

The existing South Coast RMP was completed and signed in 1994. Since that time there have been significant changes in the patterns of urban growth, increased demands on the resources of the public lands, changing policies and emphasis on the management of public lands and local land use planning, and new data that has led to the listing of additional threatened or endangered species. Under BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5–6) RMP revisions are necessary if monitoring and evaluation findings, new data, new or revised policy, or changes in circumstances indicate that decisions for an entire plan or a major portion of the plan no longer serve as a useful guide for resource management. Plan revisions are prepared using the same procedures and documentation as for new plans.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis and EIS alternatives. These issues will also guide the planning process. You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria in writing to the BLM at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them to the BLM using one of the methods listed under **ADDRESSES** above. Preliminary issues identified for consideration in the RMP include: Impacts posed by rapid population and urban growth; the need to make resource decisions that are scientifically sound, in accordance with authorities applicable to management by BLM of the public lands, and sustainable; the need to maximize the use of public lands in species recovery and to support collaborative efforts with local governments in land use planning for habitat conservation; the need to provide access to significant energy and mineral resources, communication sites, and utility corridors; impacts and benefits from the continuation of grazing; Native American concerns and traditional uses; cultural resources; suitability for wild and scenic rivers; wilderness characteristics of acquired lands; visual resources; wildland fire and fuels management; and the need to provide adequate access, open space, and facilities for safe recreation and visitation on public lands. Existing Areas of Critical Environmental Concern will be evaluated for continued relevance and importance, and new ACEC designations will be considered.

In addition to these major issues, a number of management questions and concerns will be addressed in the plan. The public is encouraged to help identify these questions and concerns during the scoping phase. An

interdisciplinary approach will be used to develop the plan in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Disciplines involved in the planning process will include specialists with expertise in rangeland management, minerals and geology, wildland fire and fuels management, outdoor recreation, archaeology, paleontology, wildlife, fisheries, lands and realty, soils, water and air, wild horses, environmental justice, and sociology and economics.

The following planning criteria have been proposed to guide development of the plan, avoid unnecessary data collection and analyses, and to ensure the plan is tailored to the issues. Other criteria may be identified during the public scoping process. After gathering comments on planning criteria, the BLM will finalize the criteria and provide feedback to the public on the criteria to be used throughout the planning process. Some of the planning criteria that are under consideration include:

- The plan will be completed in compliance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) and the National Environmental Policy Act;
- The plan will recognize valid existing rights;
- Public participation will be encouraged throughout the process by collaborating and building relationships with tribes, state and local governments, Federal agencies, local stakeholders, and others with interest in the plan. Collaborators are regularly informed and offered timely and meaningful opportunities to participate in the planning process.

Authority: 43 CFR 1610.2(c).

John Kalish,
Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT–072–1430–ET; MTM–95280]

Notice of Proposed Legislative Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Montana

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, has filed an application requesting the Secretary of the Interior to process, in accordance with the Engle Act (43 U.S.C. 155–158),

a proposed legislative withdrawal from surface entry and mining of approximately 18,760 acres of public land located in Broadwater County, Montana. The withdrawal would also reserve the use of the land for military training exercises and public safety. This notice temporarily segregates the land from surface entry and mining for up to two years while the legislative withdrawal application is being processed. The land will remain open to mineral leasing.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 5, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the State Director, Montana State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Hotaling, BLM Butte Field Office, 406–533–7600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Acting on behalf of the Department of the Army and the Montana Army National Guard Bureau, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has filed an application requesting the Secretary of the Interior to process a legislative withdrawal pursuant to the Engle Act (43 U.S.C. 155–158). The withdrawal would withdraw and reserve the following-described public land located in Broadwater County, Montana, from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, for use as a military training range:

Principal Meridian, Montana

T. 6 N., R. 1 E.,
 Sec. 2, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 3, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 4, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 5, lots 1 and 2, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 8, E $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Secs. 9 and 10;
 Sec. 11, E $\frac{1}{2}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 12, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 13, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Secs. 14 and 15;
 Sec. 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 20, E $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 21;
 Sec. 22, lots 3 and 4, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 23;
 Sec. 24, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 25, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ and W $\frac{1}{2}$;
 Sec. 26;
 Sec. 27, lots 1 to 9, inclusive, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 28, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 29, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 33, E $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 34, lots 1 to 8, inclusive, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 35, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$.

