

Company	Activity	Location	Date issued
TotalFinaElf E&P USA, Inc	Exploration	NPR-A	Feb. 19, 2002.
Pioneer Natural Resources USA	Exploration	Kuparuk/Thetis Island	Feb. 21, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Craig Perham at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Letter of Authorization is issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rules and Regulations "Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities (65 FR 16828; March 30, 2000)."

Dated: March 4, 2003.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 03-5832 Filed 3-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-020-1150-JP-EEE]

Closure of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of closure of public lands and associated roads to public entry.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the following described public land areas and associated roads will be seasonally closed to entry and all recreational use by the general public between March 15 and July 15. This order seasonally closes approximately 65,000 acres. BLM-administered public lands west of Arizona State Route 85 and south of the Darby Wells/Scenic Loop/Chico Shunie Road, located within the following townships and ranges will be closed seasonally:

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

- Township 12 South, Range 6 West
- Township 12 South, Range 5 West
- Township 13 South, Range 6 West
- Township 13 South, Range 5 West
- Township 14 South, Range 6 West
- Township 14 South, Range 5 West.

The BLM is implementing this emergency closure as part of its compliance with sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended and as specified in the proposed action outlined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion (2-21-94-F-192R2). The closure will reduce disturbance of the

endangered Sonoran Pronghorn by human activities. Authority for this emergency closure is 43 CFR 8364.1, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The closure will remain in effect on a continuing annual basis for the time periods indicated above until rescinded or modified by the authorized officer. Those lands within Township 14 south, Range 5 west that are within the Gunsite Wash camping area are excluded from this closure.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This order is effective upon the signature of the authorized officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BLM will implement a seasonal (March 15-July 15) emergency closure of public lands, and associated roads, trails, and camping areas to the general public. The closure is intended to comply with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion (2-21-94-F-192R2) by reducing human disturbance to the endangered Sonoran Pronghorn. The conservation measure in the biological opinion reads as follows:

The BLM will implement a seasonal (March 15-July 15) emergency closure of roads, trails, and camping areas to the general public; such closures will be carried over as a proposed action in the upcoming land use planning process. The closure dates and seasons will be consistent with similar closures on Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, and Barry M. Goldwater Range. The closure will be effective west of SR 85 and south of the Darby Wells/Scenic Loop/Chico Shunie Road but will not include the Gunsite Wash area * * *

The closure will be effective for public lands west of Arizona State Route 85 and south of the Darby Wells/Scenic Loop/Chico Shunie Road. The closure will not include the Darby Wells/Scenic Loop/Chico Shunie Road and public lands north of these roads. The closure will also exempt the Gunsite Wash winter camping areas as delineated by the BLM. This closure will be monitored and enforced by the BLM.

The closure dates and seasons will be consistent with similar closures on the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, and the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range. BLM will coordinate this public land closure with these agencies. In addition, the BLM will direct

camping to Gunsite Wash, and strictly enforce the two-week camping limit rule.

Order: Notice is hereby given that effective the date of a signature by the authorized officer of this notice, the above described lands will be closed annually, between March 15 to July 15, to all public entry and recreation activities. The following persons and agencies, operating within the scope of their official duties, are exempt from the provisions of these closures: employees of the Bureau of Land Management, Border Patrol, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, county, state and federal law enforcement, fire protection personnel, and others with appropriate authorization. The grazing permittees, their employees, and others holding valid authorizations will be allowed access to the above described lands in order to carry out activities related to their grazing operations or other permitted activities. Native Americans may enter the subject lands for religious and cultural purposes. This order will remain in effect until further notice. Any person who fails to comply with a closure or restriction order issued under 43 CFR 8364.1 is subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR subpart 8360.07.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: MarLynn Spears, Acting Field Manager, Phoenix Field Office, 21605 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85027, (623) 580-5500.

Dated: January 23, 2003.

MarLynn Spears,

Acting Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-5834 Filed 3-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-033-03-1232-EA-NV04; NV05]

Temporary Closure of Public Lands—Recreation Special Events: Nevada, Carson City Field Office

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Temporary closure of affected public lands in Lyon, Storey, Churchill, Carson, Douglas, Mineral, Washoe, Nye, Esmeralda and Lincoln Counties.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office (BLM), announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under its administration in Lyon, Storey, Churchill, Carson, Douglas, Mineral, Washoe and Nye Counties. By agreement with Ely Field Office and Tonopah Field Station, those lands affected by the Vegas to Reno OHV Race in Nye, Lincoln and Esmeralda Counties are included in this closure. This action is taken to provide for public and participant safety and to protect adjacent natural and cultural resources during the conduct of permitted special recreation events.

SUMMARY: The Manager, Carson City Field Office, announces the temporary closure of selected public lands under BLM administration. This action is taken to provide for public and participant safety and to protect adjacent natural and cultural resources during the conduct of permitted special recreation events.

EFFECTIVE DATES: March through November 2003. Events may be canceled or rescheduled at short notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fran Hull, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Carson City Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, Nevada 89701, Telephone: (775) 885-6161.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice applies to closures on and adjacent to permitted special events such as: Motorized Off Highway Vehicle, Mountain Bike, Horse Endurance competitive event sites and routes. Competitive events (races) are conducted along dirt roads, trails, washes, and areas approved for such use through the Special Recreation Permit application process. Events occur from March through November, 2003. Closure period is from 6 a.m. race day until race finish or until the event has cleared between affected Check Point locations; approximately 2 to 24 hour periods. The general public will be advised of each event and closure specifics via local newspapers and mailed public letters within seven (7) to thirty (30) days prior to the running of an event. Event maps and information will be posted at the Carson City Field Office.

Locations most commonly used for permitted events include, but are not limited to:

1. Lemmon Valley MX Area—Washoe Co., T21N R19E S8.
2. Hungry Valley Off Highway Vehicle Area—Washoe Co., T21-23N R20E.
3. Pine Nut Mountains—Carson, Douglas & Lyon Counties: T11-16N R20-24E.

4. Virginia City/Jumbo Areas—Washoe & Storey Counties: T16-17N R20-21E.
5. Yerington/Weeks Areas—Lyon Co.: T12-16N R23-27E.
6. Fallon Area (Including Sand Mtn.)—Churchill Co.: T14-18N R27-32E.
7. Hawthorne Area—Mineral County: T5-14N R31½-36E.
8. Vegas to Reno OHV Race Route: Nye, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, Churchill, and Lyon Counties: From Alamo to Dayton, Nevada: appx 500 miles.

Marking and effect of closure. BLM lands to be temporarily closed to public use include the width and length of those roads and trails identified as the race route by colorful flagging, chalk arrows in the dirt and directional arrows attached to wooden stakes. The authorized applicants or their representatives are required to post warning signs, control access to, and clearly mark the event routes during closure periods.

Public uses generally affected by a Temporary Closure include: road and trail uses, camping, shooting of any kind of weapon including paint ball, and public land exploration.

Spectator and support vehicles may be driven on open roads only. Spectators may observe the races from specified locations as directed by event and agency officials.

You may obtain a map and schedule of each closure area at the contact address.

Exceptions. Closure restrictions do not apply to race officials, medical/rescue, law enforcement, and BLM personnel monitoring the event.

Authority: 43 CFR 8364.1 and 43 CFR part 2930.

Penalty. Any person failing to comply with the closure orders may be subject to imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or a fine in accordance with the applicable provisions of 18 U.S.C. 3571, or both.

Dated: January 23, 2003.

John O. Singlaub,

Manager, Carson City Field Office.

[FR Doc. 03-5837 Filed 3-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-930-1310-01; OKNM 102854]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Pub. L. 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease OKNM 102854 for lands in Dewey County, Oklahoma, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from June 1, 2002, the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16⅔ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice. The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective June 1, 2002, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lourdes B. Ortiz, BLM, New Mexico State Office, (505) 438-7586.

Dated: January 17, 2003.

Lourdes B. Ortiz,

Land Law Examiner.

[FR Doc. 03-5835 Filed 3-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-930-1430-ET; AZA 9131 et al.]

Expiration of Forest Service Withdrawals and Opening of Lands; Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Four public land orders, which withdrew National Forest System lands from mining, have expired. This action will open the lands to mining.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 11, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cliff Yardley, BLM Arizona State Office, 222 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2203, 602-417-9437.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: