

The applicant requests a permit to reexport and reimport leopards (*Panthera pardus*), Bengal tigers (*Panthera tigris*), and progeny of the animals currently held by the applicant and any animals acquired in the United States by the applicant to/from worldwide locations to enhance the survival of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a three year period.

PRT-820732

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, CA.

The applicant requests a permit to import 3 male and 3 female captive born giant sable antelope (*Hippotragus niger variani*) from Sable Ranch, Republic of South Africa, to enhance the survival of the species through captive propagation.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: October 28, 1996.

Mary Ellen Amtower,

Acting Chief Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 96-28016 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-97-1220-00]

Notice of Closure of Public Land to Off-Highway Vehicle Use, Douglas County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain public lands in the vicinity of Stephanie Way and Fuller Avenue in the Johnson Lane area are closed to off-highway motorized vehicle use. This closure is necessary to prevent further

impact to vegetative and soil resources and to eliminate noise and dust from intensive vehicle play occurring in close proximity to a school, park and residential area.

EFFECTIVE DATES: This closure goes into effect on November 15, 1996 and will remain in effect until the Walker Resource Management Plan is updated or the Authorized Officer determines the closure is no longer needed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Abbett, Outdoor Recreation Planner, 1535 Hot Springs Road, Carson City, Nevada 89706. Telephone (702) 885-6125.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This closure applies to all motorized vehicle traffic except for law enforcement or emergency personnel during the conduct of their official duties. This closure does not apply to County public roads. The public lands affected by this closure are described as follows:

Mt. Diablo Meridian

T. 14 N., R. 20 E.,

Sec 27, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The authority for this closure is 43 CFR 8341.2(a). Any person who fails to comply with this closure is subject to arrest and fine of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

A map of the closed area is available at the Carson City District Office.

Dated this 16th day of October, 1996.

Daniel L. Jacquet,

Acting ADM, Non-Renewable Resources.

[FR Doc. 96-28022 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P-M

[OR-015-97-1150-04; GP7-0005]

Emergency Closure of public lands; Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Lakeview District, Interior.

ACTION: Emergency Road Closure.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately the road from the bottom gate to the top of Cougar Mountain, as legally described below, is closed to all vehicle access and travel.

In Lake County, Oregon: T.25S., R.15E., W.M., Oregon, Section 14: SESE.

The purpose of this closure is to protect the area's cultural resource values, reduce erosion, and reduce harassment of California bighorn sheep. The only exception would be for special authorized administrative use and emergency needs. The authority for this closure is 43 CFR 8341.2. This closure will remain in effect until an ORV designation plan is completed for this area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vern Stoffleth, Lakeview Resource Area, BLM, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97639 (ph: 541-947-2177).

Dated: October 16, 1996.

Scott R. Florence,

Manager, Lakeview Resource Area.

[FR Doc. 96-28020 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

[NV-030-1992-02]

Notice of Availability for the Denton-Rawhide Mine Expansion Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Comment Period and Public Open-House

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

ACTION: Notice of availability for the Denton-Rawhide mine expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Mineral County, Nevada; and notice of comment period and public open-house.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act, 40 CFR 1500-1508, and 43 CFR 3809, notice is given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared, with the assistance of a third-party consultant, a Draft EIS on the proposed Denton-Rawhide Mine Expansion Project, and has made copies available for public and agency review.

DATES: Written comments on the Draft EIS must be submitted or postmarked to the BLM no later than January 3, 1997. Oral and/or written comments may also be presented at a public open-house, to be held: November 20, 1996, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Carson City District BLM Office.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the Draft EIS should be addressed to: Bureau of Land Management, Carson City District Office, 1535 Hot Springs Road, Carson City, Nevada 89706, Attn.: Terri Knutson, Denton-Rawhide EIS Project Manager. A limited number of copies of the Draft EIS and supporting documentation may be obtained at the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terri Knutson, Denton-Rawhide EIS Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 1535 Hot Springs Road, Carson City, Nevada 89706, (702) 885-6156.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Kennecott Rawhide Mining Company of Fallon, Nevada has submitted an amended Plan of Operations for the expansion of the existing Denton-Rawhide Mine located approximately 55 miles southeast of Fallon, Nevada. The proposed operation would include: development and

condemnation drilling necessary for development of future operations; expansion of the open-pit and waste rock disposal area; construction of an additional leach pad and solution ponds to accommodate processing of Run-of-Mine ore; and the relocation of the stormwater diversion channel beyond the limits of the active mine workings. Existing permitted surface disturbance within the project area is 1,005 acres. The proposal would disturb an additional 364 acres for a total of 1,369 acres of public and private land within the project area.

This Draft EIS analyzes the environmental impacts associated with the proposed expansion of the existing Denton-Rawhide Mine, a partial pit backfill alternative, and the no action alternative. Issues analyzed in the Draft EIS include geology and minerals, water resources, soils, vegetation, wildlife and fisheries, range resources, paleontological resources, cultural resources and Native American concerns, air quality, access and land use, recreation and wilderness, social and economic values, visual resources, noise, and hazardous materials.

A copy of the Draft EIS has been sent to all individuals, agencies, and groups who have expressed interest in the project or as mandated by regulation or policy. A limited number of copies are available upon request from the BLM at the address listed above.

Public participation has occurred during the EIS process. A Notice of Intent was filed in the Federal Register on January 24, 1996, and an open scoping period was held until March 1, 1996. One public scoping open-house to solicit comments and ideas was held on February 15, 1996. All comments presented to the BLM throughout the EIS process have been considered.

To assist the BLM in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action and alternatives, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters in the document. Comments may address the adequacy of the Draft EIS and/or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the document. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, comments will be analyzed and considered by the BLM in preparing the Final EIS.

Dated: October 18, 1996.
John O. Singlaub,
District Manager.
[FR Doc. 96-28021 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-067-7122-6606; CACA-35511]

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Imperial Project, a proposed gold mining operation on public lands in Imperial County, California.

DATES: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, December 31, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Resource Area, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243, Attention: Keith Shone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Shone (619) 337-4412 or Thomas Zale (619) 337-4420.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: No hearings are presently planned, however, should public demand warrant, a hearing would be held by the BLM.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Imperial Project (Project) is a proposal by Chemgold, Inc. to develop an open-pit, precious metal mining operation utilizing heap leach processes. The proposed site is located in eastern Imperial County, California, approximately 45 miles northeast of El Centro, California and 20 miles northwest of Yuma, Arizona. The Project area is comprised of approximately 1,625 acres of unpatented mining claims on public lands administered by the BLM. Up to 150 million tons of ore would be leached and 450 million tons of waste rock would be deposited at the proposed waste rock stockpiles or the mine-out portion of the three (3) planned open pits. The expected maximum average mining rate would be 130,000 tons per day. Approximately 1,392 acres of surface disturbance would occur as a result of the Proposed Action. Mining activities would be performed 24 hours per day, seven (7) days per week, and are projected to commence in 1997 and terminate around the year 2016. The proposed

mine would include a lined heap leach pad designed and constructed to support and contain the ore heap and to collect process fluid from the treated heap for precious metal recovery. Blasted ore rock would be mined and hauled directly to the heap without crushing (run-of-mine). Blasted waste rock would be hauled directly to a waste rock stockpile or to one of the on-site pits to be backfilled. A ground water production well field, consisting of up to four (4) ground water production wells, would be completed and used to provide water for processing operations, dust control and domestic uses.

Dated: October 21, 1996.
Terry A. Reed,
Area Manager.
[FR Doc. 96-27519 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

Intent To Prepare Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a mining Plan of Operations (POO) for the Kinross-Goldbanks Mine project, Pershing County, Nevada; and notice of scoping period and public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and 43 CFR part 3809, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be directing the preparation of an EIS for the proposed development of a mine in Pershing County, Nevada. The EIS will be prepared by contract and funded by Kinross-Goldbanks Mining Company (KGMC). A public meeting will be held to identify issues to be addressed in the EIS, and to encourage public participation in the review process. Representatives of the BLM and KGMC will be summarizing the POO and accepting comments from the audience. The BLM invites comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis.

DATES: The scoping meeting will be held Wednesday, December 4, 1996 at the office of the Winnemucca District BLM, from 7-9 p.m. Written comments on the POO and scope of the EIS will be accepted until December 16, 1996. The Draft EIS is expected to be completed by July of 1997, at which time the document will be made available for public review and comment.