

922,880 acres of BLM-administered public lands and 1,199,280 acres of Federal mineral estate under Federal, State, and Private surface ownership.

The Approved Pinedale RMP describes the goals, objectives, and management actions to meet desired resource conditions for upland and riparian vegetation, recreation, grazing management, cultural and visual resources, and wildlife habitat, including habitat for threatened and endangered species. The Approved RMP also describes the actions and anticipated levels of development for fluid minerals resources, and locatable minerals in the Pinedale Field Office Planning Area.

The agency-preferred alternative (Alternative 4, in the Proposed RMP/Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), with minor modifications) is the selected alternative for the Approved RMP. After the publication of the Proposed RMP and Final EIS on August 22, 2008, 13 protests were received. The Governor of Wyoming also identified issues during the governor's consistency review. As the result of protest and consistency review, minor modifications were made to the Proposed RMP to address these issues.

The description of land use restrictions in Visual Resource Management (VRM) classes was clarified to indicate the application of land use restrictions based on VRM class is not made at the RMP level; the application of mitigation guidelines and operating standards, which are included in Appendix 3, was clarified to have possible application to exploratory oil and gas drilling; Appendix 3 was updated to include an operating standard regarding the control of water pits to limit the spread of West Nile virus; a cultural resource management action was removed to clarify that contributing segments of the National Historic Trails within the Pinedale Planning Area were identified; a statement included in Table 2-25 was corrected to present the appropriate management action regarding restrictions on high-profile structures near sage-grouse leks; the maps showing special designations and management areas were reprinted on a larger scale to improve readability; and typographical errors were corrected in Appendix 3 and the Glossary.

No inconsistencies were identified between the RMP and State or local plans. The governor's consistency review identified four issues that are further clarified in the ROD: (1) Revision of the definition of "avoidance area" in the Glossary in order to clarify that right-of-way applications would be

allowed in and through the Pinedale Field Office Planning Area; (2) elaboration on the Section 390 Categorical Exclusions (CX) under the Energy Policy Act of 2005; (3) elucidation of the potential need for future air quality monitoring and modeling; and (4) inclusion of a reference to the Wyoming Executive Order 2008-2 regarding greater sage-grouse core area protection.

**Jamie E. Connell,**

*Acting Associate State Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-930-6310-DR-WOPR; HAG-09-0045]

#### Notice of Availability of the Records of Decision of the Resource Management Plans of the Western Oregon Bureau of Land Management Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford Districts, and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) policies, the BLM announces the availability of the Records of Decision (RODs) for the Approved Resource Management Plans of the Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford Districts, and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District in western Oregon. The Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, signed the RODs on December 30, 2008, which constitutes the final decision of the Secretary of the Interior. The Approved Resource Management Plans (RMPs) are effective immediately.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the RODs will be sent to affected federal, state, and local government agencies, and to tribal governments. Interested persons may review the RODs on the Internet at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/wopr/index.php>. Copies of the RODs will be available for public inspection at the Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford District offices and the Grants Pass, Klamath Falls and Tillamook Resource Area offices.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jerry Hubbard, Western Oregon Plan

Revisions Public Outreach Coordinator; at (503) 808-6115.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM has analyzed revisions of six Resource Management Plans with a single Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The FEIS describes four alternatives, including the Proposed RMP alternative, for managing approximately 2,550,000 acres of federal land within the western Oregon planning area, most of which are Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant lands.

The major resource management issues addressed in the Approved RMPs include:

- Providing a sustainable supply of wood and other forest products, as mandated by the Oregon and California Lands Act of 1937, while also meeting other applicable laws.
- Providing for conservation of species listed under the Endangered Species Act.
- Contributing to meeting the goals of the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Reducing wildfire hazard and integrating fire back into the ecosystem.

The Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published in the **Federal Register** on August 10, 2007. During the planning process over 170 meetings were offered and nearly 30,000 comment letters were received during the comment period. Comments received on the DEIS were important in shaping the Approved RMPs. The Approved RMPs are based on Alternative 2 from the DEIS, but include portions of the other alternatives in the DEIS.

Some of the key changes include:

- Including wider Riparian Management Areas, as described in Alternative 1 of the DEIS.
- Reconfiguring Late Successional Management Areas to match the Final Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan.
- Deferring harvest for 15 years in older and more structurally complex multi-layered conifer stands in the Timber Management Area to be consistent with the Final Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan.
- Using uneven-aged management from Alternative 3 in the southern Medford District and Klamath Falls Resource Area to decrease fire hazard and increase fire resiliency.