T. 6 N., R. 2 E.,

Sec. 17, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 18, lot 4, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 19, lots 1, 2, and 3;

Sec. 20, W $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 30, lots 2, 3, and 4, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 7 N., R. 1 E.,

Sec. 26, S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 27, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 28, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 32, E $\frac{1}{2}$ except patented lands;

Secs. 33, 34 and 35.

The area described contains 18,760.63 acres in Broadwater County.

The purpose of the proposed legislative withdrawal is to withdraw and reserve the land for use as a military training range, involving live-fire exercises, necessary for national security. Public safety will be taken into account. The withdrawal would be established by an act of Congress, approved by the President. The duration of the withdrawal would be determined by Congress.

The use of a right-of-way or cooperative agreement would not provide adequate authorization for the use of this area due to the broad scope of military training exercises as well as the non-discretionary nature of the general mining laws.

There are no suitable alternative sites. The land hereinabove described is unique in having been used previously as a military training range. The use of a different site would needlessly degrade a Second site.

Potable water from two wells would be used during day-use training exercises.

The application and the records relating to the application can be examined by interested persons at the BLM Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana 59701, or Montana Army National Guard Fort Harrison, 900 Williams Street, Helena, Montana 59604.

On or before November 5, 2007 all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed legislative withdrawal may present their views in writing to the BLM, Montana State Director at the address indicated above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM

Montana State Office at the address above during regular business hours.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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 can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The proposed legislative withdrawal was discussed at five public meetings, as part of the scoping process for the legislative withdrawal environmental impact statement. Additional public meetings will be scheduled following the release of the draft legislative withdrawal environmental impact statement.

This withdrawal proposal will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR part 2300.

For a period of two years from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated as specified above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. Land uses currently permitted under the existing right-of-way agreement may continue during the segregative period. If the proposed legislative withdrawal has been submitted to Congress but not enacted into law by the end of the two-year segregation period, consideration will be given to entertaining an application for a temporary withdrawal in aid of pending legislation.

(Authority: 43 CFR 2310.3-1(b)(1))

Howard A. Lemm,

Acting State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-020-1430-ET; UTU-79765]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior proposes to withdraw on behalf of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approximately 79.43 acres of public land and approximately 30 acres of non-

Federal land, if acquired, to protect the Manning Canyon Tailings Repository while the BLM completes land use planning for the area. This notice temporarily segregates the land for up to 2 years from location and entry under the United States mining laws while the withdrawal application is being processed.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before November 5, 2007.

ADDRESS: Comments and meeting requests should be sent to the BLM Salt Lake Field Office Manager, 2370 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Nelson, BLM Salt Lake Field Office, 801-977-4355.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant for the above withdrawal is the BLM at the address stated above. The petition/application requests the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw, for a period of 5 years, the following described public land from location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

Salt Lake Meridian

T. 6 S., R. 3 W., Sec. 15, lots 12, 13, 14 and 17, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The areas described aggregate 79.43 acres in Utah County.

Approximately 30 acres of the following described private land will be acquired by the United States and included in the withdrawal:

Salt Lake Meridian

T. 6 S., R. 3 W., Sec. 15, that portion of Mineral Patent Nos. 27720, 28065, and 35708 located within SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The total areas described aggregate approximately 109.43 acres in Utah County.

The BLM petition/application has been approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it constitutes a withdrawal proposal of the Secretary of the Interior (43 CFR 2310.1-3(e)).

The purpose of the proposed withdrawal would be to protect the Federal investment in the Manning Canyon Tailings Repository until the BLM completes land use planning for the area.

The use of a right-of-way, an interagency agreement, or a cooperative agreement would not adequately constrain non-discretionary uses and would not provide adequate protection of the Federal investment in the facilities constructed on the land.

There are no suitable alternative sites since the repository is located on the above described land.