

land from mining for a period of 20 years to preserve unique cave resources adjacent to Jewel Cave National Monument. The land has been and will remain open to such forms of disposition as may by law be made of National Forest System land and to mineral leasing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 18, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Valerie Hunt, U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, 303-275-5122 or Sandra Ward, BLM Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669, 406-896-5052.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Geological formations nearby indicate that continued exploration may result in discovery of additional passageways and caverns beyond the known extent of Jewel Cave. This order protects the passageway and caverns extending beyond the exterior boundaries of the Jewel Cave National Monument.

**Order**

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (2000), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described National Forest System land is hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location or entry under the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (2000)), to preserve unique cave resources adjacent to the Jewel Cave National Monument:

**Black Hills National Forest**

Black Hills Meridian

T. 4 S., R. 2 E.,

Sec. 12, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 13, E $\frac{1}{2}$  and E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 4 S., R. 3 E.,

Sec. 5, lot 6 and lots 10 to 16, inclusive;

Sec. 6, lots 1 to 5, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 7, lots 3 and 4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 8, lots 1 to 16, inclusive;

Sec. 9, lots 4 to 8, inclusive, and lots 11 to 14, inclusive;

Sec. 16, lots 4, 5, 8, and 9, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 17, lots 1 to 14, inclusive;

Sec. 18, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;

Sec. 19, lots 1 and 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 20, lots 1 to 9, inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 21, lots 1 to 9 inclusive, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 4,595.78 acres in Custer County.

3. The withdrawal made by this order does not alter the applicability of those public land laws governing the use of

National Forest System land under lease, license, or permit, or governing the disposal of their mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

4. This withdrawal will expire 20 years from the effective date of this order unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (2000), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 2310.3-3.

Dated: April 7, 2008.

**C. Stephen Allred,**

*Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management.*

[FR Doc. E8-8410 Filed 4-17-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[CO-923-1430-ET; COC-69155]

**Public Land Order No. 7700; Transfer of Public Land for the Maybell West Uranium Repository; Colorado**

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

**ACTION:** Public Land Order.

**SUMMARY:** This order permanently transfers 160 acres of public land to the Department of Energy for its Maybell West Uranium Repository, in accordance with the terms of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-604), as amended.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 18, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Andy Senti, BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7093, 303-239-3713.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Umetco Maybell Uranium Mill Site has been stabilized and the Department of Energy plans to convert the site to a uranium mill tailings repository. Under Public Law 95-604, the Department of Energy is legally obligated to become the long-term custodian of the stabilized Umetco Maybell Uranium Mill Site. The long-term custodial responsibility is perpetual and is administered by the DOE under a Nuclear Regulatory Commission license. The land must be transferred in order for the Department of Energy to execute its responsibilities under Public Law 95-604.

**Order**

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 7916 (2000)), as amended, it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing right, the following described public land is hereby permanently transferred to the Department of Energy, and as a result of this transfer, the land is no longer subject to the operation of the general land laws, including the mining and mineral leasing laws, for the Maybell West Uranium Repository:

**Sixth Principal Meridian**

T. 7 N., R. 95 W.,

Sec. 24, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 160 acres in Moffat County.

2. The transfer of the above-described land to the Department of Energy vests in that Department, full management, jurisdiction, responsibility, and liability for such land and all activities conducted thereon, except as provided in Paragraph 3.

3. The Secretary of the Interior shall retain the authority to administer any existing claims, rights, and interests in this land that were established before the effective date of the transfer.

Dated: March 27, 2008.

**C. Stephen Allred,**

*Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management.*

[FR Doc. E8-8418 Filed 4-17-08; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Minerals Management Service**

[Docket No. MMS-2008-OMM-0020]

**Notice of Nominations Received and Proposed Limited Alternative Energy Leases on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and Initiation of Coordination and Consultation**

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Announcement of nominations and processing priorities, inquiry on competing nominations for proposed limited alternative energy leases, and request for comments from interested and affected parties.

**SUMMARY:** On November 6, 2007, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) published in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 214, pp. 62673-62675) a request for information and nominations of areas for leases authorizing alternative energy