

propagation or survival. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

#### Families

Cebidae  
Canidae  
Cercopithecidae  
Hominidae  
Hylobatidae  
Lemuridae  
Tapiridae

#### Species

Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*)  
Grevy's Zebra (*Equus grevyi*)  
Golden parakeet (*Guarouba guarouba*)  
Bali starling (*Leucopsar rothschildi*)  
Radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*)  
Goliath frog (*Conraua goliath*)

#### Multiple Applicants

The following applicants each request a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

*Applicant:* Franklin Brown, Rainbow City, AL; PRT-99428A.

*Applicant:* Michael Couch, Lebanon, TN; PRT-97814A.

*Applicant:* Coll John, El Paso, TX; PRT-99723A.

*Applicant:* Montague James, El Paso, TX; PRT-99724A.

#### Brenda Tapia,

*Program Analyst/Data Administrator, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVL01000. L51100000.GN0000. LVEMF1201170 241A; NVN-090444; 13-08807; MO#4500047785; TAS: 14X5017]

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Pan Mine Project, White Pine County, NV

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

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

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Egan Field Office, Ely, Nevada has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Pan Mine Project and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

**DATES:** To ensure comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Pan Mine Project Draft EIS within 45 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce any public meetings or other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments related to the Pan Mine Project by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* BLM\_NV\_EYDO\_Midway\_Pan\_EIS@blm.gov.
- *Fax:* 775-289-1910.
- *Mail:* BLM Ely District, Egan Field Office, HC 33, Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301.

Copies of the Pan Mine Project Draft EIS are available in the Ely District Office at the above address and on the Ely District's Web page at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely\\_field\\_office/blm\\_programs/minerals/mining\\_projects/pan\\_mine\\_project.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office/blm_programs/minerals/mining_projects/pan_mine_project.html).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information contact Miles Kreidler, project lead, telephone: 775-289-1893; address: 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV 89301; email: [mkreidler@blm.gov](mailto:mkreidler@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS 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:** Midway Gold US, Inc., (Midway) proposes to construct and operate an open-pit gold mining operation in the northern part of the Pancake Mountain Range, approximately 50 miles west of Ely in White Pine County, Nevada. The proposed location is 10 miles south of US Route 50 near Newark Valley. The proposed operations and associated disturbance would be on approximately 3,204 acres of public land managed by the BLM. The proposed power line runs along Highway 50 and south along a proposed access road to the mine site. An updated inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics was completed and found no lands with

wilderness characteristics in the project area. The projected project life of the mine is 25 years: 13 years of mining and additional time for associated construction, closure, and post-closure monitoring periods. Midway is currently conducting exploration activities in this area which were analyzed in 2 environmental assessments (EAs): the *Castleworth Ventures, Inc. Pan Exploration Project EA* (May 2004) and the *Midway Gold Pan Project Exploration Amendment EA* (July 2011).

The Draft EIS describes and analyzes the proposed project site-specific impacts (including cumulative) on all affected resources. There are 3 action alternatives (including the Proposed Action) analyzed in addition to the No Action Alternative. The Waste Rock Disposal Site Design Alternative would result in a decrease of 79 acres of disturbance compared to the Proposed Action. It would also involve a more conventional waste rock disposal design and move waste rock away from more important greater sage-grouse habitat. The Southwest Power Line Alternative was developed to address concerns of potential impacts to greater sage-grouse from the Proposed Action power line. It is marginally further away and is less visible from 2 active greater sage-grouse leks. There were 10 other alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis. Mitigation measures are considered to minimize environmental impacts and to assure the proposed action does not result in unnecessary or undue degradation of public lands.

On April 16, 2012, a Notice of Intent was published in the **Federal Register** inviting scoping comments on the proposed action. A legal notice was prepared by the BLM and published in the Elko Daily Free Press, Ely Daily Times, and the Reno Gazette-Journal informing the public of the BLM's intention to prepare the Pan Mine EIS. Public scoping meetings were held in May 2012 in Ely, Eureka, and Reno, Nevada. A total of 26 comments were received. The comments are incorporated in a Scoping Summary Report and were considered in the preparation of this Draft EIS.

