

Environmental Protection Agency publishes their NOA of the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. The public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. MST, on November 14, 2006, at the Clarion Hotel in Gillette, Wyoming.

**ADDRESSES:** Please address questions, comments, or concerns to the Casper Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Nancy Doelger, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, Wyoming 82604, by facsimile (fax) to 307-261-7587, or send e-mail comments to the attention of Nancy Doelger at [casper\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:casper_wymail@blm.gov). Copies of the DEIS are available for public inspection at the following BLM office locations: BLM Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009; and BLM Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Lane, Casper, Wyoming 82604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Doelger or Mike Karbs at the above address, or telephone: 307-261-7600.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM is considering issuing a coal lease as a result of a December 28, 2001, application made by RAG Coal West, Inc. (RAG Coal) to lease the Federal coal in the Eagle Butte West Coal tract. This tract is near the Eagle Butte Mine and approximately 3 miles north of Gillette, Wyoming, in Campbell County, Wyoming. In August 2004 Foundation Coal West, Inc. (Foundation) purchased the Eagle Butte Mine from RAG Coal. The DEIS analyzes and discloses to the public direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of issuing a Federal coal lease in the Wyoming portion of the Powder River Basin. A copy of the DEIS has been sent to affected Federal, State, and local government agencies; persons and entities identified as potentially being affected by a decision to lease the Federal coal in this tract; and persons who indicated to the BLM that they wished to receive a copy of the DEIS. The purpose of the public hearing is to solicit comments on the DEIS, on the proposed competitive sale of Eagle Butte West Coal tract, and comments on the FMV and MER of the Federal coal.

RAG Coal originally applied for the tract to extend the life of the existing Eagle Butte Mine in accordance with 43 CFR part 3425. On October 16, 2003, Foundation, the new owner of RAG Coal, filed a request to modify the tract and estimated that the tract includes approximately 231 million tons of recoverable Federal coal underlying the following lands in Campbell County, Wyoming:

Section 19: Lots 13, 14, 19, and 20;  
Section 20: Lots 10 (S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>), 11 (S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>), and 12 through 15;  
Section 29: Lot 1 W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of lots, 2 through 7, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of lot 8, and lots 9 through 16;  
Section 30: Lots 5, 6, 11 through 14, 19 and 20.  
Total Acres: 1,397.64 acres more or less.

The Eagle Butte Mine is adjacent to the LBA and has an approved mining and reclamation plan from the Land Quality Division of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and an approved air quality permit from the Air Quality Division of the Wyoming DEQ that allows them to mine up to 35 million tons of coal per year.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the Land Quality Division of the Wyoming DEQ, the Air Quality Division of the Wyoming DEQ, the Wyoming Department of Transportation, the Wyoming State Planning Office, and the Board of Commissioners of Campbell County, Wyoming are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the DEIS.

The DEIS analyzes leasing the Eagle Butte West Coal tract as the Proposed Action and it is the agency's Preferred Action. Under the Proposed Action, a competitive sale would be held and a lease issued for Federal coal in the tract as applied for by Foundation. As part of the coal leasing process, the BLM is evaluating adding Federal coal to the tract to avoid bypassing coal or to prompt competitive interest in the unleased Federal coal for this area. The alternate tract configuration that BLM is evaluating is described and analyzed as a separate alternative in the DEIS. Under this alternative, a competitive sale would be held and a lease issued for Federal coal lands included in a tract modified by the BLM. The DEIS also analyzes the alternative of rejecting the application to lease Federal coal as the No Action Alternative. The Proposed Action and Alternatives being considered in the DEIS are in conformance with the "Approved Resource Management Plan for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management Buffalo Field Office" (April 2001).

Requests to be included on the mailing list for this project and to request copies of the DEIS or notification of the comment period or hearing date, or both, may be sent in writing, by facsimile, or electronically to the addresses previously stated at the beginning of this notice. The BLM asks that those submitting comments on the DEIS make them as specific as possible with reference to page numbers and

chapters of the document. Comments that contain only opinions or preferences will not receive a formal response; however, they will be considered and included as part of the BLM decision-making process.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Casper Field Office, at the address listed above, during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: September 1, 2006.

**Robert A. Bennett,**

*State Director.*

[FR Doc. E6-17142 Filed 10-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-510-1610-DS-025G]

#### Notice of Availability (NOA)

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Special Status Species Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment/ Environmental Impact Statement (DRMPA/EIS), New Mexico.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the BLM has prepared a Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS for the Pecos District and by this Notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

**DATES:** To assure that they will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the DRMPA/EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes their NOA in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other

public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods: Web Site: <http://www.nm.blm.gov>; E-mail: [NMRFO\\_Comments@blm.gov](mailto:NMRFO_Comments@blm.gov); Fax: 505-627-0276; or Mail: BLM Roswell Field Office, Attention: RMPA, 2909 West Second Street, Roswell, NM 88201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to have your name added to the Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS Mailing List, contact Howard Parman, Planning Team Leader, at the Roswell Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** above), telephone 505-627-0272. Requests for information may be sent electronically to: [NMRFO\\_Comments@blm.gov](mailto:NMRFO_Comments@blm.gov) with "Attention: Special Status Species DRMPA Information Request" in the subject line.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The planning area for the Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS, which includes 847,491 acres of BLM-administered public lands, is located in Chaves, Eddy, Lea, and Roosevelt Counties, New Mexico. A map of the planning area is available on the Web site (see **ADDRESSES** above). The planning area includes all surface and subsurface (mineral estate) lands managed by BLM within the planning area.

The BLM-administered public lands within the planning area are currently managed under interim management guidelines issued on August 5, 2004. Interim management is in accordance with the decisions in the 1988 Carlsbad RMP, as amended, and the 1997 Roswell RMP. The BLM will continue to manage these lands in accordance with the interim management guidelines until the RMPA is completed and a Record of Decision is signed.

The purpose of the DRMPA/EIS is to amend the existing Resource Management Plans, in order to protect and enhance lesser prairie-chicken and sand dune lizard habitats, while allowing other uses to continue. The Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS documents the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of six alternative plans for BLM-administered public lands within the planning area.

The DRMPA/EIS describes the physical, biological, cultural, historic, and socioeconomic resources in and around the surrounding planning area. The focus for impact analysis was based on resource issues and concerns identified during scoping and public involvement activities and opportunities. Potential impacts of

concern regarding possible management direction and planning decisions (not in priority order) are: development of energy resources, special management designation, special status species management, livestock grazing, and off-highway vehicle designations.

Six alternatives were analyzed in detail: The No Action Alternative represents the continuation of existing management plans, policies, and decisions as established in the 1988 Carlsbad RMP (as amended) and the 1997 Roswell RMP. Alternative A represents a strategy developed by the Southeast New Mexico Lesser Prairie Chicken Working Group to give greater protection to the Lesser prairie chicken and the sand dune lizard. Alternative B represents the working group's strategy and adds more emphasis to sand dune lizard habitat and surface reclamation. Alternative C represents the continuation of interim management, originally put in place by the BLM to preserve management options in the planning area. Alternative D focuses management efforts on preserving occupied habitat. Alternative E analyzes the impacts of an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) nomination. (See below for additional information about the ACEC.) The BLM's preferred alternative is Alternative B.

Since the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a DRMPA/EIS in the **Federal Register** on November 18, 2004, scoping meetings, economic workshops, and mailings have been conducted to solicit public comments and input. The Pecos District Office has been providing updates on the development of the DRMPA/EIS to the Chaves, Eddy, and Lea County Boards of Commissioners, and the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council. Tribal governments with interests in the planning area were also contacted. In addition to Chaves, Eddy, and Lea counties, the New Mexico State Land Office, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, applied for, and were granted, Cooperating Agency status for the development of the DRMPA/EIS.

The DRMPA/EIS considers the nomination of one ACEC. Alternative E describes the proposed Lesser Prairie Chicken ACEC, and analyzes the impacts of establishing this ACEC. This ACEC would be four tracts totaling approximately 231,040 acres. Resource use limitations in this ACEC include a 5-year moratorium on all livestock grazing and new oil and gas activities within the proposed ACEC south of U.S. Highway 380 and the two small portions

of the proposed ACEC straddling U.S. Highway 70; no new oil or gas well drilling allowed within 0.9 mile of an active lesser prairie chicken lek within the proposed ACEC; and no new rights-of-way granted within 0.9 mile of an active lesser prairie chicken lek within the proposed ACEC. Within the Adaptive Management Area of the proposed ACEC, experimental reductions in livestock grazing would be conducted, including no livestock grazing on at least 1 square mile within 1.5 miles of lesser prairie chicken lek sites; and light intensity livestock grazing after June 30 on at least 1 square mile within 1.5 miles of lesser prairie chicken lek sites. Each grazing treatment experiment would be conducted on a minimum of five sites.

From the publication date of the NOI in the **Federal Register**, through February 5, 2005, the BLM solicited comments and received 10 written letters, comment forms, and e-mails from interested parties. In addition, four scoping meetings were held to provide the public with an opportunity to acquire information about the planning process and its status, and how to submit comments.

These public meetings were held in Portales, New Mexico, on January 11, 2005, Roswell, New Mexico, on January 13, 2005, Carlsbad, New Mexico, on January 18, 2005, and Hobbs, New Mexico, on January 20, 2005. The four meetings resulted in approximately 64 oral comments from the public. All comments presented throughout the process have been considered. Background information and maps used in developing the Draft RMPA/EIS are available for public viewing at the Roswell Field Office at the above address.

