

effluent pooling provision from the subcontracts.

(5) The Department is aware of two pending effluent exchange agreements that require Departmental approval. The cities of Chandler and Mesa each have a proposed effluent exchange agreement with the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC). The benefits resulting from the proposed exchanges to the cities and GRIC will not occur unless and until the mandatory effluent provision is removed from the cities' CAP water service subcontracts.

(6) The Department received four responses to the proposed action during the **Federal Register** notice public comment period. Each respondent provided rationale and recommendations that support the option of modifying the Secretary's Record of Decision to remove the mandatory effluent pooling provision. The Department received no objections to this proposed action.

IV. Comments on the Proposed Modification and Responses

(1) Salt River Project, July 5, 2002

Comment 1-1: "SRP agrees with the Department's determination that the mandatory effluent pooling provision is an impediment to effluent exchanges and effective water management in central Arizona. For example, without the modification the cities of Chandler and Mesa will not be able to undertake effluent-CAP water exchanges pursuant to the Reclaimed Water Exchange Agreement portion of the Gila River Indian Community Settlement."

Response 1-1: SRP's expression of support for the Department's proposal is noted.

(2) City of Phoenix, July 5, 2002

Comment 1-2: "The City of Phoenix has long supported the removal of that sentence. In 1982 the City sent two letters to then Secretary of the Interior James Watt asking that the mandatory effluent exchange pooling concept be eliminated from the Secretary's proposed allocation decision. We maintained then that the inclusion of such a provision would serve to inhibit future exchanges which would otherwise be mutually beneficial to the exchanging parties * * *. We are pleased that you are now proposing to eliminate the mandatory effluent exchange pooling requirement from both the Secretary's record of decision and also from the CAP M&I subcontracts."

Response 1-2: The City of Phoenix position has remained consistent throughout the period following the

Secretary's decision. It has been instrumental in spurring the Department's investigation of the issues arising from the mandatory effluent exchange provision.

(3) City of Chandler, July 3, 2002

Comment 1-3: "The City of Chandler, Arizona submits this letter in support of the proposed modification of the Secretary of Interior's March, 1983 Record of Decision, which deletes the mandatory effluent pooling provision from Central Arizona Project ("CAP") water service contracts. This provision, and the related M&I subcontracts' effluent exchanges restriction, prevent municipalities from exchanging effluent for CAP water held by Indian communities. The proposed modification encourages better water management, and will allow for a necessary effluent exchange as part of the Gila River Indian Community water rights settlement."

Response 1-3: The Department acknowledges the City of Chandler's statements of support for the Secretary's proposed modification of the 1983 Record of Decision. It also notes that Chandler's position supports and is consistent with its formal request for an amendment of its CAP water service contract to remove the mandatory effluent pooling provision, which is pending.

(4) City of Mesa, June 17, 2002

Comment 1-4: "The City of Mesa fully supports the Department's proposal to modify the 1983 Central Arizona Project (CAP) Water Allocation Decision to delete the mandatory effluent pooling provision. We agree with Department's determination that the mandatory effluent pooling provision is an impediment to effluent exchanges and effective water management in central Arizona. * * * The City of Mesa intends to enter into an effluent exchange agreement with the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) through the proposed GRIC water rights settlement. The benefits resulting from the proposed exchanges to Mesa and GRIC will not occur unless and until the mandatory effluent provision is removed from Mesa's CAP water service subcontracts * * * We urge the Secretary to amend Mesa's CAP water service subcontracts to delete the mandatory effluent pooling provision."

Response 1-4: The Department acknowledges and accepts the City of Mesa's statements of support for the Secretary's proposed modification of the 1983 Record of Decision. Its comments are consistent with its formal request for an amendment of its CAP water service

contract to remove the mandatory effluent pooling provision, which is pending.

V. Compliance With NEPA

The Department has completed a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) on the impact of modifying the 1983 CAP Water Allocation Decision to delete the mandatory effluent pooling provision. The Final EA resulted in a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI) to the human environment and was signed August 5, 2002 by Reclamation's Phoenix Area Office Manager, Phoenix, Arizona.

Final Decision

The following sentence is hereby deleted from the 1983 CAP Water Allocation Decision (March 24, 1983, 48 FR 12447): "This allocation is subject to adoption of a pooling concept whereby all M&I allottees share in the benefits of effluent exchanges."

Dated: May 14, 2003.

Gale A. Norton,

Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 03-15280 Filed 6-17-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1010-AC]

Notice of Public Meeting, Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior, Montana, Billings and Miles City field offices.

