Sec. 15, SW¼SE¼; Sec. 22, lots 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8; Sec. 26, NW¼NE¼ except for that portion within Homestead Entry Survey 235 subject to Patent 529631.

The area described contains 239.60 acres in Pennington County.

North Fork of Castle Creek Area

T. 1 N., R. 2 E., Sec. 2, lots 3 and 4; T. 2 N., R. 2 E., Sec. 22, SW¼SE¼; Sec. 26, W½; Sec. 27, E½ and E½NW¼; Sec. 34, NE¼, E½NW¼, and E½SE¼; Sec. 35, SW¼NE¼, W½, NE¼SE¼, and W½SE¼.

The area described aggregates 1,681.72 acres in Pennington County.

The areas described in South Dakota aggregate approximately 12,698.50 acres in Custer, Lawrence, and Pennington Counties.

Wyoming

Black Hills National Forest

Sixth Principal Meridian

Dugout Gulch Botanical Area

T. 52 N., R. 60 W., Sec. 19, lots 3 and 4, E½SW¼, and W½SE¼; Sec. 30, lots 1 thru 4, W½NE¼, E½NW¼, E½SW¼, and SE¼; Sec. 31, lot 1, NE¼, NE¼NW¼, and N½SE¼.

T. 52 N., R. 61 W., Sec. 24, SE¼SE¼; Sec. 25, lots 1 thru 4, inclusive, NW¼NE¼, and E½SE¼; Sec. 36, E½NE¼.

The area described aggregates 1,513.33 acres in Crook County.

Hay Creek Research Natural Area

T. 54 N., R. 62 W., Sec. 7, S½NE¼, SE¼NW¼, E½SW¼, and SE¼; Sec. 8, NW¼SW¼, and S½SW¼; Sec. 17, NW¼, and N½SW¼; Sec. 18, NE¼, NE¼NW¼, NE¼SW¼, NE¼SE¼, and W½SE¼.

The area described contains 1,080.00 acres in Crook County.

Upper Sand Creek Botanical Area

T. 51 N., R. 60 W., Sec. 7, S½SE¼; Sec. 17, lots 1 and 2, NW¼NW¼, SE¼NW¼, E½SW¼, SW¼SW¼, and W½SE¼; Sec. 18, lots 5 thru 8, inclusive, W½NE¼, SE¼NW¼, W½SE¼, and SE¼SE¼; Sec. 19, E½; Sec. 20, lot 1, W½NE¼, SE¼NW¼, W½SE¼, and SE¼SE¼; Sec. 21, lots 8 thru 11, lots 14 and 15, and NW¼SE¼; Sec. 29, lots 2 and 3, N½NE¼ and SW¼NW¼; Sec. 30, NE¼.

The area described contains 2,233.07 acres in Crook County.

The total areas described in Wyoming aggregate 4,828.40 acres in Crook County.

The purpose of the withdrawal is to protect the Research Natural Areas and Botanical Areas and allow the USFS to explore administrative alternatives in managing the lands.

The use of a right-of-way, interagency agreement, or cooperative agreement would not provide adequate protection for these areas due to the broad scope and nondiscretionary nature of the general mining laws.

No alternative sites are feasible due to the resource significance of the areas. No water will be needed to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal.

Records relating to the application may be examined by contacting the USFS, Rocky Mountain Region at the above address and phone number.

For a period until December 23, 2015, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the withdrawal application may present their views in writing to the Forest Supervisor, Black Hills National Forest at the address indicated above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Forest Supervisor’s Office, Black Hills National Forest, 1019 North 5th Street, Custer, South Dakota 57730, during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised 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, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Notice is hereby given that public meetings in connection with the proposed withdrawal will be held at the Mystic Ranger District, 8221 South Hwy 16, Rapid City, South Dakota 67702 on October 27, 2015 at 6 p.m. and at the Sundance Community Center, Basement of the Crook County Courthouse, 309 Cleveland St., Sundance, Wyoming 82729 on October 28, 2015 at 6 p.m. The USFS will publish a notice of the time and place in at least one newspaper of general circulation no less than 30 days before the scheduled dates of the meetings.

For a period until September 25, 2017, subject to valid existing rights, the lands will be segregated from location and entry under the United States mining laws, unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. The lands will remain open to other uses within the statutory authority pertinent to National Forest lands and subject to discretionary approval.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.

