

Basin Mine N-46-94-010P into one unified operation called the North Operations Area) would consist of extending existing open pits, expanding existing rock disposal areas and heap leach facilities, construction of a truck shop, and continuing the operation, reclamation, and closure of the existing Bald Mountain Mine and Mooney Basin Mine operations (to include mine offices, truck shops/warehouse, haul roads, ore stockpiles, access roads, diversion ditches, power transmission lines, water wells and pipelines, process solution transmission pipelines and a landfill). This proposed expansion is entirely on unpatented mining claims on BLM-administered public land. Project access would continue to be via existing public roads. The projected life of the existing mine operation would increase approximately 10 years under this proposed project.

Under the proposed action, there would be an additional disturbance of 3,808 acres. The BLM previously authorized Barrick Gold Corporation to disturb 3,418 acres within the Bald Mountain Mine Plan boundary and 742 acres within the Mooney Basin Plan boundary (for a total of approximately 4,160 acres) associated with pits, rock disposal areas, heap leaching, roads, growth media stockpiles, exploration, and underground mining activities. The Proposed North Operations Area would include the 4,160 acres of previously permitted disturbance and 3,808 acres of new disturbance, for a final disturbance footprint of 7,968 acres. The North Operations Area EIS would incorporate existing analysis that includes several environmental assessments and the 1995 Bald Mountain Mine Expansion EIS.

Combining the Mooney Basin Mine and the Bald Mountain Mine into one project area would result in the new North Operations Area project boundary expanding to include an additional 3,738 acres of public land. The original boundaries of the two mines encompassed 12,737 acres of public land. The proposed project boundary for the North Operations Area would encompass 16,475 acres. These project boundaries define an area of potential operations although not all of the acreage within these boundaries would be disturbed.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis and EIS alternatives. Federal, state, and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision on this Plan of Operations amendment are

invited to participate in the scoping process. To be most helpful, you should submit formal scoping comments within 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be available for public inspection in their entirety. The minutes and list of attendees for each public meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days after the meeting to any participants who wish to clarify the views they expressed. All comments will be available to the public for review at the Ely Field Office BLM throughout the EIS process.

Potentially significant direct, indirect, residual, and cumulative impacts from the proposed action will be analyzed in the EIS and will include wildlife, BLM sensitive species, socioeconomic, and cultural resources. Additional issues to be addressed may arise during the scoping process.

Dated: February 26, 2007.

**John R. Ruhs,**  
*Field Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA 14340]

#### Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Extension and Opportunity for Public Meeting; California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service has filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that proposes to extend the duration of Public Land Order (PLO) No. 6652 for an additional 20-year term. PLO No. 6652 withdrew 30 acres of National Forest System land

from the mining laws, but not from other forms of disposition as may by law be authorized on National Forest System land or the mineral leasing laws to protect the Petersburg Administrative Site in Siskiyou County. This notice also gives an opportunity to comment on the proposed action and to request a public meeting.

**DATES:** Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by June 28, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and meeting requests should be sent to Duane Marti, BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Duane Marti, BLM California State Office, (916) 978-4675, or at the above address and Jan Ford, Klamath National Forest, (530) 841-4483.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The withdrawal created by PLO No. 6652 (52 FR 27552) will expire on July 21, 2007, unless extended. The Forest Service has filed an application requesting the Secretary of the Interior to extend PLO No. 6652 for an additional 20-year term. The withdrawal was made to protect the Petersburg Administrative Site of the Forest Service on National Forest System land described as follows.

#### Klamath National Forest

Mount Diablo Meridian

T. 38 N., R. 11 W.,

Sec. 34, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 30 acres in Siskiyou County.

The purpose of the proposed extension is to continue the withdrawal created by PLO No. 6652 for an additional 20-year term to protect the Petersburg Administrative Site.

The use of a right-of-way, interagency, or cooperative agreement would not provide adequate protect of the Federal investment.

There are no suitable alternative sites as the land described contains permanent Federal facilities.

No additional water rights would be needed to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal extension.

