

Indians of Shoalwater Bay from the Chinook Indian descendants along the Columbia River. During the early-20th century, some non-Indians identified an Indian village at Bay Center, but concentrations of Chinook descendants at Ilwaco and Dahlia were not identified as Indian entities, or as parts of a single Indian entity in conjunction with the Bay Center Indian community. From the 1930's to the 1950's, anthropologists recognized that some Chinook descendants were still living, but agreed that they had lost their traditional culture and tribal organization. Since 1951, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, local governments, and local newspapers have noted the existence of three different organizations of Chinook descendants, but have not credited them with continuity with each other. Because external sources have not continuously identified the petitioner from 1855 to the present on a substantially continuous basis, the petitioner does not meet criterion (a).

Dated: August 11, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-22298 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-962-1430-00-CCAM]

Notice of Availability for the Cooke City Area Mineral Withdrawal Record of Decision; Montana

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture; Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Record of Decision (ROD) on the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Cooke City Area Mineral Withdrawal is available. The ROD documents the selection of the Preferred Alternative, the mineral withdrawal of approximately 22,065 acres of Federal land, and provides background information and rationale for the decision. The ROD also documents the decision to amend the Custer and Gallatin Forest Plans to reflect the intent of the mineral withdrawal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Thompson, BLM Co-Lead, or Larry Timchak, FS Co-Lead, CCAM, BLM Montana State Office, PO Box 36800,

Billings, Montana 59107-6800, 406-255-0322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final EIS for the Cooke City Area Mineral Withdrawal was released and made available for a 30-day public availability period on July 11, 1997. The final EIS documents the effects of withdrawing from federal mineral location and entry 22,065 acres of federal mineral estate near Cooke City, Montana. The mineral withdrawal would also apply to hardrock minerals acquired by the United States and managed as leasable minerals. The mineral withdrawal would be subject to review after 20 years. Forest plans for the Custer and Gallatin National Forests would be amended to reflect the intent of the mineral withdrawal. Unpatented mining claims with valid existing rights and private lands would not be affected. The decisions are not subject to administrative appeal or protest under Forest Service and BLM regulations.

Dated: August 12, 1997.

James R. Lyons,

Under Secretary Natural Resources and Environment.

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Lands and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 97-21970 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-060-1020-00]

Lewistown District Resource Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Lewistown District Office.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Lewistown District Resource Advisory Council will meet September 10 and 11, 1997, at the Cotton Wood Inn, on Highway 2 East, in Glasgow, Montana.

The September 10 portion of the session will begin at 7 a.m. with a tour of the Bitter Creek Wilderness Study Area in the morning and the Missouri/Lonetree Watershed in the afternoon. The council should return to Glasgow around 5 p.m.

The September 11 portion will begin at 8 a.m. at the Cotton Wood Inn in Glasgow. The meeting will begin with a review of old business including the Lonesome Lake project, the Lewistown District's project list, proposed council charter revisions, moisture conditions throughout the district, and comments

concerning grazing standards and guidelines.

The District Manager will also discuss the recent appointment of Mr. Pat Shea as Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

New council members will be introduced and if necessary, the group will address the election of officers and other matters of organization.

The group will hear/consider presentations concerning the Eye of the Needle, flooding earlier on the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River, the status of the Devil's Kitchen plan amendment, current status of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's Two Crow acquisition, proposed range improvements in the district, the need for a revised council mission statement, the status of prairie dogs in the Phillips Resource Area, the Judith-Valley-Phillips oil and gas amendment, and off-road-vehicle regulation implementation.

There will be a public comment period at 11:30 a.m. during the September 11 meeting.

DATES: September 10 and 11, 1997.

LOCATION: Glasgow, MT.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: District Manager, Lewistown District Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1160, Airport Road, Lewistown, MT 59457.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public and there will be a public comment period as detailed above.

Dated: August 11, 1997.

David L. Mari,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-22304 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-020-07-1430-00]

Notice of Availability for Proposed Plan Amendment to the Pony Express Resource Management Plan in the Salt Lake District, UT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management completed a Proposed Plan Amendment/EA/FONSI for the Pony Express Resource Management Plan (RMP) August 11, 1997. The proposed plan amendment specifically addresses the management of resources and land uses in the North Oquirrh Mountains on a total of 14,254 acres of public land, of which 8,291 acres have been acquired

since the Pony Express RMP was completed in 1990. The proposed plan amendment also provides for amendment of the land tenure adjustment criteria throughout the Pony Express RMP area. A Notice of Intent proposing to amend the RMP was published in the **Federal Register** on June 24, 1996.

