

Dated: October 12, 1999.

Hannibal Bolton,

Acting Co-Chair, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Acting Assistant Director—Fisheries.

[FR Doc. 99-27078 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-923-1150-AA]

Closure of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Malta Field Office, DOI.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective immediately, the area described below is closed to the discharge or use of firearms. This closure only affects public lands. The areas closed are described as the 40 Complex between Dry Fork and Beauchamp Creek and an area south of Pea Ridge in south Phillips County, Montana. The public lands in the 40 Complex include: T. 24 N., R. 27 E., sec. 20, all; sec. 21, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 34, all; sec. 35, all; T. 24 N., R. 28 E., sec. 31, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 32, all; T. 23 N., R. 27 E., sec. 1, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 2, lots 1 through 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 3, lot 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 10, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 11, all; sec. 12, all; sec. 13, all; T. 23 N., R. 28 E., sec. 5, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 6, lots 1 through 7 inclusive, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 7, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 8, all; sec. 17, all; sec. 18, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; which included prairie dog colonies B040, B041, B042, B043, B045, B047, B069, B072, and B148. The public lands in the area south of Pea Ridge includes T. 22 N., R. 29 E., sec. 9, all; sec. 10, all; sec. 11, all; sec. 13, all; sec. 14, all; sec. 15, all; sec. 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 20, N $\frac{1}{2}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$; sec. 21, all; sec. 22, all; sec. 23, all; sec. 24, all; sec. 25, all; sec. 26, all; sec. 27, all; sec. 28, all; sec. 29, all; T. 22 N., R. 30 E., sec. 18, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 19, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; sec. 30, lots 1 through 4 inclusive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$; which includes prairie dog colonies B095, B096, B090, B111, B163 and B164. Signs noting this closure will be placed at strategic access points around the area and maps depicting the area are

available to the public at the Bureau of Land Management's Malta Field Office in Malta, Montana, 501 South Second East. Telephone 406-654-1240.

The purpose of the closure is to protect habitat for the reintroduction of the endangered black-footed ferret (*MUSTELA NIGRIPES*). That habitat is black-tailed prairie dog (*CYNOMYS LUDOVICIANUS*) colonies. The area within the closure has been identified as a key reintroduction site for black-footed ferrets because of the presence of viable black-tailed prairie dog colonies in close proximity to each other. Prairie dogs are critical prey species for ferrets and the number of prairie dogs has declined in recent years. The closure area has been identified to protect the prairie dog population from further decline due to recreational shooting. The area will remain closed until further notice. The authority for this closure is found in 43 CFR 8364.1.

In accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1(b)(4), persons who hold valid authorization from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to hunt big game, upland game birds, or waterfowl may use or discharge firearms in the closed area for the purpose of taking these permitted animals in accordance with the applicable state regulations. Authorized personnel of the Bureau of Land Management, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, state and local law enforcement agencies, and other emergency services are exempt from this closure when executing their official duties.

In accordance with 43 CFR 8360.0-7, persons who violate this closure may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not-to-exceed 12 months.

DATES: October 18, 1999.

LOCATION: Public lands in south Phillips County, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard M. Hotaling, Field Manager, Malta Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, HC 65 Box 5000, 501 South Second Street East, Malta, Montana 59538-0047, 406-654-1240.

Dated: October 7, 1999.

John E. Moorhouse,

Acting Deputy State Director, Division of Resources.

[FR Doc. 99-27043 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DN-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-040-00-1040-AE]

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the next meeting of the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area Advisory Committee Meeting. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide informed advice to the Safford Field Office Manager on management of public lands in the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA). The committee meets as needed, generally between two and four times a year.

The meeting will take place at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office on November 5, 1999 commencing at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will consist of a field trip to the west end of the NCA to look at a new recreation facilities, road closures and signing effort, salt cedar invasion, and road standards for road infrastructure in and around the NCA. A public comment period will be provided from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office prior to departing for the field trip. The public is invited to participate on the field trip but must provide their own transportation to and from the field. Field trip will depart at 10:00 a.m. and arrive back at the Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office at 4:00 p.m.

DATES: Meeting will be held on November 5, 1999 starting at 9:00 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jon Collins, Gila Box NCA Project Coordinator, Safford Field Office, 711 14th Ave., Safford AZ 85546, (520) 348-4400.

Dated: October 4, 1999.

Frank L. Rowley,

Program Manager for Support Services.

[FR Doc. 99-27044 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1220-XU; GP0-0007]

Temporary Restrictions on Public Lands; Escure Ranch (Rock Creek Area, Adams and Whitman Counties); Spokane District, Washington

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: The announcement of temporary restrictions on recently-acquired public lands in Washington known as the Escure Ranch. This action is taken to protect ranch buildings, facilities, and sensitive riparian and upland resources from vandalism, wildfire, and damage.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management recently completed a land exchange which resulted in the transfer of the Escure Ranch along Rock Creek in Adams and Whitman Counties into public ownership. The property includes buildings, fences, other improvements, and sensitive riparian and upland resources. This area is now known as the Escure Ranch (Rock Creek Area). Interim action is needed to protect these features until permanent measures are implemented to provide long-term management and protection. Development of a long-term management plan is underway which will provide for management and protection of the improvements and natural resources. These recently-acquired lands are open to public use with restrictions on overnight use, campfires, and off-highway vehicle use.

