

Carissa incident command team are exempt from the restriction.

This closure order is in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Pub. L. 94-579, 90 stat. 2743, 43 U.S.C. 1701) and 43 CFR, Subpart 8364.

Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this order may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months [43 CFR 3860.0-7].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Alan Hoffmeister (541) 756-0100.

Dated: February 9, 1999.

**M. Elaine Raper,**

*Acting Umpqua Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 99-3723 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[UT-030-99-1610-00]

#### Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the public comment period for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DMP/DEIS) prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is extended.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by the new deadline of March 15, 1999 at the address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Chris Killingsworth, Planning Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Planning Office, 337 South Main Street, Suite 010, Cedar City, Utah 84720, telephone (435) 865-5100; E-mail: mkillings@ut.blm.gov; fax number (435) 865-5170.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM, Utah published in the November 12, 1998 issue of the **Federal Register** that comments were to be received by Friday, February 12, 1999. In response to Congressional and public requests, the Administration decided to provide more time for public comment. The new deadline for public comment is now extended to March 15, 1999.

**Douglas M. Koza,**

*Acting State Director, Utah.*

[FR Doc. 99-3753 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-300-1990-00]

#### Surface Management Regulations for Locatable Mineral Operations; Draft Environmental Impact Availability

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces that the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) analyzing proposed changes to BLM's surface management regulations for locatable mineral operations is available for public review and comment. This action is necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. BLM has prepared the DEIS to determine the potential environmental impacts of the various regulatory options under consideration.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted until May 10, 1999. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for the dates of public hearings on the DEIS and proposed regulations.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to: Bureau of Land Management, Attention: Paul McNutt; Nevada State Office; P.O. Box 12000; Reno, Nevada 89520-0006. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for the electronic access and filing address and for the locations of public hearings. Comments will be available for public review at the BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Pacific time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

You may obtain a copy of the DEIS by contacting either of the persons identified under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section or by contacting any BLM State office.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul McNutt, BLM Nevada State Office, (775) 861-6604, or via e-mail: pmcnutt@nv.blm.gov. An alternate contact is Andrew Strasfogel, BLM Washington Office, (202) 452-7723, or via e-mail: astrasfo@wo.blm.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may contact Mr. McNutt or Mr. Strasfogel by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Background

BLM is making available for public comment the DEIS for proposed revisions to its surface management regulations, found at 43 CFR 3809. The proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** on February 9, 1999. See 64 FR 6421. BLM is amending the regulations to address issues that have developed since the program began in 1981, as well as those identified during the scoping process described below, and to improve BLM's management of locatable mineral operations on public lands. The Proposed Action in the DEIS would be to adopt the proposed regulations at 43 CFR 3809. The proposed regulations address Federal-State coordination, the need for comprehensive performance standards, failure by some operators to perform reclamation, inadequate reclamation bonding for some types of operations, ineffective enforcement provisions, and the need to better assess the cumulative environmental impacts from small operations. In the DEIS, BLM also identifies and analyzes three additional alternatives for regulating locatable mineral operations on public lands administered by BLM. These alternatives are No Action, that is, no change to the existing regulations; State-Based Regulations; and Maximum Protection, Design-Based Regulations. BLM invites interested members of the public to comment on the DEIS.

## Scoping Process

BLM published a Notice of Intent to prepare a DEIS in the **Federal Register** on April 4, 1997 (62 FR 16177). BLM then held scoping meetings for the public and interested governmental agencies at 11 locations throughout the Western United States, as well as an additional public meeting in Washington, D.C. Over 1,000 people attended the public meetings. In addition to verbal comments collected at the public meetings, BLM also received more than 1,800 comment letters from individuals and representatives of State and local governments, the mining industry, and citizens' groups.

## Public Comment Procedures

BLM asks commenters on the DEIS to be specific, explain the reason for any comment, and reference the specific section or page of the DEIS to which their comment applies. The most useful comments are those supported by quantitative information or studies or include citations to and analyses of applicable laws, regulations, and cases. Commenters should send BLM two

copies of their written comments, if possible. Comments that BLM receives after the date indicated in the **DATES** section or at locations other than the location in the **ADDRESSES** section will not necessarily be considered in preparing the final environmental impact statement.

