

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management****[MT-010-1430-01; MTM 84895, MTM 88157]****Notice of Intent To Plan Affecting Two Tracts of Public Land in Yellowstone County, Montana****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of intent to plan affecting two tracts of public land in Yellowstone County, Montana.

SUMMARY: An environmental assessment will be prepared for amendment of the Billings Resource Management Plan to provide guidance on the management of the Four Dances Natural Area and the Sundance Lodge Recreation Area. The Billings Resource Management Plan (RMP) was completed in 1984. There is no land use planning guidance for the Sundance Lodge Recreation Area acquired in 1997 or the Four Dances Natural Area which was acquired in 1999. The environmental assessment will meet the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The document will guide future management decisions for the two acquired properties.

DATES: Any issues, concerns, or alternatives should be submitted to the BLM at the below address on or before August 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David C. Jaynes, Assistant Field Manager, BLM, 810 East Main Street, Billings, Montana 59105 or call 406-238-1540.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Sundance Lodge Recreation Area (MTM 84895), formerly the Altman Ranch, was acquired in 1997 and contains approximately 379.9 surface and mineral acres of bottom land along the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River, located two miles southeast of Laurel, Montana.

The Four Dances Natural Area (MTM 88157), formerly the Larsen property, or Sacrifice Cliff, was acquired in 1999 and contains approximately 765 surface and mineral acres of land along the Yellowstone River. The open space values of this land are protected by a conservation easement that is held by the Montana Land Reliance and any use, land management, or development on this property will be done in conformance with this easement. Approximately 10 percent of the property is riparian land along the Yellowstone River with the remainder uplands on a plateau approximately 250 feet above the river overlooking Billings,

Montana. The overall objective for the plan is to manage these areas for recreation while protecting scenic, cultural, and wildlife values.

The public is requested to assist the BLM in the identification of issues. Examples of potential issues are: what types of recreational activities will be allowed, what types of facilities will be constructed, and what types of land treatments would be allowed. Meetings for the proposed RMP amendment are not yet scheduled. When meetings are scheduled the public will be notified through local news releases.

Dated: June 4, 1999.

Sandra S. Brooks,

Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-14816 Filed 6-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management****[OR-130-1020-00: GP9-0201]****Notice of Meeting of Standards for Rangeland Health and Livestock Grazing Guidelines Subgroup of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Meeting of the Standards for Rangeland Health and Livestock Grazing Guidelines Subgroup of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council; Spokane, Washington, July 13, 1999.

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Standards for Rangeland Health and Livestock Grazing Guidelines Subgroup of Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will be held on July 13, 1999. The meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. at the Spokane District Office of The Bureau of Land Management, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, Washington; 99212-1275. The meeting will adjourn no later than 5:00 p.m.. The meeting will consist of a field demonstration of techniques to assess achievement of rangeland health standards along Crab Creek in Lincoln County, Washington. Those wishing to join the tour at Tokio, Washington may do so at 9:30 a.m. Public comments will be heard from 12:00 p.m. until 12:30 p.m. If necessary to accommodate all wishing to make public comments, a time limit may be placed upon each speaker.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Hubbard, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane,

Washington 99212-1275; or call 509-536-1200.

Dated: June 4, 1999.

Joseph K. Buesing,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-14695 Filed 6-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Scoping for the Merced Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, Yosemite National Park; Mariposa and Madera Counties, California**

SUMMARY: Pursuant to provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (Pub. L. 91-190) and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Pub. L. 90-542), the National Park Service is initiating public scoping for a conservation planning and environmental impact analysis process for a Merced River Management Plan for river segments in Yosemite National Park. This will culminate with a river management plan that comprehensively encompasses protection and enhancement of the values for which Merced River was designated as a Wild and Scenic River. The plan will address resource protection, potential development of lands and facilities, user capacities, and other management practices necessary or desirable to achieve the purposes of the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The purpose of this scoping phase is to elicit early public comments regarding issues and concerns, a suitable range of alternatives and appropriate mitigation measures, and the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts which should be addressed.

Background

In 1987 Congress designated 122 miles of the Merced River as Wild and Scenic, including 81 miles within Yosemite National Park. Subsequently the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service jointly completed a comprehensive river management plan for Merced River segments outside of Yosemite National Park. The National Park Service is now initiating planning for the remaining segments. The two segments subject to this effort are the Merced River (the main stem, originating near Mt. Lyell and meandering through Yosemite Valley and flowing out of the park near El Portal) and the South Fork (originating near Triple Divide Peak and flowing out of the park near Wawona). In accord with the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the river segments within Yosemite

National Park have been classified, boundaries delineated, and outstandingly remarkable values identified.

Scoping and Public Meetings

Involvement of interested individuals and organizations will be a key element of the current conservation planning and environmental analysis process, and concurrently Tribal, federal, state, and local governments will be consulted. At this time it has not been determined whether an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement may be appropriate. However, all written responses and comments received during the forthcoming public meetings will aid in the preparation of either document. Suggestions regarding issues to be addressed and information relevant to determining scope of the current planning and analysis process are being sought, through July 14, 1999. Four public scoping meetings will be held from 6pm to 8pm, as noted below; additional information will be released via regional and local news media, and updates are also available by phone at (209) 372-0584.

June 22, San Francisco (Upper Fort Mason, Building 201, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, near the intersection of Bay and Franklin Streets);

June 23, Modesto (Mallard Inn, 1720 Sisk Road);

June 24, Mariposa (Best Western Yosemite Way Station, 4999 Highway 140);

June 28, Yosemite Valley (Visitor Center, East Auditorium).

Decision Process

Scope of issues identified to date include: cultural and natural resource protection, development standards for any facilities, land management, user capacities, appropriate types of recreation, and protection of visual resources. All scoping feedback received will be incorporated into the information base guiding the preparation of a comprehensive plan for future management of the river. Written comments should be addressed to the Superintendent, Yosemite National Park, PO Box 577, Yosemite National Park, California 95389, and must be postmarked not later than July 14, 1999 (or if sent via e-mail, transmitted by that date to

"Yose_Merced_River@nps.gov").

Notice of future developments, including availability of the draft **environmental** document and plan, will be accomplished via regional news media, direct mailings, and **Federal**

Register if warranted. The official responsible for final decision regarding the forthcoming plan is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service; the official responsible for subsequent implementation would be the Superintendent, Yosemite National Park.

Dated: June 4, 1999.

John J. Reynolds,

Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

[FR Doc. 99-14823 Filed 6-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Native American Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects from Anvik Village, AK in the Possession of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY

AGENCY: National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 43 CFR 10.9, of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects from Anvik Village, AK in the possession of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by American Museum of Natural History professional staff in consultation with representatives of Anvik Village.

In 1903, human remains representing a minimum of seven individuals were excavated by Rev. John W. Chapman from AK, Yukon-Koyukuk Borough, Anvik Village, and donated to the Museum. No known individuals were identified. The 45 associated funerary objects include 11 pottery dishes; a baleen comb; a tobacco box; three wooden boxes; three metal knives; two knife handles; four implements; two handles; a graver's tool; six bone tubes; two bone needles; an ivory point; a scraper; two bear tooth pendants; a flint chip; and four metal bracelets.

These individuals have been identified as Native American based on burial practices and types of associated funerary objects. Geographic location is consistent with the post-contact territory of the Ingalik (an Athabascan group). The Ingalik have occupied Anvik Village since 1887 and for an undetermined period prior to that date. Some, perhaps all, of the graves date to the post-contact period. Burial practices

are consistent with interior Athabascan and Ingalik funerary practices. Associated funerary objects are consistent with Ingalik culture. Museum catalog information describes the remains as Athabascan.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the American Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(1), the human remains listed above represent the physical remains of a minimum of seven individuals of Native American ancestry. Officials of the American Museum of Natural History have also determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(2), the 45 objects listed above are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony. Lastly, officials of the American Museum of Natural History have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these Native American human remains and associated funerary objects and Anvik Village.

This notice has been sent to officials of Anvik Village, Ingalik Inc., and Doyon, Ltd. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains and associated funerary objects should contact Martha Graham, Registrar for Cultural Resources, Department of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024-5192; telephone: (212) 769-5846 before July 12, 1999. Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects to Anvik Village may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: June 1, 1999.

Francis P. McManamon,

Departmental Consulting Archeologist,

Manager, Archeology and Ethnography Program.

[FR Doc. 99-14828 Filed 6-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Repatriate a Cultural Item in the Possession of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY

AGENCY: National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice.