

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

In order to be considered, electronic submission of comments must include your name and postal mailing address; we will not consider anonymous comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record. The public may inspect comments during normal business hours in Room 634—Arlington Square Building, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act regulations [40 CFR 1506.6(f)]. Our practice is to make comments available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If a respondent wishes us to withhold his/her name and/or address, this must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comment.

The DEIS evaluates four management alternatives to address habitat destruction and agricultural depredations caused by light geese on various breeding, migration, and wintering areas: (1) No action or continue to manage light goose populations through existing wildlife management policies and practices (Alternative A); (2) modify harvest regulation options and refuge management (Alternative B) (PREFERRED); (3) implement direct agency control of light goose populations on migration and wintering areas in the United States (Alternative C); (4) seek direct light goose population control on breeding grounds in Canada (Alternative D). Our preferred alternative (Alternative B) modifies existing light goose hunting regulations to expand methods of take during normal hunting season frameworks. In addition, we propose to create a conservation order to allow take of light geese outside of normal hunting season frameworks, authorize new methods of take, and allow shooting hours until one-half hour after sunset. We would also modify management practices on certain National Wildlife Refuges to alter the availability of food and sanctuary to light geese.

Dated: October 1, 2001.

Kevin Adams,
Director.

[FR Doc. 01-25611 Filed 10-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-01-1020-JA-VEIS]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Conservation and Restoration of Vegetation, Watershed, and Wildlife Habitat Treatments on Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the Western United States Including Alaska

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a national, programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the BLM will prepare a national, programmatic EIS and conduct public scoping meetings on (1) management opportunities and treatment methods for noxious weeds and other invasive species, and (2) the conservation and restoration of native vegetation, watersheds, and wildlife habitat. The EIS will cover the public lands administered by BLM in eleven western States, including Alaska.

DATES: Written or e-mailed comments for this initial scoping phase will be accepted for 30 days following publication of this notice. In addition, BLM will hold public scoping meetings to focus on relevant issues and environmental concerns, identify possible alternatives, and help determine the scope of the EIS. Times and locations will be announced in a separate **Federal Register** notice and through local press releases and advertisements.

ADDRESSES: For further information, to provide written comments, or to be placed on the mailing list, contact Brian Amme, Acting Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada 89520-0006; e-mail brian_amme@nv.blm.gov; telephone, (775) 861-6645. Comments will be available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, Nevada 89502.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish your name and/or address withheld from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written or e-mailed comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. The BLM will not,

however, consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This national, programmatic EIS will provide a comprehensive cumulative analysis of BLM conservation and restoration treatments involving vegetation communities, watersheds, and wildlife habitats. It will also consider State-specific reasonably foreseeable activities, including hazardous fuels reduction treatments. Restoration activities may include but are not limited to prescribed fire; riparian restoration; native plant community restoration; invasive plants and noxious weeds treatments; under-story thinning; forest health treatments; or other activities related to restoring fire-adapted ecosystems. The analysis area will include all surface estate public lands administered by the BLM in the following western States: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, North and South Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The EIS will update analyses that are contained in four existing BLM vegetation treatment and noxious weed management EIS's and analyze similar activities on public lands in Alaska, which were not included in the existing EIS's.

The BLM has initially identified the following issues for analysis in this programmatic EIS: hazardous fuels reduction and treatment including mechanical treatments; wildlife habitat improvement; restoration of ecosystem processes; protection of cultural resources; watershed and vegetative community health; new listings of threatened and endangered species and consideration of other sensitive and special status species; new chemical formulations for herbicides deemed to be more environmentally favorable; smoke management and air quality; emergency stabilization and restoration; and watershed and water quality improvement. The EIS will also provide human health risk assessments for a broad array of newly available chemical herbicides, and inert ingredients used in combination with chemical treatment activities.

Dated: September 14, 2001.

Elena Daly,

Acting Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning.

[FR Doc. 01-25723 Filed 10-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-160-1430-ET; CACA 7682 and CACA 42632]

Public Land Order No. 7501; Partial Revocation of Executive Order Dated June 8, 1866, and Withdrawal of Public Land for Piedras Blancas Light Station; California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order partially revokes an executive order insofar as it affects 19.9 acres of public land withdrawn for lighthouse purposes. The land is no longer needed by the United States Coast Guard for the purpose for which it was withdrawn. This order also withdraws the same land from surface entry, mining, mineral leasing, and mineral material sales for a period of 20 years for the Bureau of Land Management to assure long term protection and preservation of the historic Piedras Blancas Light Station and associated values.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 12, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Duane Marti, BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825-1886, 916-978-4675.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. The Executive Order, dated June 8, 1866, which withdrew public land for lighthouse purposes, is hereby revoked insofar as it affects the following described land (CACA 7682):

Mount Diablo Meridian

T. 26 S., R. 6 E.,

U.S. Lighthouse Reserve.

The area described contains 19.90 acres in San Luis Obispo County.

2. Subject to valid existing rights, the land described in Paragraph 1, is hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, 30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994), mineral leasing laws, 30 U.S.C. 181 *et*

seq. (1994), and mineral material sale laws, 30 U.S.C. 601-604 (1994), for the Bureau of Land Management to assure long term protection and preservation of the historic Piedras Blancas Light Station and associated values (CACA 42632).

4. This withdrawal will expire 20 years from the effective date of this order unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: September 21, 2001.

J. Steven Griles,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-25690 Filed 10-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of land management

[UTU-010-1232-ET-UT-17; UTU 27914]

Public Land Order No. 7500; Extension of Public Land Order No. 5984; Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order extends Public Land Order No. 5984 for an additional 20-year period. This extension is necessary to continue the protection of the Little Sahara Recreation Area. The lands have been and will remain open to mineral leasing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 9, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Field Office Manager, BLM Fillmore Field Office, 35 East 500 North, Fillmore, Utah 84631, 435-743-3100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 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 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Public Land Order No. 5984, which withdrew public lands in Juab County, Utah, from surface entry and mining, is hereby extended for an additional 20-year period following its date of expiration.

2. This withdrawal will expire 20 years from the effective date of this order, unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: September 7, 2001.

J. Steven Griles,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-25639 Filed 10-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Environmental Assessment for Proposed Eastern Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 181

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Availability of the environmental assessment for proposed Eastern Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 181.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the Revised Proposal for Eastern Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Lease Sale 181. The EA was prepared to determine whether there are any new significant issues or environmental impacts that might occur as a result of offering a reduced-area configuration of proposed Eastern Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 181, and whether a supplemental environmental impact statement (EIS) should be prepared. The EA implements the "incorporation by reference" process outlined in 40 CFR 1502.21, which encourages agencies to incorporate material by reference to "cut down on the bulk without impeding agency and public review of the action." Because the recent Final EIS for Lease Sale 181 examined the potential environmental impacts of activities similar to those projected for the Revised Proposal, the EA incorporates much of the material of the Final EIS by reference. The EA, used in conjunction with the Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 181 Final Environmental Impact Statement, can be used to compare the types, intensities, and areal extents of the impacts expected to be associated with the original proposed action analyzed in the Final EIS to the impacts expected to be associated with the Revised Proposal examined in the EA.

No new significant impacts were identified for the Revised Proposal that were not already assessed in the Final EIS for Lease Sale 181. The MMS determined that a supplemental EIS is not required and prepared a Finding of No New Significant Impact.

A copy of the EA is available to the public upon request from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Attention: Public