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) Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC), will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The meeting will be held August 14, 2003, in Billings, MT beginning at 8 a.m. When determined, the meeting place will be announced in a News Release. The public comment period will begin at approximately 11 a.m. and the meeting will adjourn at approximately 3:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Jacobsen, Public Affairs Specialist, Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana, 59301, telephone (406) 233-2831.

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 Montana. At this meeting, topics we plan to discuss include: Sustaining Working Landscapes Initiative, OHV Update, National RAC meeting report, Weatherman Draw Subcommittee update, Oil and Gas EIS Update and other topics the council may raise.

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 above.

Dated: June 6, 2003.

David McInay,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 03-15331 Filed 6-17-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR113-5882-PF, HAG03-0197]

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee Field Trips and Meetings

AGENCY: Medford District, Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Resource Advisory Committee field trips and meetings.

SUMMARY: The Medford District BLM will be hosting a series of field trips and meetings for the Medford Resource Advisory Committee. The purpose of the field trips and meetings will be to discuss and make recommendations for projects submitted for funding under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393). The committee will also be reviewing the progress of projects funded in previous years.

The field trips will leave from the BLM office at 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon at 8:30 a.m. and will return to the BLM office at approximately 4 p.m. on July 14, 2003 and July 28, 2003. The itinerary of the field trips will vary depending on the types of projects to be visited, but all

locations will be within the Medford BLM District.

The primary office meeting of the Resource Advisory Committee will be held on August 11, 2003 at the BLM office at 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon beginning at 10 a.m. The objective of this meeting is to review proposals for projects to be funded in Fiscal Year 2004. If there is not enough time to adequately consider all the proposed projects, a follow-up meeting will be held at the BLM office on August 14, 2003, also beginning at 10 a.m.

DATES: The field trips will take place on July 14 and July 28. They will leave the BLM office at 8:30 and return at approximately 4 p.m. The meeting will take place at the BLM building on August 11, 2003 beginning at 10 a.m.; a follow-up meeting will take place at the BLM office on August 14, 2003, if necessary to review all the proposals and make recommendations. These times and dates will be published on the Medford District Web site <http://www.or.blm.gov/Medford> and in the "Medford Mail Tribune" and "Grant's Pass Courier" newspapers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND

ADDRESSES: Comments and questions should be sent to Roger Schnoes, Bureau of Land Management, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon, 97504, (541) 618-2417, or fax to (541) 618-2400, or e-mail to 110mb@or.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393) established the Resource Advisory Committees associated with the BLM Districts and National Forests in western Oregon to assist the BLM and Forest Service fund projects to restore stability and predictability to the annual payments to the States and counties and to benefit public schools, roads and other purposes. The Medford BLM Resource Advisory Committee has met in 2001 and 2002 and made recommendations for funding projects. Projects for Fiscal Year 2004 have been submitted by BLM staff and by the public and these have been made available to the Resource Advisory Committee. They will also be published on the BLM Web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Medford>. The Resource Advisory Committee will have two opportunities to visit project sites during the field trips in July which are the subject of this notice. The field trips will include some of the projects being proposed for Fiscal Year 2004 as well as some of the projects already approved and funded in Fiscal Years 2002 and 2003.

At the formal meeting, the Resource Advisory Committee will discuss the projects which were submitted for funding in Fiscal Year 2004. The public will be able to comment on those projects at that time. The Resource Advisory Committee will make recommendations on project funding to the Designated Federal Official, who is the Medford BLM District Manager. The Designated Federal Official will then make a final determination on which projects will be funded in Fiscal Year 2004.

The purposes of the field trips and the meetings are to allow the Resource Advisory Committee to discuss and fully understand the projects. They will have the opportunity to ask questions of BLM managers and staff as well as the public parties who made the submissions. Considering the proposals in a meeting format will allow the Committee to exchange information and alternatives and reach a set of recommendations for funding.

Authority: Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

Dated: June 10, 2003.

Mary L. Smelcer,

Acting District Manager, Medford District, Bureau of Land Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-957-02-1420-BJ]

Plats of Survey Filing; Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of filing of plats of survey, Wyoming.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has filed the plats of survey of the lands described below in the BLM Wyoming State Office, Cheyenne, Wyoming, on June 9, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bureau of Land Management, 5353 Yellowstone Road, PO Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These surveys were executed at the request of the Bureau of Land Management, and are necessary for the management of resources. The lands surveyed are:

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the subdivisional lines, and the subdivision of section 28, and the metes and bounds