS, expected to be ready for public review and comment sometime in 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Written scoping comments should be sent to: Monument Manager, Carrizo Plain National Monument, Bakersfield Field Office, 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, Calif. 93308. Scoping comments previously submitted following publication of the 2002 Notice of Intent are still valid and will be considered together with comments received pursuant to this revised notice. Commentors do not need to resubmit comments but may provide additional comments or clarifications of those previously made.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Monument Manager, Carrizo Plain

National Monument, Bakersfield Field Office, 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, Calif. 93308 or telephone (661) 391-6000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** With the recent appointment of the new Carrizo Plain National Monument Advisory Committee, the BLM is resuming work with the public on developing a draft RMP to guide future management of the Monument.

BLM has decided to prepare an EIS to support the plan, based on public requests and BLM's interest in expanding public involvement in the planning process. The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the RMP in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified during scoping.

In cooperation with the Monument Advisory Committee, the BLM and its Monument managing partners, The Nature Conservancy and the California Department of Fish and Game, will be conducting additional public scoping meetings to gather input on issues to be addressed in the draft RMP and EIS. To be most helpful, you should submit formal scoping comments within 30 days after the last public meeting. The minutes and list of attendees for each scoping meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days after the meeting to any participant who wishes to clarify the views he or she expressed. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. The BLM will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

The Carrizo Plain, the largest undeveloped remnant of the once vast San Joaquin Valley ecosystem, was designated a national monument in 2001 in recognition of its special resource values, including threatened and endangered species such as the San Joaquin kit fox, giant kangaroo rat, and blunt-nosed leopard lizard. It also contains nationally significant geological features, such as one of the best exposed examples of the 10-million year old San Andreas Fault, as well as one of the most significant cultural sites in California, at Painted Rock. In the spring, the Plain exhibits a lavish wildflower display of goldfields, purple