

While you can request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Next Steps

If we decide to issue permits to any of the applicants listed in this notice, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority

We publish this notice under section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Angela Picco,

Regional Threatened and Endangered Species Lead, Ecological Services, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[BLM_NV_FRN_MO4500179144]

Notice of Availability of the Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for the Bonanza Solar Project, Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada State Office has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment with an associated Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider the effects of a right-of-way (ROW) application from Bonanza Solar, LLC for the Bonanza Solar Project and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period on the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS.

DATES: This notice announces the opening of a 90-day comment period for the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS beginning with the date following the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) publication of its Notice of Availability (NOA) in the **Federal**

Register. The EPA usually publishes its NOAs on Fridays.

To afford the BLM the opportunity to consider comments in the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS, please ensure your comments are received prior to the close of the 90-day comment period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. The BLM will be holding a combination of virtual and in-person public meetings. The specific date(s) and location(s) of these meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through the Project website.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Bonanza Solar Project and RMP Amendment by any of the following methods:

- *Project website:* <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2020905/510>.
- *Email:* Bonanzasolar@blm.gov.
- *Mail:* BLM, Nevada State Office, Attn: Renewable Energy Coordination Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada 89502.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined online at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2020905/510> and at the Southern Nevada District Office, 4701 N Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katy Paiva, Project Manager, telephone (775) 861-6723; address 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, NV 89502; email Bonanzasolar@blm.gov. Contact us at this email address to have your name added to our mailing list. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services for contacting Katy Paiva. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document provides notice that the BLM has prepared a Draft RMP Amendment/EIS and announces the opening of the comment period on the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS. The Draft RMP amendments evaluated changes to the existing 1998 Las Vegas RMP to modify an existing utility corridor and reclassify the visual resources management class in the project area.

The project area is in Clark County, Nevada, and encompasses approximately 5,131 acres of public lands with a gen-tie transmission going into Nye County for 10 acres.

Purpose and Need

The BLM's purpose is to respond under title V of FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1761) to an application submitted by Bonanza Solar, LLC on December 1, 2020, to construct, operate, maintain, and eventually decommission a solar photovoltaic electric generating facility and associated facilities with a capacity of 300 megawatts.

The need for this action is established by BLM's responsibilities under FLPMA and its ROW regulations to consider the application. The BLM is required by FLPMA Section 103(c) to manage public lands for multiple uses that consider the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources. The Secretary of the Interior authorized the BLM to grant ROWs on public lands for systems of generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy (43 U.S.C. 1761(a)(4)).

Alternatives Including the Preferred Alternative

The BLM analyzed five alternatives in detail, including the no action alternative. Under the no action alternative, the project would not be authorized or constructed. The BLM evaluated four action alternatives, including the Proposed Action, a Resource Integration Alternative (Alternative 1), a BLM Preferred Alternative (Alternative 2), and a Modified Layout Alternative (Alternative 3), with variations on management objectives for vegetation cover and grading limits, measures to maintain the area for Mojave desert tortoise connectivity, and the source of the water for construction, operations and maintenance. The BLM further considered six additional alternatives but dismissed these from detailed analysis as explained in the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS.

The BLM has identified Alternative 2 as the BLM Preferred Alternative. Alternative 2 was found to best meet the planning guidance and, therefore, selected as the preferred alternative because it provides the best opportunity for solar energy development while allowing for the maintenance of habitat for Mojave desert tortoise connectivity.

Mitigation

The BLM Preferred Alternative includes measures to maintain and/or improve connectivity along U.S. Highway 95 for connectivity for the Mojave desert tortoise through the requirement of minimum vegetation retention standards and grading limits. The BLM Preferred Alternative also includes anti-perching/nesting

deterrents to minimize predation by ravens. Bonanza Solar, LLC will also be required to pay remuneration fees for impacts to Mojave desert tortoise habitats.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern

On September 22, 2020, the BLM received a nomination from the public to designate an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) consisting of approximately 58,000 acres in the Cactus Springs area. The nominated ACEC overlaps the entire project area. In this Draft RMP Amendment/EIS, the BLM is not considering the ACEC nomination because designation of ACECs is not within the scope of the current planning process. Consistent with policy (HQ IM 2023-013), the BLM has prepared a relevance and importance values report for the nominated ACEC area and determined that special management attention is needed. The BLM has provided temporary management and implementation actions to protect values in the area, which have been incorporated into the BLM Preferred Alternative.

Schedule for the Decision-Making Process

The BLM will provide additional opportunities for public participation consistent with the NEPA and land use planning processes, including a 30-day public protest period and a 60-day Governor's consistency review of the Proposed RMP Amendment. The Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS is anticipated to be available for public protest in April 2025 with a Record of Decision in August 2025.

To afford the BLM the opportunity to consider comments in the Draft RMP Amendment/EIS, please ensure your comments are received prior to the close of the 90-day comment period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later.

The BLM has utilized and coordinated the NEPA and land use planning processes for this planning effort to help support compliance with applicable procedural requirements under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. 306108). The BLM has elected to comply with NHPA Section 106 requirements through the NEPA process (36 CFR 800.8(c)). The information about historic and cultural resources and threatened and endangered species within the area potentially affected by the proposed plan has assisted the BLM in identifying

and evaluating impacts to such resources.

The BLM will continue to consult with Indian Tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175, BLM MS 1780, and other Departmental policies. Tribal concerns, including potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration. Additional government-to-government meetings will occur during this review period.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2, and 43 CFR 2800)

Jon K. Raby,
State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLAK931000.L10200000.EE0000.245; OMB Control No. 1004-0182]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Alaska Reindeer Grazing Requirements

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to reinstate an expired information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before November 5, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Send your written comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to Darrin King, Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Attention PRA Office, 440 W 200 S #500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101; or by email to BLM_HQ_PRA_Comments@blm.gov. Please reference Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number 1004-0182 in the subject line of your comments.

Please note that the electronic submission of comments is recommended.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Aliza D. DuComb, by email at aducomb@blm.gov, or by telephone at (907) 267-1398 or Ann Erickson, by email at aerickson@bml.gov, or by telephone at (907) 271-1985. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

- (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of