Concerns raised during scoping include: potential impacts to archaeological resources, including damage to Carbonari sites and the loss of use of the 1913 alternative route of the Lincoln Highway; impacts to population and habitat of greater sage-grouse; impacts to wild horses and their habitat; impacts to air quality through point (equipment) and non-point (waste rock disposal areas) pollution sources; changes to the quantity and quality of

surface water and groundwater; potential occurrence of acid drainage from waste rock disposal areas into surface and groundwater; impacts to the sensitive desert landscape, vegetation communities, and vegetative food resources for wildlife; short- and long-term impacts on wildlife population dynamics and habitats; impacts to general health of the rangeland resources; release of pollutants and hazardous materials to the environment during operations and following closure; increase in light pollution in the areas and direct visual impacts from mine facilities; positive and negative socioeconomic impacts to the communities of Ely and Eureka, and to White Pine County; and cumulative impacts to wildlife, wild horses, cultural, air, water, and vegetation resources. The 2 action alternatives were developed to help reduce impacts to greater sage-grouse. Mitigation measures have also been included to show how impacts on resources could be minimized.

The BLM has prepared the Draft EIS in conjunction with its three Cooperating Agencies: Nevada Department of Wildlife, Eureka County, and White Pine County.

Please note that public comments and information submitted including names, street addresses, and email addresses of persons who submit comments will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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 your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** 40 CFR part 1501 and 43 CFR part 3809.

**Jill A. Moore,**

*Field Manager, Egan Field Office.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

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LXSS048E0000]

#### Notice of Availability of the HiLine District Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, MT

**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 (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the HiLine District in Montana and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

**DATES:** To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the draft RMP/EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of the draft RMP/EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public participation activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments related to the HiLine District draft RMP/EIS by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [MT\\_HiLine\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:MT_HiLine_RMP@blm.gov).
- *Fax:* 406-262-2856.
- *Mail:* District Manager, BLM, 3990 Hwy 2 West, Havre, MT 59501

Copies of the HiLine District draft RMP/EIS are available in the Havre Field Office at the above address or on the following Web site: <http://www.blm.gov/8qkd>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Brian Hockett, Planning & Environmental Coordinator, telephone: 406-262-2837; address: 3990 Hwy 2 West, Havre, MT 59501; email: [MT\\_HiLine\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:MT_HiLine_RMP@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS 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 HiLine District draft RMP/EIS was

developed through a collaborative planning process. The HiLine District RMP decision area encompasses approximately 2.4 million acres of public land and 3.8 million acres of Federal mineral estate administered by the BLM HiLine District, which are located in northern Montana in Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Chouteau, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, and Valley counties. These lands and minerals are managed by the Havre, Malta, Glasgow and Great Falls Field Offices. The HiLine RMP decision area does not include private lands, State lands, tribal reservations, Federal lands not administered by BLM, or lands addressed in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument RMP (January 2008).

Current guidance is provided by the West HiLine (1988) and Sweet Grass Hills Amendment (1996) and Judith-Valley-Phillips Resource Management Plans (1994) and land use plan amendments (1996). Oil and gas leasing in Phillips and Valley counties is currently managed under four Management Framework Plans (MFP): Phillips MFP, Valley MFP, Little Rocky Mountains MFP, and the UL Bend/Zortman MFP.

The key issues raised during the planning process include renewable and traditional energy development, management of solid minerals, soil and vegetation management, land tenure, public land access, off-highway vehicles, lands with wilderness characteristics, wildlife habitat and special status species, cultural and paleontological resources, special designations and management areas, wildfire and prescribed fire management, and social and economic conditions across the HiLine District. Five alternatives, including a no-action alternative, were developed in response to these key issues. The no action alternative, Alternative A, represents the current management of public lands within the HiLine District. The four action alternatives, Alternatives B through E, present a reasonable set of objectives and actions to guide future management of the planning area. Comments collected during the scoping process in 2006, during which 18 public open houses were held, were instrumental in determining the issues to be addressed. Through the draft RMP/EIS, the BLM is seeking public input on the alternatives developed to address these issues. The HiLine District's identified preferred alternative is Alternative E, which focuses on a balance between managing public lands for economic and recreational growth while protecting valuable resources.