

statements to the Council or file written statements for the council's consideration. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement should notify the RAC Coordinator, at the above address by June 17, 1996.

Depending on the number of persons wishing to make oral statements, a time limit, per person, may be established by the Chair of the Resource Advisory Council.

Jerry Jessen,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-11994 Filed 5-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-M

[OR-084-6310-04-FLOD: GP6-0164]

Emergency Use Restriction on Public Access Road; Linn County, OR

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Emergency use restriction on public access road in Linn County, Oregon.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that all forms of public travel, except travel by foot, on Quartzville Access Road east of Trout Creek in Linn County, Oregon, are temporarily restricted from May 20, 1996, through September 30, 1996. This emergency use restriction is made under the authority of 43 CFR 8364.1.

The public road affected by this emergency use restriction is specifically identified as follows: Quartzville Access Road with a beginning point in Section 9, T. 12 S., R. 3 E., Willamette Meridian (Trout Creek crossing) and an ending point in Section 29, T. 11 S., R. 4 E., Willamette Meridian (Canal Creek crossing). The portion of Quartzville Access Road where public use is temporarily restricted under this emergency restriction order will be posted with signs at both the Trout Creek and Canal Creek crossings.

The purpose of this emergency use restriction is to provide for visitor safety while major repairs are made to flood-damaged roads and structures.

EXEMPTIONS: The following persons, operating within the scope of their official duties, are exempt from the provisions of this use restriction order: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service employees; federal, state and local law enforcement and fire protection personnel; the holders of BLM road use permits that include roads accessed by Quartzville Access Road east of Trout Creek; and purchasers of BLM timber accessed by Quartzville Access Road east of Trout Creek, and their employees and subcontractors. Other persons may be

allowed to travel Quartzville Access Road east of Trout Creek, by means other than foot, but such use must be approved in advance in writing by the Authorized Officer.

PENALTIES: Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this closure order may be subject to the penalties provided in 43 CFR 8360.0-7, which include a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months, as well as the penalties provided under Oregon State law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This use restriction order is effective from May 20, 1996 through September 30, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the use restriction order and maps showing the location of that portion of Quartzville Access Road where use is restricted are available from the Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Road S.E., Salem, OR 97306.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard C. Prather, Area Manager, Cascades Resource Area, Salem District Office, at (503) 375-5646.

Dated: May 14, 1996.

Scott S. Abdon,

Area Manager (Acting), Cascades Resource Area.

[FR Doc. 96-13136 Filed 5-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

[NM-030-06-1610-00]

Otero County Areas of Environmental Concern (ACECs) for the Caballo Resource Area, New Mexico

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

ACTION: Notice of Availability and 60-day comment period.

SUMMARY: The BLM, Las Cruces District, Caballo Resource Area announces the availability of a draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment/preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact and supporting Environmental Assessment (EA). The document discusses the designation of five new ACECs and revision of one existing ACEC in Otero County, south-central New Mexico. Approximately 19,520 acres are identified for designation. In addition to designation, the plan amendment, when approved, will guide BLM programs and management practices within the ACECs.

DATES: Written comments relating to the designation of ACECs, management activities within the ACECs, and the EA will be taken for the next 60 days. Comments must be postmarked on or before July 23, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Area Manager, BLM Caballo Resource Area, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy M. Murphy, Area Manager, BLM, Caballo Resource Area at (505) 525-4372, or Mike Howard, Team Leader, Caballo Resource Area at (505) 525-4348, email mhoward@nm0151wp.nmso.nm.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ACECs are land designations unique to the BLM. The purpose of ACECs is to recognize, protect, and manage unique or sensitive resources or potential hazards to the public. Each area receives management or protection based on its unique needs, in consultation and coordination with the public. The Caballo Resource Area has completed an inventory of areas containing unique or sensitive biological resources suitable for designation as ACECs. In addition, the Resource Area has received nominations both internally and from the public to consider several areas as ACECs based on visual, cultural, and biological values.

The draft document discusses three alternatives. Alternative A is the No Action Alternative. Alternative B is BLM's proposal to designate and manage the five proposed ACECs, and redesignate one existing ACEC. These management proposals represent the highest levels of resource protection and continued public use. Alternative B is BLM's preferred alternative. Alternative C contains a lower level of protection designed to address less restrictive management measures for protection of the resources of concern in each proposed ACEC. Some specific proposals in Alternative C may be more restrictive. The following is a summary of the management actions in Alternative B, the BLM preferred alternative, for each proposed ACEC.

The *Three Rivers Petroglyph Site ACEC* is located 30 miles north of Alamogordo, New Mexico. The area was nominated to protect and manage cultural resources. The total area to be considered is approximately 1,036 acres. Management actions proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: acquisition of State trust land through a cooperative land exchange, acquisition of private subsurface mineral estate from a willing seller, issuance of realty actions subject to protective stipulations, closure to mineral entry, improvement and protection of riparian areas, improvement of recreation facilities, limiting offroad vehicle use to existing roads and trails, closing of county road B031, except for

administrative and ranch access following relinquishment by Otero County, management of fire for maximum fire suppression and use of prescribed fire, and fencing of the ACEC boundary.

The *Sacramento Escarpment ACEC* is located 2 miles south of Alamogordo, New Mexico along the west face of the Sacramento Mountains. This area is currently a designated ACEC for the management of visual resources. This RMP Amendment proposes to expand the area to provide for increased protection and management of visual resources and an endangered and sensitive plant community. The existing ACEC would be expanded to encompass 5,245 acres. Management actions proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: limitations or exclusion of new realty actions (2920 permits), exclusion of rights-of-way, acquisition of access easements and private land inholdings within the ACEC from a willing seller, closure to all forms of mineral development, improvement and protection of riparian areas, permitting of existing spring developments, management under Visual Resource Management Classes I and II, limitation of off-road vehicle use to designated roads and trails, closure of approximately 5 miles of redundant roads and trails (including closure of approximately 1/4 mile of road in San Andres Canyon, except for administrative and ranch pipeline maintenance access), management of fire for conditional least-cost suppression with no surface disturbance in Visual Class I or arroyo areas. Prescribed fire could be used for vegetation management, if needed.

Cornudas Mountain is located 60 miles southeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico and near the Texas border. The area was nominated to protect and manage visual resources, cultural resources, and sensitive plants. The total area to be considered is approximately 850 acres. Management activities proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: exclusion of the area from authorization of rights-of-way, permitting of other realty actions subject to protective stipulations, closure to all forms of mineral development, closure to vegetation sales, management of barbary sheep, designation of a BLM sensitive species, management as Visual Resource Management Class I, limitation of off-road vehicle use to designated roads and trails, allowing public access to portions of the ACEC by

permit, closure to camping, closure to the establishment of new roads and trails, fire management for conditional least-cost suppression with no surface disturbance and no use of slurry or blading in certain areas.

Alamo Mountain is located 61 miles southeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico and near the Texas border. The area was nominated to protect and manage visual and cultural resources. The total area to be considered is approximately 2,210 acres. Management actions proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: exclusion of the area from authorization of rights-of-way, permitting of other realty actions subject to protective stipulations, closure to all forms of mineral development, closure to vegetation sales, management of barbary sheep, designation of a BLM sensitive species, management as Visual Resource Management Class I, closure of the area to off-road vehicle use, establishment of a vehicle parking area, closure to camping in portions of the ACEC, fire management for conditional least-cost suppression with no surface disturbance and no use of slurry or blading in certain areas.

Wind Mountain is located 64 miles southeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico and near the Texas border. The area was nominated to protect and manage visual resources, cultural resources, and unique and sensitive plants and animals. Total area to be considered is approximately 2,706 acres. Management actions proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: exclusion of the area from authorization of rights-of-way, permitting of other realty actions subject to protective stipulations, closure to all forms of mineral development (subject to valid existing rights), closure to vegetation sales, management of barbary sheep, designation of a BLM sensitive species, management as Visual Resource Management Class I, limitation of off-road vehicle use to existing roads and trails, fire management for conditional least-cost suppression with no surface disturbance and no use of slurry or blading in certain areas.

The *Alkali Lakes* area is located 80 miles southeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico and near the Texas border. This area was nominated to protect and manage endangered and sensitive plants and the plant community in which they occur. The total area considered is approximately 6,359 acres. Management actions proposed in the Preferred Alternative include: exclusion of the area from authorization of rights-of-way,

permitting of other realty actions subject to protective stipulations, acquisition of State trust land through a cooperative land exchange, closure to all forms of mineral development, closure to vegetation sales, continued management as Visual Resource Management Class IV, limitation of off-road vehicle use to within 30 feet of the center line of designated roads and trails, closure to camping and the use of campfires, fire management for conditional least-cost suppression with no surface disturbance and no use of vehicular equipment off of established roads and trails.

Public participation has occurred throughout the RMP Amendment process. A Notice of Intent was filed in the Federal Register (Vol. 59, No. 73, Page 18151-18152) on April 15, 1994. Since that time, several public meetings, mail-outs, and group briefings were conducted to solicit comments and ideas, or familiarize various groups with the proposal and the BLM planning process. Comments presented throughout the process have been considered in the analysis. Comments received during this 60-day comment period will be considered in preparation of the Proposed White Sands RMP Amendment and supporting EA. Single copies of the draft White Sands RMP Amendment/preliminary FONSI and supporting EA for the Otero County ACECs may be obtained from the BLM Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. Public reading copies are available for review at the BLM State Office, 1474 Rodeo Rd., Santa Fe, New Mexico, and public and university libraries in Las Cruces, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque, New Mexico, and El Paso, Texas.

Dated: May 20, 1996.

Josie Banegas,

Acting District Manager, Las Cruces.

[FR Doc. 96-13094 Filed 5-23-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P

National Park Service

Notice of Intention To Extend Existing Concession Contracts

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Park Service intends to extend the following concession contract and permit for a period of approximately two (2) years through December 31, 1998: