

Dated: December 23, 1997.

Nancy M. Kaufman,

Regional Director, Region 2, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 97-34154 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-340-7123-00-6019]

Notice of Closure, Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior, Clear Lake Field Office, Ukiah, California.

ACTION: Closure of Public Lands.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, subpart 8364, notice is hereby given that the below described public lands in the Cow Mountain area of Lake County are temporarily closed to public access and use. The closure will be in effect upon publication of this notice and will remain in effect for one year. Lands closed are described as follows:

All that real property situated in the County of Lake, State of California, described as follows:

The northwest quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$), the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$) and the north half of the southeast quarter (N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 9, the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$), the south half of the southwest quarter (S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$), and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 10, Township 14 North, Range 11 West, Mount Diablo Meridian, Lake County, California.

Excepting from the northwest quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$) of said Section 9, all that portion described as lying along the north line of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 9, Township 14 North, Range 11 West, MDM; beginning 650 feet east of the northeast corner of 8-Mile Valley Ranch; running east along the north line 1320 feet; thence south 100 feet; thence west 1320 feet; thence north 100 feet to the point of beginning. This closure is necessary to protect persons, property, and public lands and resources.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of Land Management's Clear Lake Field Office recently acquired the above described lands. As part of the agreement conveying the lands to the public and to BLM management, the former owners retained one year to vacate the property and remove personal belongings. The BLM Clear Lake Field Office will be amending the

South Cow Mountain Management Plan to include provisions for managing these lands, before opening them for public use. Additionally, several roads and structures are in disrepair and unsafe for public use. These roads must be repaired before the area is opened for public use.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Richard Burns, Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management Clear Lake Field Office, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.

Philip L. Damon,

Acting Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-34210 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-050-1150-04]

Notice—Bat Hibernation Site (Hibernacula) Closure

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management; Interior.

ACTION: Notice—bat hibernation sites (*hibernacula*) closure.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 43 CFR 8364.1, eleven caves in the Upper Snake River Districts are identified as bat hibernation sites (*hibernacula*) are seasonally closed to entry. With the exception of approved research, essential search and rescue, or other emergency or administrative operations for cave resources protection, eleven caves containing hibernation sites are closed during the hibernation season to all visitation, from October 15 to May 1.

Affected caves are listed below:

Bobcat Cave
Kids Cave
Owl Cave
Chalk Cave
Giant Arch Cave
Gypsum Cave
Little Arch Cave
Pot O' Gold Cave
Twin Cave
Will's Cave
The One That Goes Cave

The purpose of the closure is to protect bat species and their habitat during the critical hibernation period. Any person who fails to comply with this closure and restriction order, under 43 CFR 8364.1, may be subject to the penalties provided in regulations at 43 CFR 8360.0-7; a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

DATES: This action is effective December 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 prohibits disclosure of cave locations. Information pertaining to the above closure is available at the Shoshone Resource Area in Shoshone, Idaho, and the Idaho Falls District Office in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paula Call, BLM Shoshone Resource Area, P.O. Box 2-B, Shoshone Idaho 83352, telephone (208) 886-7254, or Joe Lowe, BLM Idaho Falls District Office, 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401, telephone (208) 524-7558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Certain caves in the Upper Snake River Districts serve as critical winter habitat for bats because they provide a narrow yet optimum range of temperature and other microclimatical variables required for successful hibernation. Research has indicated that all bat species are extremely susceptible and sensitive to human disturbance during hibernation, and that recreational caving trips during the hibernation season are detrimental to the survival of bat species.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

Bill Baker,

Shoshone Resource Area Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-34209 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-020-1430-10]

Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District, intends to develop an Activity Plan/Land Use Plan amendment for the Black Rock Desert located in the northwest portion of the district. The purpose of the plan and amendment is to better manage the resources and increasing level of activities occurring on the desert. Currently the Black Rock region reflects very few man-made developments and contains pristine sections of the Applegate/Lassen National Historic Trail. Competitive events and commercial uses of desert have increased tremendously since the original Management Framework Plan was completed in 1982. Plan goals include (1) Managing the varied resources while providing for a wide range of dispersed recreational activities and opportunities in a prudent manner; (2) Providing economic opportunities

and other human values with a sustainable, healthy ecosystem.

During July, 1997, five public scoping meetings were held to gather public input as to their concerns and suggestions for the Black Rock Desert. Input gathered from these meetings will be used to develop the objectives for the plan and to formulate the alternatives for the environmental assessment leading to the amendment of the Land Use Plan.

DATES: A public comment period on the forthcoming Draft Plan Amendment will be announced in the spring of 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to: Ron Wenker, District Manager, Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Bilbo, Recreation Specialist, Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445, (702) 623-1500.

Dated: December 17, 1997.

Ron Wenker,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-34185 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-930-03-1220-00: 8365]

Establishment of Supplementary Rules for Recreational Mineral Collection on Lands Administered by Bureau of Land Management, Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, § 8365.1-5 establishes rules of conduct in regard to property and resources managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Section 8365.1-5(b) establishes that it is permissible to collect from the public lands "reasonable amounts" of certain resources for personal use. This action establishes the standards for "reasonable limits" for the recreational collecting of rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood, as well as summarizes existing rules found in above referenced citation. Recreational Mineral Collecting is commonly called "rockhounding."

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 2, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Buff, Senior Minerals Specialist, or

Terry O'Sullivan, Senior Recreation Specialist, Arizona State Office, 222 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, 85004; Telephone (602) 417-9200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To protect valuable and fragile natural and cultural resources and to provide for public enjoyment, the following supplementary rule is provided.

Rocks, minerals, semiprecious gemstones and petrified wood may be collected on public lands administered by the Arizona Bureau of Land Management (BLM) without charge or permit as long as you collect reasonable amounts of specimens.

1. Arizona BLM sets the "reasonable" limits for personal use as up to 25 pounds per day, plus one piece, with a total limit of 250 pounds per year. These limits are for rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood.

2. A group of people does not pool their yearly allotment to collect a piece larger than 250 pounds of either rockhounding specimens or petrified wood. Authority to establish supplementary rules is 43 CFR 8365.1-6 and violation of these rules are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months (43 CFR 8360.0-7).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: BLM Arizona has developed a brochure which will be available at local BLM offices, containing these supplementary rules and other regulations found in 43 CFR 8365.1-5 pertaining to Recreational Mineral Collecting. Rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood may be collected on public lands administered by the Arizona Bureau of Land Management (BLM) without charge or permit as long as:

1. The specimens are for personal use and are not being collected for commercial purposes or bartered to commercial dealers.

2. Collection does not occur in developed recreation sites or areas, unless designated as a rockhounding area by the BLM.

3. Collection is not prohibited or restricted and posted.

4. Collection, excavation or removal are not aided with motorized or mechanical devices, including heavy equipment or explosives. Metal detectors are acceptable, with the exception of the San Pedro National Conservation Area.

5. No undue or unnecessary degradation of the public lands occurs during the removal of rock, minerals, or gemstones.

6. For pieces of petrified wood heavier than 250 pounds or situations

not covered in the above rules or regulations, please contact the local BLM office.

7. In addition, if you are planning to use a suction dredge:

(a) It is required that you receive permission from the Army Corps of Engineers prior to using any suction dredge [Telephone: Phoenix: (602) 640-5385; Tucson: (520) 670-5021];

(b) It is required that you contact the local BLM office if the suction dredge has an intake of 4 inches or larger;

(c) It is recommended that you contact the local BLM office if the suction dredge has an intake of less than 4 inches.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

Gary D. Bauer,

Associate State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-34152 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[(NM-930-1310-01); (NMMN 89139)]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease NMMN 89139 for lands in Eddy County, New Mexico, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from September 1, 1997, the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice.

The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective September 1, 1997, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria S. Baca, BLM, New Mexico State Office (505) 438-7566.