

wilderness values. The 1991 San Rafael Resource Management Plan (RMP) further addressed ORV use in the region by allocating all lands in the affected WSAs in either the "limited use" restricted to designated routes, or the "closed" to ORV use categories. Following the RMP, the BLM Price Office initiated a planning effort to designate the routes in the San Rafael planning unit, including lands in the affected WSAs within the limited use ORV category. This planning effort included extensive coordination with local governments and interest groups, as well as the formation of a citizen's team to advise on ORV route designations. Despite these efforts, route designation has remained a contentious issue and a travel plan for the San Rafael Swell, including the affected WSAs, has not been completed. Throughout this period, ORV use in the San Rafael Swell has increased tremendously. The proliferation of vehicle ways beyond the ways inventoried at the time of WSA designation has become a serious problem. Damage to soils, vegetation and other resources is occurring in many areas degrading naturalness and other wilderness qualities. The impairment of wilderness values necessitates this emergency closure order in the seven WSAs located in the San Rafael Swell region. The closure effects motorized vehicle use on all public lands in WSAs in the Price Field Office with the exception of "four" routes in Sid's Mountain WSA described as follows: (1) The wash bottom of Coal Wash, including the short dugway from the west which enters this wash, and North Fork Coal Wash south until it exits the WSA over "Fix-It-Pass", (2) the wash bottom of South Fork Coal Wash from its junction with the North Fork to and including the "Eva Conover" way, (3) the "Devil's Racetrack" way, and (4) the Justensen Flat access way, including lower Eagle Canyon southeast from the junction of this way. These routes will remain open on a conditional basis. Motorized use of these routes will be allowed to continue contingent upon the success of a rehabilitation and monitoring plan designed to restore areas to non-impairment conditions and prevent further travel off of these pre-described routes. Should the plan not restore the area, these areas will also be closed until adverse effects can be eliminated. The net effect of this action combined with previous land use decisions, is that all WSA's administered by the Price Field Office are closed to ORV use

except for the routes specified as conditionally open in this notice.

Nothing in this order alters in any way legal rights which Emery County or the State of Utah may claim to assert R.S. 2477 highways, and to challenge in Federal court or other appropriate venue, any BLM road closures that they believe are inconsistent with their claims.

**Sally Wisely,**

*State Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-4210-05;N-66181]

#### Notice of Realty Action: Lease/Conveyance for Recreation and Public Purposes

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

**ACTION:** Recreation and Public Purpose Lease/conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** The following described public land in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada has been examined and found suitable for lease/conveyance for recreational or public purposes under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 *et seq.*). The City of Las Vegas proposes to use the land for a public park.

#### Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 20 S., R. 59 E., sec 1

W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{2}$

Containing 5 acres, more or less.

The land is not required for any federal purpose. The lease/conveyance is consistent with current Bureau planning for this area and would be in the public interest. The lease/patent, when issued, will be subject to the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and applicable regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, and will contain the following reservations to the United States:

1. A right-of-way thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890 (43 U.S.C. 945).

2. All minerals shall be reserved to the United States, together with the right to prospect for, mine and remove such deposits from the same under applicable law and such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

and will be subject to:

1. An easement 30 feet in width along the North boundary, 30 feet in width along the West boundary, 30 feet in width along the South boundary and 30 feet in width along the East boundary in favor of the City of Las Vegas for road, sewer, public utilities and flood control purposes.

Detailed information concerning this action is available for review at the office of the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office, 4765 W. Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the above described land will be segregated from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws, except for lease/conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, leasing under the mineral leasing laws and disposals under the mineral material disposal laws. For a period of 45 days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, interested parties may submit comments regarding the proposed lease/conveyance for classification of the lands to the Field Manager, Las Vegas Field Office, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108.

**Classification Comments:** Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for a public park. Comments on the classification are restricted to whether the land is physically suited for the proposal, whether the use will maximize the future use or uses of the land, whether the use is consistent with local planning and zoning, or if the use is consistent with State and Federal programs.

**Application Comments:** Interested parties may submit comments regarding the specific use proposed in the application and plan of development, whether the BLM followed proper administrative procedures in reaching the decision, or any other factor not directly related to the suitability of the land for a public park.

Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the State Director.

In the absence of any adverse comments, the classification of the land described in this Notice will become effective 60 days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. The lands will not be offered for lease/conveyance until after the classification becomes effective.

Dated: March 8, 2000.

**Judy A. Fry,**

*Acting Assistant Field Manager, Division of Lands, Las Vegas, NV.*

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