

notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues. The RMP amendments will revise sage-grouse and sagebrush management direction in the existing Casper, Kemmerer, Pinedale, Rock Springs, Newcastle, and Rawlins RMPs to incorporate policies set forth in BLM Wyoming Instruction Memoranda (IM) 2010–012 and 2010–013. The IMs may be accessed at the following Web address: <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/wildlife.html>.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the RMP amendments with associated EIS. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until June 28, 2010. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media and the BLM Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/Planning/amendments/sage-grouse.html>. In order to be included in the Draft RMP amendments, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft RMP amendments.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to the Casper, Kemmerer, Pinedale, Rock Springs, Newcastle, and Rawlins RMP amendments by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/Planning/amendments/sage-grouse.html>;
- **E-mail:** Sagegrouse_Amendment_WY@blm.gov;
- **Fax:** (307) 352–0329; and
- **Mail:** BLM Wyoming State Office (WY 930), 5353 Yellowstone Rd., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Casper, Kemmerer, Pinedale, Rock Springs, Newcastle, and Rawlins field offices.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Bill Hill, Deputy State Director, Resources Policy and Management; at (307) 775–6113; 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003; e-mail: Sagegrouse_Amendment_WY@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document provides notice that the BLM Wyoming State Office intends to prepare RMP amendments with an associated EIS for the Casper, Kemmerer, Pinedale, Rock Springs,

Newcastle, and Rawlins RMPs, announces the beginning of the scoping process, and seeks public input on issues and planning criteria. The planning area is located in Converse, Goshen, Natrona, and Platte counties (Casper Field Office); Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties (Kemmerer Field Office); Sublette, Lincoln, and Fremont counties (Pinedale Field Office); Albany, Carbon, Laramie, and Sweetwater counties (Rawlins Field Office); Sweetwater, Sublette and Fremont counties (Rock Springs Field Office); and Niobrara, Weston and Crook counties (Newcastle Field Office) in Wyoming. The planning area encompasses approximately 15 million acres of public land. The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the planning process. Preliminary issues for the planning area have been identified by BLM personnel; Federal, state, and local agencies; and other stakeholders. The issues include: Sagebrush habitat management practices directly applicable to protection of the sage grouse, sagebrush habitat management science directly applicable to protection of the sage grouse, and the effects of sagebrush habitat management on other public land resources. Preliminary planning criteria include: Incorporation of sage-grouse policies in Wyoming IMs 2010–012 and 2010–013; incorporation of the policies established by the Wyoming Governor's Executive Order on sage-grouse (Wyoming EO 2008–2), as appropriate; and consideration of and consistency with the BLM National Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy (November 2004). The RMP amendment process will comply with NEPA, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and other applicable laws and policies. You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria in writing or orally to the BLM at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them to the BLM using one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above. To be most helpful, you should submit comments within 30 days after the last public meeting. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. The minutes and list of attendees for each scoping meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days after the meeting to any participant who wishes to clarify the views he or she expressed. The BLM will evaluate identified issues to be addressed in the plan amendments, and will place them into one of three categories:

1. Issues to be resolved in the amendments;
2. Issues to be resolved through policy or administrative action; or
3. Issues beyond the scope of these amendments.

The BLM will provide an explanation in the Draft RMP amendments/EIS as to why an issue was placed in category two or three. The public is also encouraged to help identify any management questions and concerns that should be addressed in the amendments. The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns. The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the amendments in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Specialists with expertise in the following disciplines will be involved in the planning process: Rangeland management, minerals and geology, outdoor recreation, archaeology, paleontology, wildlife and fisheries, lands and realty, hydrology, soils, sociology, and economics.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2.

Donald A. Simpson,
State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Graymont Western U.S., Inc. Proposed Mine Expansion, Broadwater County, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

has been prepared for the Graymont Western U.S., Inc. Proposed Mine Expansion. The mine permit is administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Butte Field Office and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Operations on public lands in the permit area are on mining claims located in accordance with the General Mining Law of 1872, as amended.