DATES: A 30 day protest period for the planning amendment will commence with publication of this Notice. Protests must be received on or before September 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Protests to the proposed plan amendment should be addressed to the Director (WO-210), Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Brenda Williams, Resource Planning Team, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, within 30 days after the date of publication of this Notice for the proposed planning amendment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Nelson, Realty Specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District, 2370 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119, telephone (801) 977-4355.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This plan amendment is subject to protest from any adversely affected party who participated in the planning process. Protests must be made in accordance with provisions of 43 CFR 1610.5-2, as follows: Protests must pertain to issues that were identified in the plan or through the public participation process. As a minimum, protests must contain the name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest. A statement of the issue or issues being protested must be included. A statement of the part or parts being protested and a citing of pages, paragraphs, maps, etc., of the proposed amendment, where practical, should be included. A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) submitted by the protester during the planning process or a reference to the date when the protester discussed the issue(s) for the record. A concise statement as to why the protester believes the BLM State Director's decision is incorrect.

Dated: August 15, 1997.

G. William Lamb,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-22382 Filed 8-21-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Chevron U.S.A. Inc.'s Proposed Destin Dome 56 Unit Development and Production Plan Offshore Florida

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent (NOI) to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS).

SUMMARY: Chevron U.S.A. Inc. proposes to conduct natural gas development and production activities in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico offshore Florida. Chevron U.S.A. Inc. filed their development and production plan (DPP) with the Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Regional Office on November 19, 1996. The DPP was deemed complete on August 12, 1997. The MMS will prepare a DEIS for the plan. It is anticipated that the overall EIS process will take about 2 years.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the DEIS should be directed to Mr. Dennis Chew, Environmental Assessment Section, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736-2793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Authority. Pursuant to the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the MMS is announcing its intent to prepare a DEIS on Chevron U.S.A. Inc.'s proposed natural gas development and production project offshore Florida. The NOI also serves to announce the scoping process that will be followed for this DEIS. Throughout the scoping process, Federal and State agencies, local governments, and other interested parties will have the opportunity to aid the MMS in determining the scope of the DEIS, significant issues that should be addressed, and alternatives to be considered.

2. Proposed Action. Chevron U.S.A., Inc. proposes to conduct development and production activities in an 11-block unit in the Destin Dome Area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Planning Area, about 25 miles offshore Florida, due south of Pensacola (see attached map). The proposed action will be a natural gas development project producing from a geological formation known as the Norphlet Formation. Preliminary tests have indicated that production will

consist of significant quantities of natural gas. Chevron proposes to drill 11-20 new wells and install 2 central processing facilities in the 11-block unit. One existing exploratory well will be completed and put on production. The "expected scenario" is a total of 12 wells producing up to 300 million cubic feet of gas per day (MMcfd). The "maximum scenario" is a total of 21 wells producing up to 450 MMcfd. A 30-inch export pipeline would transport the gas from the Destin Dome Unit to the Mobile Area, Block 916, offshore Alabama. The gas would be treated at existing facilities offshore Alabama or at existing onshore gas processing plants in Mobile County, Alabama. The shorebase for the project will be Theodore, Alabama, or Pascagoula, Mississippi.

3. Alternatives. Alternatives will include the action as proposed by Chevron U.S.A. Inc. in their DPP and no action. Other possible alternatives that may be considered include variations of the proposed action and alternatives identified during the scoping process.

4. Scoping. Scoping is an open and early process for determining the scope of the DEIS and for identifying significant issues related to a proposed action. Scoping also provides an opportunity to identify alternatives to the proposed action. For the subject DEIS, public scoping meetings are planned for Pascagoula, Mississippi; Theodore, Alabama; and Pensacola, Panama City, and Tallahassee, Florida. Additional information regarding the scoping meetings will be distributed to interested parties and details of the actual dates, times, and facilities for the meetings will be advertised in local media. Public information versions of the Destin Dome Unit DPP submitted by Chevron U.S.A. Inc. are available for review at the following locations:

Minerals Management Service, Eastern Gulf Information Office, Pensacola, Florida

Jackson-George Regional Library, Pascagoula, Mississippi
Eudora Welty Library, Jackson, Mississippi

Thomas B. Norton Public Library, Gulf Shores, Alabama

University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama

Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery, Alabama

Fort Walton Beach Public Library, Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Bay County Public Library, Panama City, Florida

West Florida Regional Library, Pensacola, Florida