

Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8. 1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with Section 171.1(e) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for the fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information of the Flathead Irrigation Project for Calendar Year 1998 and subsequent years.

The purpose of this notice is to announce a proposed increase in the Flathead Irrigation Project assessment rates proportionate with actual operation and maintenance costs. The assessment rates for 1998 will amount to an increase of 8.1%.

Payments

The irrigation operation and maintenance assessments become due based on locally established payment requirements, but in no case later than May 30 of each irrigation season. No water shall be delivered to any of these lands until all irrigation charges have been paid.

Interest and Penalty Fees

Interest, penalty, and administrative fees will be assessed, where required by law, on all delinquent operation and maintenance assessment charges as prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 4, part 102, Federal Claims Collection Standards; and 42 BIAM Supplement 3, part 3.8 Debt Collection Procedures. Beginning 30 days after the due date interest will be assessed at the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury. An administrative fee of \$12.50 will be assessed each time an effort is made to collect a delinquent debt; a penalty charge of 6 percent per year will be charged on delinquent debts over 90 days old and will accrue from the date the debt became delinquent. No water shall be delivered to any farm unit until all irrigation charges have been paid. After 180 days a delinquent debt will be forwarded to the United States Treasury for further action in accordance with Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-134).

Dated: July 31, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-21588 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-030-1220-00; Closure Notice No. NV-030-97-005]

Emergency Closure of Federal Lands

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain public lands west of Red Rock Road, Washoe County, Nevada, are closed to all motorized vehicles. This closure is necessary due to unauthorized road construction and off-road vehicle use which is causing considerable adverse effects to soil, vegetation and wildlife habitat in the area.

DATES: This closure goes into effect on August 15, 1997, and will remain in effect until the Carson City District Manager determines it is no longer needed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Clifford Ligons, Assistant District Manager, Division on Non-Renewable Resources, Carson City District, 1535 Hot Springs Road, Carson City, Nevada 89706. Telephone (702) 885-6000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authorities for this closure are 43 CFR 8341.2, 43 CFR 8342.3 and 43 CFR 8364.1. Any person who fails to comply with a closure order is subject to arrest and fines in accordance with applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C 3571 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

This closure applies to all motorized vehicles excluding (1) any emergency or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes, and (2) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized in writing by the Carson City District Manager.

The public lands affected by this closure are located north of Reno, Nevada, approximately one mile southwest of Red Rock Road, and include lands within:

Mt. Diablo Meridian

T.22N., R.18E.

Sec. 11, NE¹/₄ NW¹/₄.

A map of the area closed to motorized vehicles is posted in the Carson City District Office.

Dated: August 1, 1997.

John O. Singlaub,

Carson City District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-21639 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-033-1230-00-FR97009]

Temporary Closure of Public Lands; Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior Department.

ACTION: Temporary closure of certain public lands, Carson City District, in Lyon, Mineral, Churchill, and Douglas Counties on and adjacent to two Off Highway Vehicle Race courses:

(1) Best in the Desert Racing—Permit Number NV-055-97-35: Las Vegas to Reno Off-highway Vehicle Race occurring September 19-20, 1997.

(2) High Sierra Motorcycle Club—Permit Number NV-030-97043: Silver State Hare 'N' Hound Off-highway Motorcycle Race occurring September 21, 1997.

PURPOSE: To provide for public safety and to protect adjacent resources.

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 19, 20, 21, 1997.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A map of each closure may be obtained at the contact address. The permittees are required to clearly mark and monitor the event routes during each closure period. Spectators shall remain in safe locations as directed by event officials and BLM personnel. The public lands to be closed to public use include existing roads, jeep trails and dry washes identified on the ground by colorful flagging and paper arrows attached to wooden stakes designating the race route. Specific information pertaining to each event follows:

(1) The 'Vegas to Reno Race is a 550 mile point-to-point event beginning early Friday morning, September 19, in Las Vegas. Racing will end on the Old Como Road south of Dayton. Como Road to Rawe Peak will be closed to all public use. Vehicles include motorcycles and fourwheel drive trucks. The closed route crosses public lands within the following areas from 6 a.m. September 19 through noon, September 20, 1997:

Mineral County—R37E, T5N; R36E, T6N; R35E, T6-11N; R34E, T8-13N; R33-32E, T13N. Churchill County—R32E, T14N; R31E, T15N; R30E, T15-16N, R29-24E, T16N; R24E, T15N; R23-21E, T15N; R21E, T16N. Douglas County—R23E, T14N.

(2) The Silver State Hare 'N' Hound is a one-lap, motorcycle race along 60 to 90 miles of dirt roads and dry wash trails located in the Wassuk foothills east of Yerington, Nevada in Lyon and Mineral Counties within T12N R26-