

result from leasing these coal lands. Two alternatives are addressed in the EA:

Alternative 1—(Proposed Action) would involve leasing the tract, as applied for. This tract contains an estimated 9.863 million tons of recoverable coal reserves.

Alternative 2—(No Action) Reject or deny the coal lease application. The Federal coal reserves would be bypassed.

The public is invited to submit written comments on the FONSI associated with this proposed action as well as the FMV and MER of the proposed lease tract.

Notice is also given that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, June 29, 2006 at 9 a.m., on the FONSI, FMV, and MER for the proposed lease sale at the Days Inn Grand Dakota Lodge, 532 15th St. West, Dickinson, North Dakota.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 29, 2006, at the BLM North Dakota Field Office, 2933 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, North Dakota.

ADDRESSES: Comments or questions may be directed to Angela Wetz, Natural Resource Specialist, North Dakota Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2933 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, North Dakota 58601-2619 (telephone 701-227-7741). Copies of the EA are available at the above address. For more complete data on this tract, please contact Coal Coordinator, Rebecca Spurgin (telephone 406-896-5080), Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Federal Coal Management regulations 43 CFR 3422 and 3425, not less than 30 days prior to publication of a notice of sale, the Secretary shall solicit public comments on the proposed sale, FMV, and MER on the proposed lease tract. Proprietary data marked as confidential may be submitted to the Bureau of Land Management in response to this solicitation of public comments. Data so marked shall be treated in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the confidentiality of such information. A copy of the comments submitted by the public on FMV and MER, except those 3 portions identified as proprietary by the author and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, will be available for public inspection at the Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669, during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

Written comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669, and should include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

1. The quality and quantity of the coal resources;

2. The mining method or methods which would achieve MER of the coal including specification of the seams to be mined, timing and rate of production, restriction to mining, and inclusion of the tract in an existing mining operation;

3. The FMV appraisal including but not limited to the evaluation of the tract as an incremental unit of an existing mine, selling price of the coal, mining and reclamation costs, net present value discount factors, depreciation and other tax accounting factors, value of the surface estate, and any comparable sales data of similar coal lands.

The values given above may or may not change as a result of comments received from the public and changes in market conditions between now and when final economic evaluations are completed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Wetz, Natural Resource Specialist, North Dakota Field Office 2933 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, North Dakota 58601-2619, telephone (701) 227-7741.

Dated: May 8, 2006.

David G. Coppock,

Acting Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.

[FR Doc. E6-9525 Filed 6-16-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-200-7122-EA]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the "Over The River" Art Project in Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notice of public scoping.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and in response to an application filed by the artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Royal Gorge Field Office, announces its intention to prepare an EIS and conduct public scoping. The artists propose to hang

fabric panels over a portion of the Arkansas River as an artistic exhibition. The reason for preparing an EIS is based upon several factors, including a specific request from the applicants; the increasing complexity of the project; the level of controversy related to the project; and the level of involvement during the scoping process.

DATES: Public scoping is ongoing due to an Environmental Assessment that was started on the proposed art project. The BLM hosted three public meetings in January in Canon City, Cotopaxi, and Salida, with over 700 people attending. The meetings were in an "open house" format and allowed the BLM, the artists, and other agencies with management interests to answer questions, explain project details, and gather information from interested individuals and groups. Over 1,100 public scoping comments have already been submitted. The scoping period will be extended for 30 days after publication of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Please submit written comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Royal Gorge Field Office, Attn: Over The River, 3170 East Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212. Comments can also be submitted by FAX to (719) 269-8599. Electronic mail may be sent to: rgfo_comments@blm.gov. Please write "Over The River" in the subject line. Your responses are important and will be considered in the environmental analysis process. If you do respond, we will keep you informed of the decision resulting from this analysis. Public comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Bureau of Land Management, Royal Gorge Field Office, 3170 East Main Street, Canon City, CO during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this plainly at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roy L. Masinton, Field Manager, at the Royal Gorge Field Office address listed above, or Pete Zwaneveld, Environmental Coordinator. Both can be reached by

