

DATES: Scoping meetings will be held during fall 2005. Comments on issues and planning criteria may be submitted in writing to the address listed below. All public meetings will be announced at least 15 days prior to the event through the local news media, newspapers, and these two agency Web sites: <http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings> and <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspden/dpv2/dpv2.htm>. In addition to the ongoing public participation process, formal opportunities for public participation will be provided upon publication of the Draft EIS/EIR. Written comments must be postmarked no later than 30 days from the date of this notice in order to be included in the Draft EIS/EIR. When available, the public will be provided a 60-day public review period on the Draft EIS/EIR. These documents will be made available at document repository sites listed on the previously identified agency Web sites. Contact the BLM if you would like to be included in the mailing list to receive copies of all public notices relevant to this project.

ADDRESSES: Comments and other correspondence should be sent to Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 690 West Garnet Ave., P.O. Box 581260, North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260 or by fax at (760) 251-4899. Documents pertinent to this proposal, including comments with the names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office located at 690 W. Garnet Avenue, North Palm Springs, California 92258, during regular business hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the Draft EIS/EIR. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Claude Kirby, Bureau of Land Management, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, 690 West Garnet Ave, P.O.

Box 581260, North Palm Springs, California 92258-1260, (760) 251-4850.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Southern California Edison (SCE) is proposing to construct a new 230-mile long, 500-kilovolt (kV) electrical transmission line between SCE's Devers Substation located near Palm Springs, California, and the Harquahala Generating Station switchyard, located near the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) west of Phoenix, Arizona. For the most part, this portion of the project would parallel SCE's existing Devers-Palo Verde No. 1 500kV transmission line. In addition, SCE is proposing to upgrade 48.2 miles of existing 230 kV transmission lines between the Devers Substation west to the San Bernardino and Vista Substations, located in the San Bernardino, California, vicinity. Together, the proposed 500 kV line and the 230 kV transmission facility upgrades are known as DPV2. Construction of DPV2 would add 1,200 megawatts (MW) of transmission import capacity from the southwestern United States to California, which would reduce energy costs throughout California and enhance the reliability of California's energy supply through increased transmission infrastructure. The BLM has identified a preliminary list of issues that will need to be addressed in this analysis, including the impacts of the proposed project on visual resources, agricultural lands, air quality, plant and animal species including special status species, cultural resources, and watersheds. Other issues identified by the BLM are impacts to the public in the form of noise, traffic, accidental release of hazardous materials, and impacts to urban, residential, and recreational areas. Members of the public are invited to identify additional issues and concerns to be addressed.

Gail Acheson,

Field Manager.

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BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO501-1431-EQ; COC-68431]

Notice of Realty Action: Non-Competitive Lease of Public Land in Fremont County, CO

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of realty action.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has determined that approximately 0.055 acres of public land in Fremont County, Colorado, is suitable for lease pursuant to Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732).

DATES: Interested parties may submit comments for a period of January 23, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Field Manager, Royal George Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 3170 East Main Street, Cañon City, Colorado 81212.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lindell Greer, Realty Specialist, BLM Royal Gorge Field Office, (719) 269-8532.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The BLM has examined a parcel of public land, containing approximately 0.055 acres and described as a metes and bounds parcel in the SW¼SW¼ of section 33, T. 50 N., R. 11 E., New Mexico Principal Meridian, Fremont County, Colorado, and determined that it is suitable for lease pursuant to Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732), using noncompetitive lease procedures as provided in 43 CFR 2920.5-4(b). The lands are presently used for seasonal occupancy purposes.

The BLM proposes to grant the current occupant Charles E. Afeman, a non-assignable life-estate lease to authorize the existing seasonal occupancy and use. The lease, if issued, would be for not less than fair market value and be to all valid existing rights and the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior. Upon relinquishment or cancellation of the lease, or death of the lessee, the lease would terminate, the existing improvements would be removed, and the land would be restored to its natural condition. Issuing a non-assignable, life-estate lease for this public land parcel is consistent with the Royal Gorge Resource Management Plan (May 1996).

Publication of this notice will initiate public review, consultation, and collaboration for this proposed land use authorization. Detailed information concerning the proposed action is available for review at the Royal Gorge Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 3170 East Main Street, Cañon City, Colorado 81212, or by telephoning Lindell Greer, Realty Specialist, at (719) 269-8532.