DATES: The Final EIS will be available for review for 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. A Record of Decision will be prepared following the 30-day public availability period.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final EIS have been sent to affected Federal, State, and local government agencies and to interested parties. Copies of the Final EIS are available for public inspection at the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, 1520 East 6th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620-0901 and the Bureau of Land Management, Butte Field Office, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701. Interested parties may also review the Final EIS on the internet at <http://www.deq.mt.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Greg Hallsten, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or David Williams, Bureau of Land Management, Butte Field Office, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Graymont Western U.S., Inc. submitted a Plan of Operations on February 22, 2006, to the BLM and the DEQ to expand its existing limestone quarry operation, which is located on unpatented mining claims on public lands west of Townsend, Montana. This proposal is a continuation of mining along a prominent limestone ridge which forms the crest of the "Limestone Hills." The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2007, and the Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS was announced in the **Federal Register** on December 19, 2008. Mining was originally permitted in the area beginning in 1981 and has continued since that time. The principal concern, developed through public meetings and agency review, was potential loss of mule deer and bighorn sheep habitat and winter-browse vegetation, principally mountain mahogany. The Final EIS evaluated three alternatives: No Action, the Proposed Action, and Alternative A, Modified Pit Backfill. The No Action Alternative would limit mine disturbance to the currently

permitted 735 acres of disturbance, and the mine would continue to operate until it reached the permitted limits, probably in 7 to 12 years. The Proposed Action Alternative would allow for an additional 1,313 acres of disturbance and allow operations to continue for 35 to 50 years. The Modified Pit Backfill Alternative modifies reclamation at the site to provide for more diverse topography and soils that favor winter-browse species but does not change the proposed disturbance acreage or years of future operations.

Richard M. Hotaling,
Butte Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Intent To Solicit Nominations: Steens Mountain Advisory Council, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Call for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary is requesting nominations for four representatives for the Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC). The Council will advise the Secretary on planning in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA), through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

DATES: Submit nomination packages on or before: June 28, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send completed Advisory Council nominations to Burns District BLM Office; 28910 Highway 20 West; Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4541 or Christi_Courtemanche@blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christi Courtemanche, BLM, Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4541 or Christi_Courtemanche@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SMAC was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior on August 14, 2001, pursuant to the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-399). The SMAC's purpose is to provide representative counsel and advice to the BLM regarding new and unique approaches to management of the land within the bounds of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area. The BLM is publishing this notice under Section 9 (a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, to

request nominations from the public for membership on the SMAC. Nomination forms may be obtained from the BLM Burns District Office. Applicants must be qualified through education, training, knowledge, or experience to give informed advice regarding an industry, discipline, or interest to be represented. Nominees must also demonstrate a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. The Obama Administration prohibits individuals who are currently federally registered lobbyists from serving on all Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and non-FACA boards, committees or councils. Any individual may nominate himself/herself or others to serve on the Council. Nomination applications may be obtained at the Burns District BLM Office or by going to <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/index.php>. All nomination applications should include reference letters and/or recommendations from the represented interests or organizations, and any other information explaining the nominee's qualifications (e.g., resume, curriculum vitae). *Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:*

- A person with No Financial Interest in the CMPA to represent statewide interests (appointed from nominees submitted by the Governor of Oregon);
- A person who holds a Federal Grazing Permit for lands in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the County Court of Harney County);
- A member and representative of the Burns Paiute Tribe (appointed from nominees submitted by the Burns Paiute Tribe);
- A person who participates in Mechanized or Consumptive Recreation, such as hunting, off-road driving, hang gliding, or parasailing in the CMPA (appointed from nominees submitted by the Oregon State Director of the BLM);

The specific category the nominee wishes to represent should be identified in the nomination letter. The BLM Burns District Office will collect the nomination forms and reference letters and distribute them to the officials responsible for submitting nominations (County Court of Harney County, the Governor of Oregon, and the BLM). The BLM will then forward recommended nominations to the Secretary of the Interior, who has responsibility for making the appointments.

Members of the SMAC are appointed to 3-year terms. All positions will expire in October 2013. Members serve without monetary compensation, but will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Federal employees. The SMAC shall meet only