Records relating to the application may be examined by contacting Curt Hughes at the above address or 530-842-6131.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed extension may present their views in writing to the Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest, at the address noted above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825 and the Klamath National Forest Office, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, California 96097, during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public meeting is afforded in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension. All interested persons who desire a public meeting for the purpose of being heard on the proposed extension must submit a written request to the Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest within 90 days from the date of publication of this notice. If the authorized officer determines that a public meeting will be held, a notice of the time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

This withdrawal extension proposal will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4.

(Authority: 43 CFR 2310.3-1)

Dated: February 7, 2007.

**J. Anthony Danna,**

*Deputy State Director, Natural Resources.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[UT-921-07-5870-HN]

#### Call for Nominations of Lands or Interest in Lands for Potential Purchase by the Federal Government in the State of Utah; Identification of Procedures for Identifying and Prioritizing Acquisition of Lands or Interest in Lands

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act of 2000 (43 U.S.C. 2303) (FLTFA), this notice seeks the nomination of property for possible acquisition by Federal agencies. The notice also provides information on the procedures established for (1) the identification of lands or interests in lands for which a landowner has indicated a desire to sell the lands or interest therein to the United States; and (2) the prioritization for acquisition of the in-holdings.

**DATES:** Nominations may be submitted at any time following the publication of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations should be mailed to the agency listed below having jurisdiction over the federally designated area where the property is located. The nominations should be sent to the attention of the FLTFA Program Coordinator.

Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155.

National Park Service, Intermountain Region, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, NM 87504-0728.

USDA Forest Service, Intermountain Region, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mountain Prairie Region, Division of Realty, P.O. Box 25486, DFC, Lakewood, CO 80225-04868.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joy Wehking, FLTFA Program Coordinator, BLM Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101; Phone: 801-539-4114; E-mail: [joy\\_wehking@blm.gov](mailto:joy_wehking@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with FLTFA, the four Federal agencies noted above are offering to the public an opportunity to nominate lands in the State of Utah for possible Federal acquisition. Under the provisions of FLTFA, only the following non-Federal lands are eligible for nomination: (1) Inholdings within a federally designated area; or (2) Lands or interests in lands adjacent to federally designated areas that contain exceptional resources. The term inholdings in lands means any right, title, or interest held by a non-Federal entity, in a tract of land that lies within the boundary of a federally designated area. A federally designated area is an area set aside for special management on or before July 25, 2000, including national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests, national monuments, national conservation areas, national riparian conservation areas, national recreation areas, national scenic areas,

areas of critical environmental concern, national outstanding natural areas, national natural landmarks, research natural areas, wilderness or wilderness study areas, and units of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System or National Trails System. The term exceptional resource refers to a resource of scientific, natural, historic, cultural or recreational value that has been documented by a Federal, state, or local government authority, and for which there is a compelling need for conservation and protection under the jurisdiction of a Federal agency in order to maintain the resource for the benefit of the public. Nominations meeting the above criteria may be submitted by any individual, group or governmental body. If submitted by a party other than the landowner, the nomination must be accompanied with a written confirmation from the landowner of their desire to sell. Nominations will only be considered eligible by the agencies if: (1) The nomination package is complete; (2) A Federal land use plan calls for acquisition of the land or interest in land being nominated; (3) the land does not contain a hazardous substance or is not otherwise contaminated; (4) the land would not be difficult or uneconomic to manage as Federal land; and (5) acceptable title can be conveyed in accordance with Federal title standards. The agencies will assess the nominations for public benefits in accordance with a jointly prepared State level Interagency Implementation Agreement for FLTFA and a National level Interagency Memorandum of Understanding among the agencies and will rank the nominations. The nomination and identification of an inholding does not obligate the landowner to convey the property nor does it obligate the United States to acquire the property. All Federal land acquisitions must be at fair market value consistent with applicable provisions of the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions.

Further information, including the required contents for a nomination package, and details of the Statewide Interagency Implementation Agreement, may be obtained by contacting Joy Wehking at the address noted above.

**Authority:** Sec. 204, Pub. L. 106-248 (43 U.S.C. 2301).

**Selma Sierra,**

*State Director, Utah.*

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