

exercise of valid existing rights created by a contract, right of way, lease, permit or mining claim that is carried out in accordance with the regulations under which the rights were established.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephanie Snook at BLM UCSC District, 1808 N. Third St., Coeur d'Alene, ID, 83814 or call (208) 769-5004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The one mile road closure and horse corrals are located in section 6, T. 13N., R. 20E., Boise Meridian, Idaho. A map depicting the closure area and road is available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management, Challis Field Office, located on Highway 93, Challis, Idaho.

The authority for establishing this restriction is contained in Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 8364, Section 1 (43 CFR 8364.1). This restriction does not apply to:

(1) Any federal, state or local government officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force while in the performance of an official duty.

(2) Any Bureau of Land Management employee, agent, contractor, or cooperater while in the performance of an official duty.

This temporary road restriction and closure is necessary to protect members of the public, the wild horses and burros, and the facility. Wild horses are, by definition, not yet gentled and may pose a danger to members of the public.

Violation of this order is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed one year.

Dated: July 31, 2002.

Stephanie Snook,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 02-22392 Filed 8-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-099-1150-MQ]

Notice Rescinding the October 18, 1999, Shooting Area Closure in South Phillips County, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Rescinding Notice of Closure.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on October 18, 1999, closed about 26,500 acres of public land to the discharge or use of firearms. The areas closed are described as the 40-Complex between Dry Fork and Beauchamp Creek, and an area south of Pea Ridge in south Phillips

County, Montana. The purpose of the closure was to protect habitat for the reintroduction of the endangered black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*). That habitat is black-tailed prairie dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) colonies.

House Bill 492 (HB 492) was passed by the Montana Legislature to allow the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) to manage black and white-tailed prairie dogs on Bureau of Land Management lands. Further action by FWP consisted of amending Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 12.2.501, to include black-tailed and white-tailed prairie dogs in the definition of non-game wildlife in need of management. The FWP Commission approved the adoption of the proposed ARM rule on January 24, 2002, and FWP filed the ARM adoption notice on February 20, 2002. Part of this rule making was to place a seasonal shooting closure on all BLM lands in Montana for black-tailed prairie dogs and a year-round shooting closure on black-footed ferret reintroduction sites. Since FWP has placed a year-round shooting closure on black-footed reintroduction sites, BLM's 1999 shooting closure is no longer required to protect the habitat for the black-footed ferret.

The BLM lands in the 40-Complex include:

T. 24 N., R. 27 E., sec. 20, all; sec. 21, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 34, all; sec. 35, all.

T. 24 N., R. 28 E., sec. 31, lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; Sec. 32, all.

T. 23 N., R. 27 E., sec. 1, lots 1-4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 2, lots 1-4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 3, lot 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 10, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 11, all; sec. 12, all; sec. 13, all.

T. 23 N., R. 28 E., sec. 5, lots 1-4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 6, lots 1-7, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 7, lots 1-4; E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 8, all; sec. 17, all; sec. 18, lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$.

This includes the following prairie dog towns: B040, B041, B042, B043, B045, B047, B069, B072, and B148.

The BLM lands in the area south of Pea Ridge include:

T. 22 N., R. 29 E., sec. 9, all; sec. 10, all; sec. 11, all; sec. 13, all; sec. 14, all; sec. 15, all; sec. 17 E $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 20, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 21, all; sec. 22, all; sec. 23, all; sec. 24, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, all.

T. 22 N., R. 30 E., sec. 18, lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 19, lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 30, lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$.

This includes the following prairie dog towns: B095, B096, B111, B163, and B164.

BLM would consider appropriate actions if FWP decides to rescind or significantly modify the Annual Rule Regulating Prairie Dog Shooting on Public Lands. This could include implementing a Land Use Closure on the 40-Complex and/or any other black-footed ferret reintroduction site under BLM administration to protect black-footed ferrets and the associated habitat in accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1.

The effective date of rescinding this closure is the date the notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bruce Reed at 406-654-5100.

Authority: 43 CFR 8364.1

Dated: June 17, 2002.

