

of Lots 1 and 4 are in Private ownership. This based upon the plats approved May 20, 1884, October 28, 1996 and Warranty Deed, Serial No. CO184, Dated September 5, 1950, was accepted March 4, 2003.

These surveys and plats were requested by the Bureau of Land Management for administrative and management purposes.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the east boundary, and the dependent resurvey of certain mineral surveys in the NE¹/₄ of section 12, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted January 28, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of Mineral Survey Number 17116, the Leroy lode, in SE¹/₄ of section 1, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted January 28, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of Mineral Survey Number 15850, the Zephyr and Cyclone lodes, in NW¹/₄ of section 1, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted January 28, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of Mineral Survey Number 15085, the Jack Pine and Orion lodes, in section 20, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted February 26, 2003.

The plat representing the subdivision survey of section 10, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted February 26, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of the S¹/₂ mile between section 1 and 2, and Mineral Survey Number 16383, Frederick and a portion of the Warrior lodes, in section 2, T. 1 S., R. 72 W, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1337, Colorado, was accepted February 26, 2003.

These surveys and plats were requested by Zone Land Surveyor, Arapahoe-Roosevelt National Forest, for a pilot forest health partnership between the Forest Service and Boulder County, and for management purposes.

The plat (3 sheets), of the dependent resurvey of Track 37 and survey of Track 37 A and Track 37 B, in section 1, T. 24 S., R. 69 W., Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1294, Colorado, was accepted February 12, 2003.

This survey and plats were requested by the Forest Supervisor, Pike and San Isabel Nation Forest, for boundary identification and management purposes.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey and survey in the SW¹/₄ of section 30, T. 5 S. R. 82 W., Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1375, Colorado, was accepted February 19, 2003.

The supplemental plat, creating new lots 16 and 17, from old lot 5, in section 5, T. 1 S., R. 99 W., Sixth Principal Meridian Colorado, was accepted March 10, 2003.

This survey and plats requested by the White River National Forest for the purpose of land exchanges and management purposes.

The plat, representing the dependent resurvey and survey in section 4, T. 7 S., R. 74 W., Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1380, Colorado, was accepted March 10, 2003.

This survey and plat were requested by the Federal Highway Administration for the the purpose of boundary identification for highway improvement projects.

Darryl A. Wilson,

Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Colorado.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Notice of Availability of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Exploration Activities in the Eastern Sale Area; Eastern Planning Area, Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a programmatic environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has prepared a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) for exploration drilling and associated activities in the current sale area of the Eastern Planning Area (EPA) on the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) outer continental shelf (OCS). The MMS published notice in the **Federal Register** on June 3, 2002, that a PEA was in preparation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, Dr. Thomas W. Bjerstedt, telephone (504) 736-5743.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PEA considered the area-wide environmental impacts of exploration drilling in the current sale area of the Eastern Planning

Area. The PEA implements the tiering process for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation outlined in 40 CFR 1502.20, which encourages agencies to tier environmental documents to eliminate repetitive discussions of the same issue. The site-specific EA's that MMS prepares for an operator's Exploration Plan in this area can be tiered from the PEA and the EA analyses can focus on the specific activities proposed. The PEA itself tiers from the Final EIS for Lease Sale 181 (MMS 2001-051).

Public Comments: The June 3, 2002, **Federal Register** notice solicited comments on any new information or issues that should be considered in the PEA. No comments pertaining to this notice were received by MMS. On July 12, 2002, MMS sent letters to the Governors of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. This letter informed them that a PEA was in preparation that considered area-wide resources and impacts from exploratory drilling in the EPA sale area, and solicited new information or issues for consideration in the PEA. The State of Florida replied on August 26, 2002, stating a number of issues for consideration in the PEA. The State of Alabama replied on August 8, 2002, stating that the State's concerns were expressed in earlier letters to the GOM Regional Director dated September 26, 2001, and May 28, 2002, regarding the 2002-2007 Central and Western Planning Area Multisale Draft EIS (MMS-2002-056), and the Proposed Notice of Sale for the Eastern GOM Lease Sale 181, respectively. The State was concerned about visual impacts presented by OCS drilling or production structures less than 15 miles offshore Alabama's coastline and about the potential for mercury contamination in association with OCS platforms. The States of Louisiana and Mississippi did not reply to the GOM Regional Director's July 12, 2002, letter. The MMS considered or addressed all of the issues provided by the States in the preparation of the PEA.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

Chris C. Oynes,

Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

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