

Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in the BLM Upper Snake River District (USRD), which covers south-central and southeast Idaho. At this meeting, topics we plan to discuss include:

- Updates on major planning projects in the USRD
- Review feedback and action items from National RAC videoconference
- Planning for RAC Allotment tours in 2003
- Introduction to RAC of BLM Idaho State Director
- Other items of interest raised by the Council

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, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below.

Other USRD RAC meetings for 2003 have been planned for June, July and November 2003, and will be announced in a future **Federal Register** Notice and through local media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Howell, RAC Coordinator, Upper Snake River District, 1405 Hollipark Dr., Idaho Falls, ID 83401. Telephone (208) 524-7559.

Dated: January 28, 2003.

David O. Howell,

Public Affairs Specialist.

[FR Doc. 03-2394 Filed 1-31-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-090-1610-PG; DBG-0200001]

Notice of Public Meeting: Resource Advisory Council to the Lower Snake River District, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the 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) Lower Snake River District Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held February 18, 2003 at the Lower Snake River District Offices, located at 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho, beginning at 9 a.m. The public comment periods will be held after each topic on the agenda. The meeting is expected to adjourn at 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: MJ Byrne, Public Affairs Officer and RAC Coordinator, Lower Snake River District, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83705, Telephone (208) 384-3393.

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 southwestern Idaho. At this meeting, the following topics will be discussed:

- Subgroup reports on Sage Grouse Habitat Management, OHV and Transportation Management, River Recreation and Resource Management Plans, and Fire and Fuels Management;
- RAC Members will discuss and prioritize the issues and focus of the Council for 2003, finalize membership on the subcommittees, and plan for hosting a meeting with the other two BLM District RACs;
- A presentation on drought conditions in the Lower Snake River District, across Idaho and the region.
- An update will be given on the two Resource Management Plans under development in the District, and
- Each of the Field Office Managers will provide an update on current activities and issues in each of their field office areas.

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, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below. Expedited publication is requested to give the public adequate notice. The urgency of having the meeting on the identified date is due to the emergency conditions of public lands caused by the drought.

Dated: January 29, 2003.

Howard Hedrick,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-2493 Filed 1-31-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-020-03-2640-HO-UTZA]

Notice

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that an administrative settlement agreement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act is available for public comment.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9622(i), notice is hereby given that on October 30, 2002, the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), by and through the Department of the Interior and with the concurrence of the Department of Justice, signed a proposed administrative settlement agreement ("Agreement") concerning the Manning Canyon Mill Site ("Site") located near Fairfield, Utah.

The Site comprises public land managed by the BLM and private land owned by Leo Ault, Howard Ault, Louis O. Ault, Leonard Ault, and Virginia A. Coleman (collectively hereinafter the "Ault family"). A milling facility located at the Site produced approximately 720,000 cubic yards of tailings and other mine wastes between 1890 and 1937. These tailings were disposed of in tailings impoundments behind earthen dams that subsequently breached, allowing tailings to migrate down gradient from the Site. BLM and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducted a preliminary assessment of the tailings impoundments on-Site as well as downstream areas to which tailings had migrated. BLM completed a site inspection in September, 1999. Sampling results revealed elevated levels of lead, mercury, arsenic and other hazardous substances in the tailings. BLM performed an engineering evaluation/cost analysis ("EE/CA") of response alternatives and, by action memorandum dated May 8, 2001, selected a non-time-critical removal action from among the alternatives

analyzed. BLM is currently implementing this removal action by which an engineered tailings repository will be built on-Site to consolidate tailings in order to prevent future migration of or exposure to hazardous substances. BLM expects that this removal action will fully protect human health and the environment from risks associated with hazardous substances at the Site.

Through the proposed Agreement the United States and the Ault family would resolve the alleged liability of the Ault family under section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607. The Ault family would provide resources and materials needed to implement the removal action. In addition, the proposed Agreement would authorize BLM to construct a portion of the tailings repository on Ault family property. The BLM estimates that the proposed Agreement with the Ault family will reduce the total response costs incurred to clean up the Manning Canyon Mill Site by approximately \$4.5 million.