The Notice of Availability of the FEIS/PRMP was published in the **Federal Register** on October 17, 2008. The Governor's consistency review period ended on December 8, 2008. The Governor did not identify any inconsistency between the Proposed

RMP (PRMP) and approved resource related plans, and the policies or programs contained therein, of State or local governments or offer any specific recommendation to change the plan to address a finding of inconsistency with State or local plans. The Governor did identify concerns with the PRMP which were addressed by the BLM State Director, Oregon/Washington.

A protest period for the PRMP was provided between November 7 and December 8, 2008. Two hundred and sixty four protests were received on the PRMP during the protest period. A minor change resulted from resolution of the protests: Two small parcels purchased with Land and Water Conservation Funds were added to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern in the Salem RMP. Additional minor editorial modifications were made in preparing the Approved RMPs to provide further clarification of some of the decisions. Through its protest resolution process, the BLM has determined that the PRMP complies with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

The plan does not include any implementation level decisions. When the BLM proposes to take an action on lands managed under the revised plans, any party to a case adversely affected by that decision may appeal such decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals in accordance with regulations found at 43 CFR Part 4.

**Edward W. Shepard,**

*State Director, Oregon/Washington, Bureau of Land Management.*

[FR Doc. E9-103 Filed 1-7-09; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-320-1310-PP-OSHL]

#### **Public Land Order No. 7725; Revocation of Oil Shale Withdrawal; Utah**

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

**ACTION:** Public Land Order.

**SUMMARY:** This order revokes a withdrawal established by an Executive Order insofar as it affects public lands and federally owned mineral deposits in the State of Utah withdrawn for investigation, examination and classification of oil shale. This order also restores those withdrawn oil shale deposits and public lands containing such deposits to oil shale leasing and

opens all lands to the operation of the public land laws, excepting the operation of the 1872 Mining Law.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* February 9, 2009.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rhonda Flynn, BLM Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah, 801-539-4132.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Executive Order No. 5327 temporarily withdrew public lands from lease or other disposal for investigation, examination and classification of oil shale. The Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law No. 109-58, dated August 8, 2005, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make public lands containing federally owned oil shale deposits available for leasing. Approximately 1,652,000 acres in the State of Utah are affected by this revocation. The lands will not be opened to the operation of the 1872 Mining Law until completion of an analysis to determine if any of the lands need special designation and protection. There is also a complementary withdrawal of these lands that disallows the location of mining claims for metalliferous minerals under the 1872 Mining Law.

#### **Order**

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (2000), it is ordered as follows:

1. The withdrawal established by Executive Order No. 5327, dated April 15, 1930, as amended, which withdrew oil shale deposits and lands containing such deposits, is hereby revoked insofar as it affects public lands and federally owned mineral deposits in the State of Utah.

2. At 9 a.m. on February 9, 2009, all federally owned oil shale deposits and public lands containing oil shale deposits in the State of Utah withdrawn by Executive Order No. 5327 referenced in Paragraph 1, will be opened to the operation of the public land laws and to development activities pursuant to section 21 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 241), as amended by section 369 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. No. 109-58) and regulations promulgated thereunder, but will not be opened to the operation of the 1872 Mining Law, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law. All valid applications received at or prior to 9 a.m. on February 9, 2009, will be considered as simultaneously filed at that time. Those

received thereafter will be considered in the order of filing.

Dated: December 26, 2008.

**C. Stephen Allred,**

*Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.*

[FR Doc. E9-101 Filed 1-7-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-84-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-320-1310-PP-OSHL]

#### **Public Land Order No. 7726; Revocation of Oil Shale Withdrawals; Wyoming**

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

**ACTION:** Public Land Order.

**SUMMARY:** This order revokes a withdrawal established by an Executive Order insofar as it affects public lands and federally owned mineral deposits in the State of Wyoming withdrawn for investigation, examination and classification of oil shale. This order also restores those withdrawn oil shale deposits and public lands containing such deposits to oil shale leasing and opens all lands to the operation of the public land laws, excepting the operation of the 1872 Mining Law.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* February 9, 2009.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet Booth, BLM Wyoming State Office, 5353 N. Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, 307-775-6124.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Executive Order No. 5327 temporarily withdrew public lands from lease or other disposal for investigation, examination and classification of oil shale. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801), Public Law 109-58, dated August 8, 2005, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make public lands containing federally owned oil shale deposits available for leasing. Approximately 6,031,000 acres of public lands and federally owned mineral deposits in the State of Wyoming are affected by this revocation. The lands will not be opened to the operation of the 1872 Mining Law until completion of an analysis to determine if any of the lands need special designation and protection. There is also a complementary withdrawal of these lands that disallows the location of mining claims for metalliferous minerals under the 1872 Mining Law.