Interested parties may submit comment to the Field Manager, Royal

Gorge Field Office, at the above address until January 23, 2006. Any adverse comments will be evaluated by the Royal Gorge Field Manager, who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any adverse comments, this action will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior.

Roy L. Masinton,

Royal Gorge Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 05-23731 Filed 12-6-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-330-04-1610-DN]

Notice of Intent To Prepare Arcata Resource Management Plan Amendment for Recently Acquired Humboldt County Coastal Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arcata Field Office intends to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment with an associated Environmental Assessment (EA) for recently acquired BLM coastal lands in Humboldt County in Northwest California. The lands addressed by this amendment have been acquired through a combination of fee title and conservation easements, using private donations and state and Federal funds.

Approximately 1100 acres have been acquired by the BLM along the Humboldt County coast since completion of the Arcata RMP in 1992. These lands are located in T.6N., R.1W., Secs. 26, 27, 34 and 35; T.4N., R.2W., Secs. 13, 14, 23, 24, 26 and 27; and T.2N., R.3W., Secs. 12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, Humboldt Meridian. The plan amendment will fulfill the obligations set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and BLM management policies. The plan amendment will serve to update the Arcata RMP and associated amendments for the affected lands. The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns. The public scoping process will identify planning issues, develop planning criteria, and outline a vision for area management that reflects

the needs and interests of the public and protection of the areas' resource values.

DATES: The publication of this notice initiates the public scoping process. Public comments concerning the scope of the draft RMP amendment should be submitted within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Comments are requested on potential issues, alternatives, as well as any suggested planning criteria that BLM should use to guide the plan amendment process.

Public Participation: Public input will be accepted throughout the preparation period. Public open houses will be held in the Eureka, CA area during the scoping period and again with the release of the draft RMP amendment. Information concerning the planning process, including open houses and other public participation opportunities, will be announced by BLM through news releases, direct mailings or other applicable means of public notification. Current information about the planning process is also maintained at the Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Rd., Arcata, CA 95521, telephone (707) 825-2300.

ADDRESSES: Scoping comments should be sent to Arcata RMP Amendment, Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, California 95521; Fax (707) 825-2301, or e-mail at caweb330@ca.blm.gov. The BLM will maintain a record of public documents related to the development of the RMP amendment at the Arcata Field Office at the address listed above. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Arcata Field Office during regular business hours, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, and may be published as part of the environmental assessment. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Individuals who wish to withhold their name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act must state this prominently at the beginning of their written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact Bob Wick, telephone (707) 825-2321 or e-mail to rwick@ca.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A plan amendment is needed because the existing 1992 Arcata RMP does not provide specific management direction for the coastal properties identified in this notice (since they were not managed by the BLM at the time of the RMP approval). The lands contain a number of resource issues/opportunities that call for a plan amendment to facilitate management. Portions of the acquired lands contain populations of Federally listed threatened and endangered species including two plants; beach layia (*Layia carnosa*) and Humboldt Bay wallflower (*Erysimum menziesii* ssp. *eurekaense*); one endangered bird, the California brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*); and one threatened bird, the western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*). The plan amendment will include measures to protect habitat for these species.

The South Spit makes up the majority of the acquired lands and is the primary reason behind the timeframe for the RMP amendment. Through a Deed of Conservation Easement, the State of California conveyed to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) management authority over the South Spit in all aspects of its use in perpetuity. The deed conveying an easement to the BLM from the State of California stated that the area will be administered consistent with management planning. This long-term management plan will involve a community-based partnership approach with all interested parties and the general public. This includes the Table Bluff Reservation—Wiyot Tribe, government agencies, environmental and conservation organizations, and recreation groups. The BLM completed an interim plan/biological assessment in 2003 with an understanding that a long-term plan would be completed within three years (2006). The current process will serve to develop this long-term plan and will include both RMP and implementation level decisions.

The South Spit is a unique and significant area to the region. Due to the area's natural diversity, cultural resource values, and populations of sensitive species, protection of these resources is necessary and will require active management. The South Spit has historically provided a variety of recreation activities and other public uses. The BLM will work collaboratively with other agencies, tribes and interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns. Preliminary issues and management concerns have been identified by BLM personnel, other