calling (719) 269-8500. Mr. Zwaneveld can also be reached via e-mail at rgfo_comments@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude have submitted an application for an art project on the Arkansas River entitled "Over The River" (OTR). They propose to hang fabric panels over about 7 miles of a 45 mile stretch of the river, west of Canon City, Colorado. The translucent fabric panels would be attached to approximately 1,000 cables stretched across the river; they would cover the river but not the side slopes; hang from 10 to 24 feet above the water; be strong enough to withstand high winds; be porous enough to let rainwater pass through; and be displayed for a two-week period in early August. The earliest that the project would be exhibited is in 2010. During the two-week project, an estimated 250,000 visitors are expected to visit the Arkansas River to view the art. All recoverable materials would be recycled after the project.

On August 2, 2005, following several years of inactivity, the BLM, Royal Gorge Field Office and Colorado State Parks representatives met with Christo and Jeanne-Claude, to determine where the proposal is in the NEPA/approval process and to establish a logical timeline. BLM will review the contractor prepared EIS. If the proposal is approved, Colorado State Parks will issue a permit under the Cooperative Management Agreement between the agencies for the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area. The artists have and will continue to cover all of BLM's costs associated with this project (100% cost recovery). Oversight of the project is through a Permit Planning Team, consisting of Federal, state and local agencies that will review the permit request. Other agencies and entities participating in the project review include: CO State Parks, CO Dept. of Transportation, CO State Patrol, CO Division of Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, Fremont County Commissioners and Sheriff, Chaffee County Commissioners and Sheriff, and the cities of Canon City and Salida.

Through public scoping, the BLM expects to identify various issues and concerns, potential impacts and mitigation measures, and alternatives to the proposed action. At present, the BLM has identified the following issues and concerns: Impacts on the environment, particularly on wildlife, including but not limited to bighorn sheep, bald eagles and waterfowl; socio-economic impacts on local citizen's travel and commercial trucks from

restrictions as a result of heavy tourist traffic; safety of those people traveling Highway 50 and using the Arkansas River for boating, fishing and viewing the project; and the response time of emergency service vehicles such as police, fire, search and rescue and ambulance due to heavy traffic.

The BLM will analyze the proposed action and no action alternatives, as well as other possible alternatives. Your comments concerning the OTR project as proposed and feasible alternatives, possible mitigation measures, and any other information relevant to the project are encouraged.

Sally Wisely,

Colorado State Director.

[FR Doc. E6-9529 Filed 6-16-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-079-06-1010-PH]

Notice of Public Meeting, Western Montana Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Western Montana Resource Advisory Council will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The next regular meeting of the Western Montana RAC will be held September 7, 2006 at the Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana beginning at 8 a.m. The public comment period for the meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting is expected to adjourn at approximately 3 p.m. BLM will host RAC members at a field trip to the Dillon area on September 6.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the Western Montana RAC, contact Marilyn Krause, Resource Advisory Council Coordinator, at the Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana 59701, telephone 406-533-7617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in western Montana. At the

September 7 meeting, topics we plan to discuss include: An update on the Recreation RACs and the White Sandy Campground, any follow-up discussion from the field trip, a discussion on a possible cooperative weed project and an update on the Butte RMP.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below.

Dated: June 12, 2006.

Richard M. Hotaling,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. E6-9564 Filed 6-16-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-260-09-1060-00-24 1A]

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces that the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will conduct a meeting on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild, free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

DATES: The Advisory Board will meet Monday, July 17, 2006, from 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., local time. This will be a one day meeting.

ADDRESSES: The Advisory Board will meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Salt Lake Downtown, 161 West 600 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84101. The Red Lion Hotel's phone number is (801) 521-7373.

Written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, National Wild Horse and Burro Program, WO-260, Attention: Ramona DeLorme, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada, 89502-7147. Submit written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting no later than close of business, July 12, 2006. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access and filing address.