

number of acres where livestock grazing is permitted.

The BLM preferred alternative (Alternative 2) and Alternatives 3, 4, and 5 (the action alternatives) propose immediate designation of five new Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), totaling 61,254 acres. This total does not include expansion of the existing Horn Butte ACEC from 5,999 to 7,152 acres, nor the 6,639-acre Black Canyon Research Natural Area (RNA)/ACEC, which overlaps a portion of the John Day Paleontological ACEC. The largest of the newly proposed ACECs is the 38,168-acre John Day Paleontological ACEC that would complement the adjacent John Day Fossil Beds National Monument and partially overlap with the existing Sutton Mountain WSA. Resource use limitations associated with designation of this ACEC where it overlaps the WSA would include closure to salable, locatable and leaseable minerals, a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation for energy and communication site development, exclusion from rights-of-way, management to Visual Resource Management Class II (VRM II) standards, and limiting vehicle use to designated roads and trails (OHV Limited). Use limitations associated with this ACEC where it does not overlap with the Sutton Mountain WSA would be similar except for a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation for mineral leasing, and avoidance of developments for energy, communication sites, and rights-of-way. Other proposed ACECs include the 6,639-acre Black Canyon RNA/ACEC, which would protect several sensitive plants and unique plant communities; use limitations include exclusion of livestock grazing, closure to off-highway motorized and non-motorized vehicle use (OHV Closed), an NSO stipulation for mineral leasing, closure to salable mineral, energy and communication site development, and exclusion of rights-of-way. The action alternatives also propose to add 1,152 acres to the existing 5,999-acre Horn Butte ACEC to protect Washington ground squirrel habitat. Use limitations for the expanded Horn Butte ACEC also include management to VRM II standards, prohibition of mechanical noxious weed control in Fourmile Canyon, NSO stipulation for mineral leasing, closure to salable minerals and energy and communication site development, and exclusion of rights-of-way. Also proposed is the addition of the North Fork John Day River (16,837 acres), Armstrong Canyon (3,885 acres) and Ferry Canyon (2,364 acres) ACECs

to protect visual resource values; use limitations include management to VRM II standards, NSO stipulation for mineral leasing, closure to communication site development, and exclusion of rights-of-way. The action alternatives also eliminate the existing Spanish Gulch ACEC (333 acres). In the event that Congress releases any of the three WSAs along the lower John Day River (Lower John Day, North Pole Ridge, and Thirtymile) from WSA status, the released lands would be designated as ACECs to preserve scenic and other values. Use limitations would include management to VRM II standards, NSO stipulation for mineral leasing and closure to salable minerals, closure to energy and communication site development, and exclusion of rights-of-way (except for the existing PGE pipeline right-of-way). For more detailed information on each ACEC proposal, see the Special Designations section in the Draft RMP/EIS.

Please note that public comments and information submitted including names, street addresses, and e-mail addresses of respondents will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your written comments, you should be aware that your entire letter, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your letter to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6, 43 CFR 1610.2.

**Edward W. Shepard,**

*State Director, Oregon/Washington.*

[FR Doc. E8-25926 Filed 10-29-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-33-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CO-921-07-1320-EL; COC-72980]

### Notice of Federal Competitive Coal Lease Sale Offer, Colorado

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale, Lease Application COC-72980.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the United States Department of the

Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Colorado State Office, will offer certain coal resources describe below as Federal coal lease application (LBA) COC-72980 in Routt County, Colorado, for competitive sale by sealed bid, in accordance with the provisions for competitive lease sales in 43 CFR 3422.2(a), and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*).

**DATES:** The lease sale will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2008. Sealed bid must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand delivered to the address indicated below, and must be received on or before 10 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2008. The BLM cashier will issue a receipt for each hand delivered sealed bid. Any bid received after the time specified will not be considered and will be returned. The outside of the sealed envelope containing the bid must clearly state that the envelope contains a bid for Coal Lease Sale COC-72980, and is not to be opened before the date and hour of the sale.

**ADDRESSES:** The lease sale will be held in the BLM Colorado State Office, Conference Room, Fourth Floor, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado. Sealed bids must be submitted, hand delivered or mailed to BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kurt Barton at BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, or by telephone 303-239-3714.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This coal lease sale is being held in response to a LBA filed by Twentymile Coal Company, April 8, 2008. The coal resource to be offered consists of recoverable coal reserves in the TCC Wadge seam mined by underground mining methods in the following lands:

T. 5 N., R. 87 W., 6th P.M.  
Sec. 22, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 27, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Containing approximately 500 acres in Routt County, Colorado.

Total recoverable reserves are estimated to be 1.4 million tons. The underground minable coal is ranked as sub bituminous B coal. The estimated coal quality on an as-received basis for the seams are as follows:

### TCC WADGE SEAM

BTU/lb .....	12,561
Volatile Matter .....	33.52%
Moisture .....	8.55%
Fixed Carbon .....	44.92%

## TCC WADGE SEAM—Continued

Sulfur Content .....	0.49%
Ash Content .....	9.94%

The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount, provided that the high bid meets the FMV for the tract. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent FMV. The FMV of the tract will be determined by the Authorized Officer after the sale. In the event identical high sealed bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received. The lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3.00 per acre, or fraction thereof, and of a royalty payment to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal produced by strip or auger mining methods and 8 percent of the value of the coal produced by underground mining methods. The value of the coal will be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.250.

The required Detailed Statement for the offered tract, including bidding instructions and sales procedures under 43 CFR 3422.3–2, and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease, is available from BLM Colorado State Office at the addresses above. Case file documents and written comments for COC–72980 submitted by the public on FMV or royalty rates, except those portions identified as proprietary by the commentator and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, are available for public inspection during normal business hours in the BLM Public Room.

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 can 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.

**Kurt Barton,**

*Solid Minerals Staff, Division of Energy,  
Lands and Minerals.*

[FR Doc. E8–26014 Filed 10–30–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–JB–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Bureau of Land Management

**[ES–956–1420–BJ–TRST; Group No. 192,  
Minnesota]**

## Eastern States: Filing of Plat of Survey

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Filing of Plat Of  
Survey; Minnesota.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will file the plat of survey of the lands described below in the BLM—Eastern States, Springfield, Virginia, 30 calendar days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Bureau of Land Management, 7450  
Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia  
22153. Attn: Cadastral Survey.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This  
survey was requested by the Bureau of  
Indian Affairs.

The lands we surveyed are:

**Fourth Principal Meridian, Minnesota**

T. 42 N., R. 27 W.

The plat of survey represents the dependent resurvey of a portion of the north boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, the subdivision of section 5 and the re-establishment of the record meander line on the west side of Ogechie Lake in section 5, Township 42 North, Range 27 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Minnesota, and was accepted October 15, 2008. We will place a copy of the plat we described in the open files. It will be available to the public as a matter of information.

If BLM receives a protest against this survey, as shown on the plat, prior to the date of the official filing, we will stay the filing pending our consideration of the protest.

We will not officially file the plat until the day after we have accepted or dismissed all protests and they have become final, including decisions on appeals.

Dated: October 21, 2008.

**Ronald J. Eberle,**

*Acting Chief Cadastral Surveyor.*

[FR Doc. E8–26007 Filed 10–30–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310–GJ–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Bureau of Land Management

**[CO200–2920–EQ]**

**Notice of Realty Action; Land Use  
Authorization for Public Lands in  
Fremont and Chaffee Counties, CO**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of realty action.

**SUMMARY:** Christo and Jeanne Claude Over the River Corporation (OTR Corp.) has submitted a written proposal for a land use authorization to construct and display a temporary work of art titled *Over the River™*, pursuant to Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732), using noncompetitive permit procedures as provided in regulations at 43 CFR 2920. Interested parties may submit comments to the BLM at the address stated below with respect to:

(1) The decision of the BLM regarding the potential availability of the lands described herein, and

(2) The decision of the BLM to entertain an application from OTR Corp. for a non-competitive land use permit.

**DATES:** Interested parties may submit comments in writing to the BLM at the address given below on or before December 15, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Field Manager, Royal Gorge Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 3028 East Main Street, Cañon City, Colorado 81212.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joe Vieira, at the address given above, by e-mail at [rgfo\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:rgfo_comments@blm.gov), or by phone at (719) 269–8708.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The *Over the River™* proposal submitted by OTR Corp. includes exhibit installation, a large-scale art exhibition and visitor event, and exhibit removal actions, including site restoration. The *Over the River™* proposal would involve 911 porous fabric panels, weighing an average 140 lbs/panel, suspended 8 to 25 feet above the water for a total of 5.9 miles over a 40 mile stretch of the Arkansas River, between Cañon City and Salida. The public art project would be constructed utilizing an estimated 8,992 steel anchors drilled along and into the banks of the Arkansas River to support 2,247 steel anchor transition frames for an estimated 1,264 steel cables that would support the fabric panels. OTR Corp also proposes a 4,000 square foot temporary building and a temporary gravel access road on the public land to stage art installation and removal as well as manage the large-