Bruce W. Reed,

Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 02-22404 Filed 8-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-80041]

Notice of Invitation to Participate In Coal Exploration Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Invitation to participate in Coal Exploration program Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Flat Canyon Tract, Boulger Canyon Area. Canyon Fuel Company is inviting all qualified parties to participate in its proposed exploration of certain Federal Coal deposits in Sanpete County, Utah.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice of invitation to participate in Coal Exploration program Canyon Fuel Company LLC, Flat Canyon Tract, Boulger Canyon Area. Canyon Fuel Company is inviting all qualified parties to participate in its proposed exploration of certain Federal Coal deposits in Sanpete County, Utah:

T. 13 S., R. 6 E., SLM, UT

Sec. 28, lots 4-8, SW; Sec. 33, E2.

Containing 667.93 acres.

Any party electing to participate in this exploration program must send written notice of such election to the Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145, and to Mark Bunnell, Mine Geologist, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mine, HC 35 Box 380, Helper, Utah 84526. Such written notice must

be received within thirty days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Any party wishing to participate in this exploration program must be qualified to hold a lease under the provisions of 43 CFR 3472.1 and must share all cost on a pro rata basis. An exploration plan submitted by Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, detailing the scope and timing of this exploration program is available for public review during normal business hours in the public room of the BLM State Office, 324 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, under the serial number UTU-80041.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chris Merritt, Salt Lake City, Bureau of Land Management, (801) 539-4109.

Dated: June 3, 2002.

Kent Hoffman,

Deputy State Director, Lands and Minerals.

[FR Doc. 02-22389 Filed 8-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--\$-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-650-02-1610-JP-064B]

Notice of Extension of Scoping Phase Public Comment Period

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of the scoping phase public comment period for an Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan and Environmental Impact Statement regarding vehicle route designation in the Surprise Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

SUMMARY: The Notice of Intent for the Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan and Environmental Impact Statement regarding vehicle route designation in the Surprise Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Inyo County, California was published in the **Federal Register** on May 30, 2002 (Volume 67, Number 104, Pages 37859-37860).

DATES: The time period for accepting written comments on the scope of the proposed plan amendment and Environmental Impact Statement has been extended to October 3, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Hector Villalobos, Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Ridgecrest Field Office, 300 S. Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555. Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Ridgecrest Field Office

during normal working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays), and may be published as part of the Environmental Impact Statement or other related documents. Individuals may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this at the beginning of your comment letter. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeffrey B. Aardahl, Bureau of Land Management, Ridgecrest Field Office, 300 S. Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555, telephone number (760) 384-5420, or e-mail at jaardahl@ca.blm.gov.

Dated: June 12, 2002.

Hector Villalobos,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 02-22388 Filed 8-30-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--\$-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ES-020-1320-EL]

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Land Use Analysis/Environmental Assessment

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

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Land Use Analysis/Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: A Land Use Analysis/Environmental Assessment (LUA/EA) is being prepared to consider leasing Federal coal in response to lease application KYES-51088. The 64.51-acre application area in Whitley and McCreary Counties, Kentucky is managed by the Daniel Boone National Forest. The LUA/EA will be a cooperative effort among the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service and the Office of Surface Mining. This notice is issued pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.7 and 43 CFFR 1610.2(c).

The planning effort will follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR part 1600. As provided at 43 CFR 3420, information and data pertaining to the coal deposits or other resources, which potentially may be affected by development of the coal, are requested. Additionally, the public is invited to participate in this planning process, beginning with the identification of planning issues and criteria.

DATES: Input will be accepted for 30 days from the date of this publication. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by the law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, Jackson Field Office, 411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404, Jackson, MS 39206-3039.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John A. Lewis, Lead for the LUA/EA, Jackson Field Office at 601-955-5437.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The coal lease application was filed by Southfork Coal Company to supplement their existing private and other federal reserves currently under lease. The reserves would be mined by underground methods from a portal area on private surface and mineral estates. A permit has been issued by the State of Kentucky for this 14.47-acre portal area located 0.8 miles from the intersection of County Highway 92 and the Whitley/McCreary County line.

The BLM has responsibility to address coal lease applications on federal mineral estate. The Forest Service has the responsibility to consider consenting to lease Federal coal underlying Forest Service managed surface lands. The Office of Surface Mining provides recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding approval of mining plans. An interdisciplinary team from these three agencies will be used in the preparation of the LUA/EA. Preliminary issues, subject to change as a result of public input, are (1) potential impacts of coal exploration and development on the surface and subsurface resources and (2) consideration of restrictions on lease rights to protect surface resources and uses by the Forest Service.

Due to the limited scope of this LUA/EA process, a public meeting is not scheduled during this scoping stage; however, a public hearing will be conducted, in accordance with 43 CFR 3420 and 1600, upon the completion of the LUA/EA.