Peter A. McFadden,
Chief, Branch of Realty and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2015–24312 Filed 9–23–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4311–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLWQ2100000 L11100000.DR00000.LXISISGST0000]

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments for the Great Basin Region Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Regions of Idaho and Southwestern Montana; Nevada and Northeastern California; Oregon; and Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments (ARMPAs) for the Great Basin Region Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) sub-regions of Idaho and Southwestern Montana, Nevada and Northeastern California, Oregon, and Utah.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the ROD and ARMPAs are available upon request and are also available for public inspection at the addresses listed in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section. Interested persons may also review the ROD and ARMPAs on the internet at http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/sagegrouse.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the Idaho and Southwestern Montana GRSG ARMPA: Jonathan Beck, BLM, Idaho State Office GRSG Planning Lead,
management of these areas is limited to the application of required design features (RDFs) for certain authorizations when applicable.

In addition to establishing protective land use allocations, the ARMPAs implement a suite of management decisions, such as the establishment of disturbance limits, GRSG habitat objectives, mitigation requirements, monitoring protocols, and adaptive management triggers and responses, as well as other conservation measures throughout the range.

The cumulative effect of these measures is to protect, improve, and restore GRSG habitat across the remaining range of the species in the Great Basin and provide greater certainty that BLM land and resource management activities in GRSG habitat will lead to conservation of the GRSG and other species associated with the sagebrush ecosystem in the region.

The ARMPAs approved by the ROD amend the following BLM Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and Management Framework Plans (MFPs), completed in the year indicated:

**California**
- Alturas RMP (2008)
- Eagle Lake RMP (2008)
- Surprise RMP (2008)

**Idaho**
- Bennett Hills/Timmerman Hills MFP (1980)
- Big Desert MFP (1981)
- Big Lost MFP (1983)
- Bruneau MFP (1983)
- Cassia MFP (1985)
- Cascade RMP (1988)
- Challis RMP (1999)
- Kuna (1983)
- Jarbidge RMP (2015)
- Lemhi RMP (1987)
- Little Lost-Birch Creek MFP (1981)
- Magic MFP (1973)
- Monument RMP (1985)
- Medicine Lodge RMP (1985)
- Owyhee RMP (1999)
- Pocatello RMP (2012)
- Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area RMP (2008)
- Sun Valley MFP (1981)
- Twin Falls MFP (1982)

**Montana**
- Dillon RMP (2006)

**Nevada**
- Carson City Consolidated RMP (2001)
- Elko RMP (1987)
- Ely RMP (2008)
- Shoshone-Eureka RMP (1986)
- Tonopah RMP (1997)
- Wells RMP (1985)
- Winnemucca RMP (2015)

**Oregon**
- Andrews RMP (2005)
- Baker RMP (1989)
- Brothers-LaPine RMP (1989)
- Southeastern Oregon RMP (2003)
- Steens RMP (2005)
- Three Rivers RMP (1992)
- Upper Deschutes RMP (2005)

**Utah**
- Box Elder RMP (1986)
- Cedar/Beaver/Garfield/Antimony RMP (1986)
- House Range RMP (1987)
- Kanab RMP (2008)
- Park City MFP (1975)
- Pinyon MFP (1978)
- Pony Express RMP (1990)
- Price RMP (2008)
- Randolph MFP (1980)
- Richfield RMP (2008)
- Salt Lake District Isolated Tracts Planning Analysis (1985)
- Vernal RMP (2008)
- Warm Springs RMP (1987)

The Idaho and Southwestern Montana, Nevada, and California, and Utah Draft Land Use Plan Amendments (LUPAs)/Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs included proposed GRSG management direction for National Forest System lands. However, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has completed a separate ROD and Land and Resource Management Plans under USFS planning authorities. Management decisions within the ROD and ARMPAs apply only to BLM-administered lands.

Across all four sub-regions in the Great Basin Region, the ROD and ARMPAs amend existing land use plan decisions on a total of approximately 90 million BLM-administered surface acres.

A Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Great Basin Region GRSG Proposed LUPAs and Final EISs for the Idaho and Southwestern Montana, Nevada and Northeastern California, Oregon, and Utah sub-regions was published in the Federal Register on May 29, 2015, which initiated a 30-day protest period and a 60-day Governor’s consistency review period.

The BLM received 133 timely and valid protest submissions across all four Great Basin Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs. All protests have been resolved and/or dismissed. For a full description of the
issues raised during the protest period and how they were addressed, please refer to the Director’s Protest Resolution Reports for all four ARMPAs, which are available at the following Web site: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/planning/planning_overview/protest_resolution/protestreports.html.

