

58601-2619, or telephone (701) 225-9148.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Noxious weeds are a serious problem in the western United States. Estimates of the rapid spread of weeds in the west include 2,300 acres per day on BLM administered lands and 4,600 acres per day on all western public lands. Species such as leafy spurge, Canada thistle, spotted knapweed, Russian knapweed, musk thistle, and many others are alien to the United States and, at least initially, have no natural enemies to keep their populations in balance. Consequently, these weeds invade healthy ecosystems, displace native vegetation, reduce species diversity, and damage wildlife habitat. Widespread infestations can lead to soil erosion and stream sedimentation. Furthermore, noxious weed invasions reduce livestock and wildlife grazing capacity, occasionally affect the health of public land users by aggravating allergies and other ailments, and threaten federally protected or native plants and animals.

To curb the spread of noxious weeds, a growing number of western states have jointly developed noxious weed-free forage certification standards, and, in cooperation with various Federal, State, and county agencies, passed weed management laws. Because hay and other forage products containing noxious weed seeds are part of the infestation problem, North Dakota has developed a program to certify weed-free forage. The State encourages forage producers to grow noxious weed-free products and have them certified.

Region One of the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, implemented a similar policy for the National Grasslands in North Dakota in 1998. This proposal will provide a standard supplementary regulation for all users of BLM-administered public lands in North Dakota and will provide for coordinated and consistent management with the National Forest Grasslands.

In cooperation with the State of North Dakota and the U.S. Forest Service, the BLM is implementing, for all BLM-administered lands within North Dakota, a ban on hay, straw, cubes, grains, or mulch that has not been certified. This proposal will ensure that: (1) this ban is well publicized and understood. The BLM will stress education and awareness in 1999 and 2000 and move to implement enforcement in 2001; and (2) BLM visitors and land users will know where they can purchase state-certified hay and other forage products.

The principal author of these supplementary rules is Don Ruffedt,

Natural Resource Specialist, of the North Dakota Field Office, BLM.

For the reasons stated above, under the authority of 43 CFR 8365.1-6, the North Dakota Field Manager, BLM, issues final supplementary rules to read: Supplementary Rules to Require the Use of Certified Noxious Weed-Free Forage on Bureau of Land Management-Administered Lands in North Dakota.

(1) To help prevent the spread of weeds on BLM-administered public lands in North Dakota, effective October 29, 1999, all such lands shall be closed to possessing, transporting or storing hay, straw, cubes, grains, or mulch that has not been certified as free of noxious weed seed. Pelletized feed does not require certification.

(2) Certification will comply with North Dakota's Pilot Weed-Free Forage Program. North Dakota's pilot program will certify forage as free of only those noxious weeds listed in North Dakota. Forage from other States should be free of all regionally listed noxious weeds.

(3) The following persons are exempt from this order: (a) anyone with a permit signed by BLM's authorized officer at the North Dakota Field Office specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission on BLM-administered public lands within the state; (b) persons transporting forage products on Federal and State highways and county roads that are not BLM-developed roads or trails.

(4) Any person who knowingly and willfully violates the provisions of these supplementary rules may be commanded to appear before a designated United States Magistrate and may be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 12 months, or both, as defined in 43 United States Code Section 1733(a).

Dated: September 15, 1999.

Douglas J. Burger,

Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, North Dakota.

[FR Doc. 99-24875 Filed 9-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-070-5440-J072]

1983 Price River Management Framework Plan; Notice of Intent for Plan Amendment

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent—proposal to amend Price River Management Framework Plan.

SUMMARY: This notice of intent is to advise the public that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to amend the 1983 Price River Management Framework Plan (MFP), which includes public land in Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah. The purpose of the amendment is to identify certain lands, currently under lease to the City of Green River for airport purposes, as suitable for disposal through conveyance under authority of the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of September 3, 1982.

Publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** segregates the 510.0 acres of public land described above to the extent that they will not be subject to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws.

DATES: The comment period for this proposed plan amendment will commence with publication of this notice. Comments must be submitted on or before October 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Richard L. Manus, Field Manager, BLM Price Field Office, 125 South 600 West, Price, Utah 84501. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours.

Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joan Hubert, Realty Specialist, BLM Price Field Office, 125 South 600 West, Price, Utah 84501, (435) 636-3630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The existing plan does not identify these lands as suitable for disposal. However, because of resource values, public values, and objective involved, the public interest may be well served by disposal of these lands to a local government entity. An environmental assessment will be prepared to analyze the impacts of this proposal. The existing planning document is available at the above address. Issues anticipated in the plan amendment are livestock

grazing, rights of permittees and lessees, and the interests of adjoining land owners. The public land being considered for disposal, comprising 510.0 acres, is described as follows:

Salt Lake Meridian, Utah

T. 21 S., R. 15 E.,
 Section 23, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Section 24, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Section 25,
 NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Section 26, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Sally Wisely,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 99-25236 Filed 9-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway, Wyoming

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Availability of the Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service announces the availability of the Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway, Wyoming and Montana.

DATES: The Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway will remain available for public review through November 15, 1999. Public meetings concerning the plan will be held in Livingston and West Yellowstone, Montana; Jackson and Cody, Wyoming; Idaho Falls, Idaho; and Denver, Colorado. Dates, times, and locations will be announced at a later date.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway should be sent to Clifford Hawkes, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 12795 West Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado 80228. Public reading copies of the plan are available on the Internet (nps.gov/planning/yell/

winteruse) and will be available for review at the following locations:

Office of the Superintendent
 Clifford Hawkes, National Park Service, Denver Service Center
 12795 W. Alameda Parkway,
 Denver, CO 80225-0287,
 Telephone: (303) 969-2262
 Office of Public Affairs, National Park Service, Department of Interior,
 18th and C Streets NW,
 Washington, DC 20240, Telephone:
 (202) 208-6843

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway analyzes 7 winter use management alternatives for the parks and the justification, anticipated impacts and relevant scientific research regarding each of the alternatives.

Under Alternative A-No Action, current use and management practices in the parks and Parkway would continue. Alternative B, the preferred alternative, provides a moderate range of affordable and appropriate winter visitor experiences. Air quality and oversnow motor vehicle sound would be addressed, and by the winter of 2008-2009, strict emission and sound requirements would be required by all oversnow vehicles entering the parks. The preferred alternative also emphasizes an adaptive approach to park resource management, which would allow the results of new and ongoing research and monitoring to be incorporated. Alternative C maximizes winter visitor opportunities for a range of park experiences, while preserving natural resources and addressing safety concerns. Alternative D stresses visitor access to unique winter features in the parks. This alternative emphasizes clean, quiet modes of travel, visitor activities focused near destination areas, and a minimization of conflicts between nonmotorized and motorized users. Under alternative E the protection of wildlife and natural resources is emphasized while allowing park visitors access to a range of winter recreation experiences. Alternative E uses an adaptive planning approach that allows new information to be incorporated. Alternative F stresses the protection of wildlife resources by focusing winter visitor activities in Yellowstone National Park outside important winter range for large ungulate species, and closing north and west roads to winter use. For Grand teton National Park and the Parkway, this alternative emphasizes the protection of all resources by focusing developments,

oversnow motorized trails and zones, and nonmotorized trails and zones in certain areas, while still allowing park visitors opportunities for a range of winter recreational experiences. Alternative G places the highest priority on clean quiet oversnow access to the parks using present technologies.

The Winter Use Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway in particular evaluates the environmental consequences of the proposed action and the other alternatives on wildlife, air quality, natural quiet, local economies, and visitor experience.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clifford Hawkes, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 12795 West Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado 80228.

Dated: September 20, 1999.

Michael D. Synder,

Acting Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 99-25278 Filed 9-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Wild and Scenic River Suitability Study/Recommendation for the Escalante River Drainage, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Garfield County, UT

AGENCY: National Park Service, USDI.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Park Service, USDI, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) which analyzes the suitability of sections of the Escalante River, Harris Wash, Coyote Gulch, Fortymile Gulch, Willow Gulch, Fiftymile Creek, Davis Gulch, Cow Canyon, Fence Canyon, Silver Falls Creek, Choprock Canyon, Neon Canyon, Moody Creek, East Moody Creek, Twentyfive Mile Wash (Glen Canyon NRA portion), Georgie's Canyon, Scorpion Gulch, Fools Canyon, Fold Canyon, Eastside Tributaries 1-4, Stevens Canyon, Big Hollow Wash, Hurricane Wash, Carcass Wash, Sooner Wash, Unnamed Wash of the Escalante River (3 miles upriver of Silver Falls Creek), North Fork of Silver Falls Creek, Middle Moody Creek, within Glen Canyon National Recreation Area boundary in Garfield County, Utah for inclusion into the National Wild and