

an attachment to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan.

The Service recognizes that among subsistence users there is a wide range in the level of understanding of the impacts of spring and summer harvest of waterfowl and the need to reduce mortality, especially when populations become depressed. The Service will continue educational efforts to expand the understanding of this relationship and will consider the varying levels of understanding when carrying out enforcement efforts on a statewide basis.

The Protocols allow regulations to be written opening the season on subsistence harvest of migratory birds between March 10 and September 1. The process to develop regulations is currently in progress and is expected to result in the establishment of management bodies in 2000 and specific hunting regulations in 2001. In the meantime, this Enforcement Policy will guide conservation.

Closed Season Enforcement Policy in Alaska

The enforcement policy described below applies only during the closed season, between March 10 and September 1. The policy applies only to residents of rural areas in Alaska where people have long relied on locally harvested waterfowl for food during spring and summer. On the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, we will engage in enforcement actions in accordance with the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan. In areas other than those described above, we will enforce the closed season and all other regulations for hunting migratory birds from September 1 to March 10 as throughout the rest of the nation.

Service enforcement efforts in Alaska during the closed season will concentrate on violations that have the most serious impacts on the resource. We will give special attention to the protection of spectacled and Steller's eiders, cackling Canada geese, emperor geese, Pacific white-fronted geese, and black brant. These species have suffered severe population declines in recent years and need special protection.

Although all waterfowl hunters in Alaska have been required to use non-toxic shot since 1991, this has not been an enforcement priority in the past with regard to subsistence hunting. However, recent studies have confirmed lead shot poisoning in spectacled eiders and other species of waterfowl harvested by subsistence hunters in Alaska. Therefore anyone possessing lead shot while waterfowl hunting will be subject to enforcement action, regardless of time or place.

Under the Closed Season Policy we will give enforcement priority to the following violations:

- No taking of spectacled or Steller's eiders at any time;
- No taking of emperor geese at any time;
- No taking of cackling Canada geese or black brant during the nesting, brood-rearing, and flightless period;
- No taking of Pacific white-fronted geese, in the coastal areas of western Alaska south of Norton Sound, during the nesting, brood-rearing, and flightless periods;
- No taking of the eggs of spectacled or Steller's eiders, emperor geese, cackling Canada geese or black brant;
- No wasting of any migratory bird;
- No use of private or charter aircraft to assist hunting of any migratory bird;
- No possession or use of lead shot while hunting waterfowl.

Status of populations will guide identification of circumstances warranting additional protection for migratory birds during the closed season. This will involve consultation with affected interests. Of greatest concern will be situations involving continuing harvest of species of concern, waste or harvest exceeding reasonable levels of need under existing circumstances.

Dated: August 20, 1999.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director, Anchorage, Alaska.

[FR Doc. 99-22652 Filed 8-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-700-5101-00-CO21; COC-62716]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Construction of Pipeline Facilities and Transportation of Refined Petroleum Products via Under-ground Pipeline in San Juan County, New Mexico; La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores, San Miguel, Montrose, Delta and Mesa Counties, Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Southwest Center Office, Montrose, Colorado, will be the lead office and will direct the preparation of an EIS on the Impacts of

construction of a proposed pipeline for the transportation of refined petroleum products, located on public land, National Forest System land, and private land in northwest New Mexico and southwest Colorado. The U.S. Forest Service, San Juan and Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests, will be participating in the EIS preparation as cooperating agencies in accordance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1501.6. The EIS may also address the potential to place future utility projects in portions of an existing utility corridor in New Mexico and Colorado.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Navajo Pipeline Company has proposed to construct a new 232 mile 12.75 inch diameter pipeline and transport refined petroleum products from Bloomfield, NM to a terminal distribution facility in Grand Junction, CO. The refined petroleum products could include diesel fuel, fuel oil, jet fuel, and gasoline. Navajo Pipeline Company would use the pipeline to distribute products to distinct markets in western Colorado. The proposed pipeline route would parallel and use the existing TransColorado Pipeline Corridor for approximately 210 miles. The proposed pipeline would utilize new corridor for approximately 4 miles near Bloomfield, NM, and for approximately 18 miles from Whitewater, CO to Grand Junction, CO. Other appurtenant pipeline facilities may include four new pump stations located in Colorado, check valves (approximately every 10 to 15 miles), cathodic protection systems, serial markers, scraper launchers, traps, and minor road maintenance. The BLM is preparing an EIS to analyze the effects of the proposed pipeline and appurtenant facilities in New Mexico and Colorado.

Tentatively identified issues of concern may include cultural resources, wildlife, water resources, land use, socioeconomics, visual resources, slope stability and corridor capacity. The EIS will analyze the Proposed Action and No-Action Alternatives. Other alternatives may include different routes for portions of the pipeline, optional sites for pipeline facilities, as well as mitigating measures to minimize impacts. A Record of Decision will be issued for the Navajo Pipeline Proposal.

Tentative Project Schedule:

Begin Public Comment Period—August 1999

Hold Scoping Meetings—September 1999

File Draft EIS—January 2000

File Final EIS—April 2000

Record of Decision—May 2000

Public Comment Period

The comment period for scoping of the EIS will commence with publication of this notice. Written comments must be submitted on or before October 8, 1999. Comments concerning the Proposed Action and EIS should address issues to be considered, feasible alternatives to examine, possible mitigation, and information relevant to or having bearing on the Proposed Action. Several public scoping meetings will be held during the month of September to receive oral comments. Dates, times and locations of the public meetings will be announced later and published in newspapers.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Paul Peck, Navajo Pipeline Project Manager, Public Lands Office, 15 Burnett Ct., Durango, CO 81301, or email: navajopipeline/r2_sanjuan@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Peck (970) 385-1234.

Dated: August 23, 1999.

Mark W. Stiles,

SW Center Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-22527 Filed 8-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[AK-932-1410-01; F-07195]

Public Land Order No. 7408; Partial Revocation of Air Navigation Site No. 172; Alaska

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public Land Order.

SUMMARY: This order partially revokes a Secretarial Order dated December 31, 1941, as amended, insofar as it affects 7.21 acres of public lands withdrawn for use of the Department of Commerce in the maintenance of air navigation facilities at Galena. The lands are no longer needed for the purpose for which they were withdrawn. This action would allow the conveyance of the lands to the State of Alaska, if such lands are otherwise available. Lands described herein that are not conveyed to the State will be subject to the terms and conditions of Public Land Order No. 5180, as amended, and any other withdrawal or segregation of record.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 31, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirley J. Macke, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Avenue, No. 13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599, 907-271-5049.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), and by Section 17(d)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, 43 U.S.C. 1616(d)(1) (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. The Secretarial Order dated December 31, 1941, as amended, which withdrew public land for Air Navigation Site No. 172, is hereby revoked insofar as it affects the following described lands:

Kateel River Meridian, Alaska

T. 9 S., R. 10 E.,

U.S. Survey No. 6664, lots 11 and 13.

The areas described aggregate 7.21 acres.

2. The State of Alaska application for selection made under Section 6(b) of the Alaska Statehood Act of July 7, 1958, 48 U.S.C. note prec. 21 (1994), and under Section 906(e) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, 43 U.S.C. 1635(e) (1994), becomes effective without further action by the State upon publication of this public land order in the **Federal Register**, if such lands are otherwise available. Land not conveyed to the State will be subject to the terms and conditions of Public Land Order No. 5180, as amended, and any other withdrawal or segregation of record.

Dated: August 12, 1999.

John Berry,

Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 99-22546 Filed 8-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[CA-940-5700-00; CACA 38601]

Public Land Order No. 7406; Withdrawal of National Forest System Land for the Soda Rock Special Interest Area; California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order withdraws 40 acres of National Forest System land from location and entry under the United States mining laws for 50 years to protect the Soda Rock Special Interest Area. The land has been and will remain open to mineral leasing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 31, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Duane Marti, BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825-1886, 916-978-4675.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described National Forest System land is hereby withdrawn from location and entry under the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, to protect the Soda Rock Special Interest Area:

Mount Diablo Meridian

Plumas National Forest

T. 25 N., R. 9 E.,

Sec. 3, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 40 acres in Plumas County.

2. The withdrawal made by this order does not alter the applicability of those land laws governing the use of the National Forest System land under lease, license, or permit, or governing the disposal of their mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

3. This withdrawal will expire 50 years from the effective date of this order unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to Section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: August 12, 1999.

John Berry,

Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 99-22547 Filed 8-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[CO-930-1430-01; COC 012292]

Public Land Order No. 7407; Partial Revocation of Public Land Order No. 1742, Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public Land Order.

SUMMARY: This order partially revokes Public Land Order No. 1742 insofar as it affects 1,522.85 acres of National Forest System lands withdrawn for the State Highway 14 Roadside Zone. The lands are no longer needed for this purpose and the revocation is needed to make a portion of the lands available for exchange and to remove the unneeded withdrawal from the records. This action will open the lands to such forms