The BLM will receive comments on the proposed Agreement for a period of 30 days from the date of this publication. Comments should refer to the Manning Canyon Mill Site. The proposed Agreement may be examined at the BLM Salt Lake Field Office. A copy of the proposed Agreement may also be obtained from the BLM Salt Lake Field Office upon request. Comments or requests to obtain a copy of the proposed Agreement should be addressed to: Tim Ingwell, BLM Salt Lake Field Office, 2370 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119, (801) 977-4353.

Dated: December 5, 2002.

Glenn A. Carpenter,
Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-2368 Filed 1-31-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Kit Fox Mitigation Area Closure

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of closure of public lands to public access.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation is temporarily closing 171 acres of Federal land to public access. The closure will protect a mitigation area for the San Joaquin kit fox. The closure includes all lands, waters, and facilities within the fence enclosure west and east of the San Luis Canal and adjacent to the San Luis

Canal Right of Way in Merced County, California.

EFFECTIVE DATES: This closure is effective from February 3, 2003 until November 1, 2007.

ADDRESSES: A map of the closed area is available for inspection at the Bureau of Reclamation's South Central California Office, located at 1243 N Street, Fresno, California 93721. The map may be viewed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. To have a map mailed to your address, call Mr. Dan Holsapple at 559-487-5409.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, telephone: 559-487-5409.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Following is the closure order:

By virtue of the authority vested in the authorized officer of this notice, under the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, 43 CFR part 423, public access to the following facilities, lands, or waters is closed until November 1, 2007:

Kit Fox Mitigation Area—The closure area includes all lands, waters, and facilities within the fence enclosure west and east of the San Luis Canal and adjacent to the San Luis Canal Right of Way in Merced County. Property consists of approximately 171 acres.

The following acts are prohibited on the facilities, lands, and waters in the closure area:

1. Trespassing, entering, or remaining in or upon the closure areas described above. Exceptions: Operations and Maintenance personnel that have express authorization from Reclamation, law enforcement officers and Reclamation employees acting within the scope of their employment, and any others who have received express written authorization from Reclamation to enter the closure areas.

2. Tampering or attempting to tamper with the facilities, structures, or other property located within the closure areas or moving, manipulating, or setting in motion any of the parts thereof. Exceptions: see 1 above.

3. Vandalism or destroying, injuring, defacing, or damaging property or real property that is not under one's lawful control or possession.

4. Depositing or abandoning any refuse, agricultural wastes, hazardous materials/waste, vehicles, tires, or any other items not expressly authorized by Reclamation.

5. Grazing of sheep, cattle or any other livestock within the closure area without written permit from Reclamation or their managing agent.

6. Surface occupancy unless specifically authorized and permitted by Reclamation.

This order is posted in accordance with 43 CFR 423.3(b). Violations of this prohibition or any prohibition listed in 43 CFR part 423 are punishable by fine, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both.

Dated: October 17, 2002.

Frank Michny,

Regional Environmental Officer, Mid-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 03-2391 Filed 1-31-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--MN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Millerton Lake Resource Management Plan and General Plan, Fresno and Madera Counties, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement/environmental impact report for a resource management plan and general plan.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation proposes to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (PEIS/EIR) for the Millerton Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) and General Plan, which will be issued concurrent with the PEIS/EIR. A scoping meeting will be conducted to elicit comments on the scope and issues to be addressed in the PEIS/EIR. The date and time for this meeting is noted below. The draft RMP/General Plan and draft PEIS/EIR are expected to be issued in early 2003.

DATES: The scoping meeting will be held on February 12, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in Friant, California. Written comments should be sent to Reclamation at the address below by March 5, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting location is at the Millerton Courthouse, Millerton State Recreation Area, 5290 Millerton Road, Friant, California 93626.

Written comments on the scope of the alternatives and impacts should be sent to Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721-1813; or faxed to 559-487-5130 (TDD 559-487-5933).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, at the above address, telephone: 559-487-5409.