

by the appropriate TIG, in this case the FL TIG.

Background

On April 20, 2010, the mobile offshore drilling unit *Deepwater Horizon*, which was being used to drill a well for BP Exploration and Production, Inc. (BP), in the Macondo prospect (Mississippi Canyon 252–MC252), experienced a significant explosion, fire, and subsequent sinking in the Gulf of Mexico, resulting in an unprecedented volume of oil and other discharges from the rig and from the wellhead on the seabed. The *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill is the largest oil spill in U.S. history, discharging millions of barrels of oil over a period of 87 days. In addition, well over 1 million gallons of dispersants were applied to the waters of the spill area in an attempt to disperse the spilled oil. An undetermined amount of natural gas was also released into the environment as a result of the spill.

The Trustees conducted the natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill under the Oil Pollution Act 1990 (OPA; 33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*). Pursuant to OPA, Federal and State agencies act as trustees on behalf of the public to assess natural resource injuries and losses and to determine the actions required to compensate the public for those injuries and losses. The OPA further instructs the designated trustees to develop and implement a plan for the restoration, rehabilitation, replacement, or acquisition of the equivalent of the injured natural resources under their trusteeship, including the loss of use and services from those resources from the time of injury until the completion of restoration to baseline (the resource quality and conditions that would exist if the spill had not occurred).

The *Deepwater Horizon* trustees are:

- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), as represented by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), on behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- State of Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and Department of Natural Resources;
- State of Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality;

- State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Geological Survey of Alabama;
- State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and
- State of Texas: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas General Land Office, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The Trustees reached and finalized a settlement of their natural resource damage claims with BP in an April 4, 2016, Consent Decree approved by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Pursuant to that Consent Decree, restoration projects in the Florida Restoration Area are now chosen and managed by the FL TIG. The FL TIG is composed of the following six Trustees: State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; DOI; NOAA; EPA; and USDA.

Overview of the FL TIG Draft Phase V.3 RP/SEA

The draft Phase V.3 RP/SEA is being released in accordance with OPA NRDA regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 15 CFR part 990, NEPA and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508, the Final PDARP/PEIS, and the Consent Decree. The Phase V.3 RP/SEA provides an OPA analysis for the proposed third phase of the Florida Coastal Access Project and supplements the NEPA analysis completed in the first and second phases of the project (2016 Final Phase V Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment and the 2017 Final Phase V.2 Restoration Plan and Supplemental Environmental Assessment, respectively). In the draft Phase V.3 RP/SEA, the FL TIG proposes the acquisition of the Navarre Beach Park Addition—an approximately 4.75-acre privately owned inholding parcel within the existing Navarre Beach Marine Park, a county park in Santa Rosa County—as the preferred alternative. The proposal consists of land acquisition only; construction of recreational amenities is not proposed. The parcel would become part of the Navarre Beach Marine Park and would be owned by Santa Rosa County, who would be responsible for maintaining it as part of the Santa Rosa County Park System. Deed restrictions would ensure the property remains in the Santa Rosa County Park System in perpetuity. Acquisition of the Navarre Beach Marine Park Addition would continue the process of restoring natural resources and services injured or lost as a result of the DWH oil spill. This would be accomplished using

approximately \$2 million in Florida Coastal Access Project remaining funds.

Next Steps

As described above, the Trustees will hold a public meeting to facilitate the public review and comment process. After the public comment period ends, the Trustees will consider and address the comments received before issuing a final Phase V.3 RP/SEA.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Administrative Record

The documents comprising the Administrative Record for the Phase V.3 RP/SEA can be viewed electronically at <https://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/adminrecord>.

Authority

The authority of this action is the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), its implementing Natural Resource Damage Assessment regulations found at 15 CFR part 990, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508.

Mary Josie Blanchard,

*Director of Gulf of Mexico Restoration,
Department of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 2019–13224 Filed 6–20–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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LXSGPL000000.241A.4500132602]

Notice of Availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Fuel Breaks in the Great Basin; Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, and Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Land

Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Fuel Breaks in the Great Basin and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

DATES: To ensure comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Draft Programmatic EIS for Fuel Breaks in the Great Basin within 45 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Draft Programmatic EIS for Fuel Breaks in the Great Basin by any of the following methods: *website:* <https://go.usa.gov/xnQcG>, *Email:* GRSG_PEIS@blm.gov, *Fax:* 208-373-3805, *Mail:* Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State Office, ATTN: Fuel Breaks Draft PEIS, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise ID 83709.

Copies of the Draft Programmatic EIS for Fuel Breaks in the Great Basin are available in the BLM Idaho State at the above address; additional copies can be made available at the California, Nevada, Oregon/Washington, and Utah State Offices upon request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marlo Draper, telephone 208-373-3812; address BLM Idaho State Office, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise ID 83709; email mdraper@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of a system of strategically placed fuel breaks in the Great Basin region is to slow the spread of wildfires and provide firefighters with the best opportunity to catch rapidly moving fires and establish an anchor point, thereby reducing wildfire size and improving firefighter safety while engaging in fire suppression. Fuel breaks would also offer greater protection of human life and property, sagebrush communities, and habitat restoration investments. Reducing fire size helps to reduce the expansion of invasive species, such as cheatgrass and medusahead. The need for fuel breaks relates to the increased size and

frequency of wildfires throughout the western United States in recent years. The fires have impacted healthy rangelands, sagebrush communities, and the general productivity of the lands. Efforts to suppress these wildfires have cost approximately \$1.7 billion dollars between 2007 and 2017. These wildfires have resulted in increased numbers of injuries and fatalities among wildland firefighters, destruction of private property, degradation and loss of rangelands, loss of recreational opportunities, and habitat loss for a variety of species, including the conversion of native habitats to invasive annual grasses. The conversion of rangeland habitats to invasive annual grasslands further impedes rangeland health and productivity by slowing or preventing the recovery of sagebrush ecosystems.

The preferred alternative (Alternative D) would authorize a full suite of tools to construct approximately 11,000 miles of new fuel breaks within the 223,000,000-acre planning area. Impacts would include those to native plant communities that are currently resistant to invasive annual plants, but may become vulnerable through repeated fires. Potential tools would include manual, chemical, mechanical, prescribed fire, reseeding, and targeted grazing. Fuel break types would include green strips (areas planted with low-statured, fire-resistant vegetation), brown strips (areas where all vegetation is removed), mowed fuel breaks, and targeted grazing fuel breaks (where livestock grazing is managed to reduce vegetation).

Please note that public comments and information submitted including names, street addresses, and email addresses of persons who submit comments will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10

John F. Ruhs,

Idaho State Director, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 2019-13021 Filed 6-20-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Change of Hours of Operation for the Lakeview Interagency Office, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of change in office hours.

SUMMARY: The Lakeview Interagency Office, which includes the Bureau of Land Management Lakeview District Office and the Fremont-Winema National Forest Supervisor's Office, will implement new hours of operation, weekdays, excluding Federal holidays, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The hours of operation for all other Lakeview BLM Offices will not change.

DATES: The new hours of operation take effect on July 1, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The Lakeview Interagency Office is located at 1301 S G St., Lakeview, OR 97630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Seana Lammers, Administrative Officer, 1301 S G St., Lakeview, Oregon 97630; telephone: 541-947-6202; email: seanamlammers@fs.fed.us. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This change is intended to better serve the public—based on a long-term review of calls received and the number of public visits between 7:45 and 8 a.m.—and to improve staffing efficiency.

(Authority: 43 CFR 1821.11)

Todd Forbes,

Lakeview District Manager.

[FR Doc. 2019-13088 Filed 6-20-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P