EFFECTIVE DATES: These restrictions go into effect October 19, 1999 and will remain in effect until modified by the Authorized Officer but no later than the completion of the management plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clifford Lignons, Border Field Office Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington, 99212-1275; or call (509) 536-1200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The public lands affected by these restrictions are described as follows:

Willamette Meridian, Washington

- T. 17 N., R. 38 E.,
Sections 1, 3, & 12, All;
Section 4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$;
Section 11, All that portion lying North & East of Adams County Zornes Road.
- T. 18 N., R. 38 E., Section 13, All that portion lying South of Adams County Paxton Road, Except that portion conveyed to Adams County by Deed recorded January 13, 1911 in Book 42 of Deeds, page 200;
Section 15, that portion of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying East of the S.P. & S. Railway and South of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway rights-of-way as conveyed in Deeds, Vol. 23, Pg. 410; Vol. 23, Pg. 467; Vol. 26, Pg. 331; Vol. 26, Pg. 329; & Vol. 30, Pg. 308;
Section 22, that portion of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying East of the S.P. & S. Railway Right-of-way; and those portions, if any, of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying East of said Right-of-Way;
Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, & 35, All;

Sections 27, 33 & 34, all those portions lying East of the S.P. & S. Railway right-of-way, Except those portions conveyed to the Portland & Seattle Railway Co. By Deed recorded in Vol. 26 of Deeds, Pg. 115.

Aggregating 7,598 acres, more or less, in Adams County, Washington.

Willamette Meridian, Washington

- T. 17 N., R. 39 E.,
Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, All.
- T. 18 N., R. 39 E.,
Section 7, All that portion lying South of Paxton County Road No. 4130;
Section 17, All that portion lying West of the Revere-Winnona County Road No. 4010;
Section 18, All, Except that portion of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ lying North of the Paxton County Road No. 4130 conveyed by Deed to John & Jacqueline Brown, recorded under Microfilm No. 498387;
Sections 19, 30, & 31, All.

Aggregating 5,149 acres, more or less in Whitman County, Washington.

These lands are open to public recreational uses with the following exceptions: (1) The lands are closed to overnight use. Day use is allowed between the hours of 5 am and 10 pm, Pacific Time; (2) Motorized vehicle use is limited to designated roads only. Designated roads are marked on the ground with a green dot on a brown post. If a road is not posted with this green dot system, it is closed to vehicle use under this order. Closed roads are also posted with signs at the intersections; (3) Campfires and charcoal fires are not allowed; (4) All ranch buildings and their premises are closed to the public.

The exceptions to these restrictions include emergency, utility or law enforcement personnel, BLM personnel, participants in tours or events sponsored by the BLM, and others authorized in writing by the Authorized Officer of the BLM. The authorities for these restriction orders are 43 CFR 8341.2 and 8364.1. Any person violating 43 CFR 8364.1(d) by failing to comply with any of these restrictions may be subject to fines and/or imprisonment in accordance with the applicable provisions of 43 CFR 8360.0-7 and 18 U.S.C. 3571.

Dated: October 12, 1999.

Joseph K. Buesing,

Spokane District Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-27056 Filed 10-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-952-09-1420-00]

Filing of Plats of Survey; Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to inform the public and interested State and local government officials of the filing of Plats of Survey in Nevada.

EFFECTIVE DATES: Filing is effective at 10:00 a.m. on the dates indicated below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David J. Clark, Chief, Branch of Geographic Services, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada 89520, 775-861-6541.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The Plat of Survey of the following described lands was officially filed at the Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on July 22, 1999:

The plat, representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the north boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, the subdivision of section 5, and a metes-and-bounds survey in section 5, Township 23 South, Range 62 East, Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, under Group No. 782, was accepted July 20, 1999.

This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management.

2. The Supplemental Plat of the following described lands was officially filed at the Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on September 23, 1999:

The supplemental plat, showing a subdivision of original lot 4 and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 6, T. 14 N., R. 71 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, was accepted September 21, 1999.

This plat was prepared to meet certain administrative needs of Baker Ranches, Inc. and the Bureau of Land Management.

3. The Supplemental Plat of the following described lands was officially filed at the Nevada State Office, Reno, Nevada on September 23, 1999:

The supplemental plat, showing a subdivision of the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 7, T. 14 N., R. 71 E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada, was accepted September 21, 1999.

This plat was prepared to meet certain administrative needs of Baker Ranches, Inc. and the Bureau of Land Management.

4. The Supplemental Plat of the following described lands was officially