Comments that are e-mailed or faxed must include "Comments on Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS" in the subject line. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address, or both, from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. The BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Copies of the Special Status Species DRMPA/EIS will be available for public inspection at the following locations: BLM New Mexico State Office, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505; BLM Carlsbad Field Office, 620 East Greene,

Carlsbad, NM 88220; BLM Roswell Field Office, 2909 West Second Street, Roswell, NM 88201. The current RMPs/EISs, and all other documents relevant to this planning process, are available for public review at the Field Offices at the above addresses.

Dated: June 6, 2006.

**Linda S.C. Rundell,**

*New Mexico State Director.*

[FR Doc. E6-17452 Filed 10-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[ES-960-1910-BK, Group 26, Maine]

#### Notice of Filing of Plat of Survey; Maine

The plat of the dependent resurvey of the boundaries of lands held in trust by the United States, for the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, in Presque Isle, Aroostook County, Maine, known as the "Bonaire Housing Complex", will be officially filed in Eastern States, Springfield, Virginia, 30 calendar days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

The survey was requested by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

All inquiries or protests concerning the technical aspects of the survey must be sent to the Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Eastern States, Bureau of Land Management, 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153.

Copies of the plat will be made available upon request and prepayment of the reproduction fee of \$2.75 per copy.

**Michael Young,**

*Cadastral Chief, Eastern States.*

[FR Doc. E6-17560 Filed 10-19-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of a revision of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0140).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that

we have submitted to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR Part 210—Forms and Reports, regarding Form MMS-2014, Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before November 20, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments by either FAX (202) 395-6566 or e-mail (*OIRA\_Docket@omb.eop.gov*) directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB Control Number 1010-0140).

Please also send a copy of your comments to MMS via e-mail at *mrm.comments@mms.gov*. Include the title of the information collection and the OMB control number in the "Attention" line of your comment. Also include your name and return address. If you do not receive a confirmation that we have received your e-mail, contact Ms. Gebhardt at (303) 231-3211.

You may also mail a copy of your comments to Sharron L. Gebhardt, Lead Regulatory Specialist, Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management, P.O. Box 25165, MS 302B2, Denver, Colorado 80225. If you use an overnight courier service or wish to hand-deliver your comments, our courier address is Building 85, Room A-614, Denver Federal Center, West 6th Ave. and Kipling Blvd., Denver, Colorado 80225.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharron L. Gebhardt, telephone (303) 231-3211, FAX (303) 231-3781, e-mail *Sharron.Gebhardt@mms.gov*. You may also contact Sharron Gebhardt to obtain, at no cost, copies of (1) the ICR, (2) any associated forms, and (3) regulations that require the subject collection of information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title: 30 CFR Part 210—Forms and Reports.

OMB Control Number: 1010-0140.

Bureau Form Number: Form MMS-2014.

**Abstract:** The Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for matters relevant to mineral resource development on Federal and Indian lands and the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Secretary, under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 1923) and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1353), is responsible for managing the production of minerals from Federal and Indian lands and the

OCS, collecting royalties from lessees who produce minerals, and distributing the funds collected in accordance with applicable laws.

The Secretary has a trust responsibility to manage Indian lands and seek advice and information from Indian beneficiaries. The MMS performs the royalty management functions and assists the Secretary in carrying out the Department's trust responsibility for Indian lands.

The Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (FOGRMA) of 1982, 30 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*, states in Section 101(a) that the Secretary " \* \* \* shall establish a comprehensive inspection, collection, and fiscal and production accounting and auditing system to provide the capability to accurately determine oil and gas royalties, interest, fines, penalties, fees, deposits, and other payments owed, and collect and account for such amounts in a timely manner." The MMS collects the information on Form MMS-2014, Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance, which is the only document used for reporting oil and gas royalties, certain rents, and other lease-related transactions (e.g., transportation and processing allowances, lease adjustments, and quality and location differentials). The information collected includes data necessary to ensure that the royalties are paid appropriately.

The persons or entities described under FOGRMA at 30 U.S.C. 1713 are required to make reports and submit reasonable information as defined by the Secretary. When a company or an individual enters into a lease to explore, develop, produce, and dispose of minerals from Federal or Indian lands, that company or individual agrees to pay the lessor a share (royalty) of the value received from production from the leased lands. The lease creates a business relationship between the lessor and the lessee. The lessee is required to report various kinds of information to the lessor relative to the disposition of the leased minerals. Such information is similar to data reported to private and public mineral interest owners and is generally available within the records of the lessee or others involved in developing, transporting, processing, purchasing, or selling of such minerals.

Public laws pertaining to mineral royalties are located on our Web site at [http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws\\_R\\_D/PublicLawsAMR.htm](http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws_R_D/PublicLawsAMR.htm).

The MMS is requesting OMB's approval to continue to collect this information using Form MMS-2014. Not collecting this information would limit the Secretary's ability to discharge his/her duties and may also result in