#### Electronic Access and Filing Address

Commenters may transmit comments electronically via the Internet to: 3809EIS@wo.blm.gov. Please include your name and address in the message. The system will confirm receipt of your Internet message. The DEIS is also accessible on BLM's home page at <http://www.blm.gov>.

#### Confidentiality of Public Comments

BLM will make comments, including names, street addresses, and other contact information of commenters, available for public review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. If you are an individual commenter and wish to have BLM withhold your name, street address, and other contact information (such as Internet address or FAX or phone number) from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, please state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. BLM will honor requests for confidentiality to the extent allowed by law. However, BLM will make available for public inspection in their entirety all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

#### Public Hearings

BLM will hold public hearings on the DEIS and proposed rule at the following locations on the dates and local times specified:

##### Alaska

Fairbanks—Tuesday, March 30, 1999—Carlson Center, 2010 Second Avenue; 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

##### Arizona

Phoenix—Tuesday, March 30, 1999—Sheraton Hotel, 2620 Dunlap Avenue; 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

##### California

San Francisco—Tuesday, April 20, 1999—Holiday Inn Civic Center, 50 Eighth Street; 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Ontario—Wednesday, April 21, 1999—Doubletree Hotel; times to be determined.

Sacramento—Thursday, April 22, 1999—Red Lion Inn, 1401 Arden Way; 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

##### Colorado

Lakewood—Tuesday, March 30, 1999—Sheraton Denver West Hotel and Conference Center, 360 Union Blvd., Golden Room; 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

##### Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, April 14, 1999—Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW, Monroe Room; 12:30 p.m.

##### Idaho

Boise—Tuesday, April 27, 1999—BLM State Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Sagebrush-Ponderosa Conference Room; 6:00 p.m.

##### Montana

Helena—Wednesday, April 14, 1999—Colonial Inn, 2301 Colonial Drive; 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

##### New Mexico

Socorro—Wednesday, March 31, 1999—Macey Center, 801 Leroy, Galina Room; 3:00 p.m.

##### Nevada

Reno—Tuesday, March 23, 1999—Silver Legacy Hotel; 2:00 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Elko—Thursday, March 25, 1999—Convention Center; 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

##### Oregon

Eugene—Thursday, April 22, 1999—BLM District Office, 2890 Chad Street, Conference Room; 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

##### Utah

Salt Lake City—Wednesday, April 7, 1999—Department of Natural Resources, 1594 West North Temple, Rooms 1040/50, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

##### Washington

Spokane—Tuesday, April 20, 1999—Doubletree Inn; 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

##### Wyoming

Casper—Wednesday, March 31, 1999—Casper Parkway Plaza Inn, 123 West E Street; 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

In order to assist the transcriber and to ensure an accurate record, BLM requests that persons who testify at a hearing give the transcriber a copy of their testimony. The meeting sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability who will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the hearing, such as interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format, must notify the person listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section two weeks

before the scheduled hearing date. Although BLM will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it.

Dated: February 10, 1999.

#### Willie R. Taylor,

Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 99-3748 Filed 2-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-920-1430-00; WYW-142433]

#### Notice of Availability of the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact, and the Proposed Designation of an Area of Critical Environmental Concern for Public Review and Comment, Wyoming

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite describes three alternatives for managing the review area, including the Bureau of Land Management's Preferred Alternative. The environmental consequences of implementing each of the alternatives are also presented in the document. The planning review area encompasses about 1,800 acres of BLM-administered public land in the Washakie Planning Area of the Worland Field Office.

A review of existing land-use planning decisions is being conducted to decide how to manage public lands, resources, educational opportunities, and other values associated with the recent discovery of dinosaur tracks on BLM-administered public lands near Shell, Wyoming. The tracks were not addressed in the Washakie Resource Management Plan (RMP) which was completed in 1988, and the BLM is evaluating the adequacy of existing management prescriptions for the discovery area for protecting the tracks and related values. The BLM's Preferred Alternative would emphasize management of the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite for scientific research, public education, and recreation. The tracksite would be designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and would become part of an existing Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). In addition, the BLM would close the area to the staking and