The BLM received notifications of inconsistencies and recommendations as to how to resolve them during the Governor’s consistency review period from the States of Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah. The BLM also received a concurrence letter of consistency from the State of California. On August 6, 2015, the BLM State Directors for Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah sent notification letters to their respective States as to whether they accepted or rejected their recommendations for consistency. The States were then given thirty days to appeal the State Directors’ decisions. The States of Idaho, Nevada, and Utah appealed the BLM State Directors’ decisions. The BLM Director affirmed the State Directors’ decisions on these recommendations as the recommendations did not provide the balance required by 43 CFR 1610.3–2(e). The Director communicated his decisions on the appeals in writing to the Governors concurrently with the release of the RODs.

The Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs were selected in the ROD as the ARMPAs, with some minor modifications and clarifications based on protests received, the Governors’ consistency reviews, and internal agency deliberations.

Copies of the Idaho and Southwestern Montana GRSG ROD and ARMPA are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:
- BLM Idaho State Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise ID 83709;
- BLM Boise District Office, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705;
- BLM Owyhee Field Office, 20 First Avenue West, Marsing, ID 83639;
- BLM Idaho Falls District Office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401;
- BLM Salmon Field Office, 1206 South Challis Street, Salmon, ID 83467;
- BLM Challis Field Office, 1151 Blue Mountain Road, Challis, ID 83226;
- BLM Pocatello Field Office, 4350 Cliffs Drive, Pocatello, ID 83204;
- BLM Twin Falls District Office, 2536 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301;
- BLM Shoshone Field Office, 400 West F Street, Shoshone, ID 83352;
- BLM Burley Field Office, 15 East 200 South, Burley, ID 83318;
- BLM Coeur d’Alene District Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83815;
- BLM Cottonwood Field Office, 1 Butte Drive, Cottonwood, ID 83522;
- BLM Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101;
- BLM Butte District Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701; and
- BLM Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, MT 59725–9431.

Copies of the Nevada and Northeastern California GRSG ROD and ARMPA are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:
- BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, NV, 89502;
- BLM Winnemucca District Office, 5100 E. Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV, 89445;
- BLM Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV, 89301;
- BLM Elko District Office, 3900 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV, 89801;
- BLM Carson City District Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV, 89701;
- BLM Battle Mountain District Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV, 89820;
- BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W–1623, Sacramento, CA, 95825;
- BLM Alturas Field Office, 708 W. 12th Street, Alturas, CA, 96101;
- BLM Eagle Lake Field Office, 2950 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA, 96130; and
- BLM Surprise Field Office, 602 Cressler Street, Cedarville, CA, 96104.

Copies of the Oregon GRSG ROD and ARMPA are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:
- BLM Oregon State Office, 1220 SW. 3rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97204;
- BLM Baker Resource Area Office, 3100 H Street, Baker City, OR 97814;
- BLM Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, OR 97738;
- BLM Lakeview District Office, 1301 S. G Street, Lakeview, OR 97630;
- BLM Prineville District Office, 3050 NE. 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754; and
- BLM Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, OR 97918.

Copies of the Utah GRSG ROD and ARMPA are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:
- BLM Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT, 84101;
- BLM Cedar City Field Office, 176 East D.L. Sargent Drive, Cedar City, UT 84721;
- BLM Fillmore Field Office, 95 East 500 North, Fillmore, UT 84631;
- BLM Kanab Field Office and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, 669 South Highway 89A, Kanab, UT 84741;
- BLM Price Field Office, 125 South 600 West, Price, UT 84501;
- BLM Richfield Field Office, 150 East 900 North, Richfield, UT 84701;
- BLM Salt Lake Field Office, 2370 S. Decker Lake Boulevard, West Valley City, UT 84119; and
- BLM Vernal Field Office, 170 South 500 East, Vernal, UT 84078.

Authority: 36 CFR 219.59, 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10, 43 CFR 1610.2; 43 CFR 1610.5.

Amy Lueders,
Acting Assistant Director, Renewable Resources & Planning.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal; Sagebrush Focal Areas; Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming and Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management has approved an application to withdraw approximately 10 million acres of public and National Forest System lands identified as Sagebrush Focal Areas in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming from location and entry under the United States mining laws to protect the Greater Sage-Grouse and its habitat from adverse effects of locatable mineral exploration and mining, subject to valid existing rights. This notice temporarily segregates the lands for up to 2 years while the application is processed. This notice also provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposed withdrawal application. In addition, this notice initiates the public scoping process for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze and disclose impacts of the proposed withdrawal.

DATES: Comments on the proposed withdrawal application or scoping comments on issues to be analyzed in the EIS must be received by December