

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[OR-025-01-1430-EU: G-1-0037]****Realty Action: Sale of Public Land in Harney County, Oregon****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DOI.**ACTION:** Notice of realty action, sale of public land.**SUMMARY:** The following described public land in Harney County, Oregon, has been examined and found suitable for sale under sections 203 and 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2750, 43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719), at not less

than the appraised market value. All parcels being offered are identified for disposal in the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan.

All of the land described is within the Willamette Meridian.

Parcel No.	Legal description	Acres	Minimum acceptable bid	Bidding procedures	Designated bidders
OR-53952 .....	T.27S., R.33E., ..... Sec. 1, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; .....	360	\$36,000	Competitive .....	None.
OR-54925 .....	Sec. 2, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ..... T.21S., R.31E., ..... Sec. 32, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	80.63	5,200	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55316 .....	T.22S., R.31E., ..... Sec. 5, lot 4. ....	80	8,000	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55317 .....	T.18S., R.33 $\frac{1}{2}$ E., ..... Sec. 33, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	40	3,600	Modified Competitive.	Clyde Cowing and Marcia L. Eggleston—Trustee.
OR-55318 .....	T.20S., R.30E., ..... Sec. 22, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	40	3,600	Modified Competitive.	Clyde Cowing, Ronald Whiting and Marcia L. Eggleston—Trustee.
OR-55319 .....	T.20S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 8, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ..	200	20,000	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55320 .....	T.20S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; .....	320	28,800	Modified Competitive.	Thomas M. and Barbara Jo Howard, Sitz Ranch Partnership, and Conly L. and Joanne Marshall.
OR-55321 .....	Sec. 9, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ..	40	3,600	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55322 .....	T.20S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 17, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	80	8,000	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55323 .....	T.20S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 25, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	79.79	7,200	Modified Competitive.	Denny Land and Livestock.
OR-55324 .....	T.25S., R.31E., ..... Sec. 1, lots 1 and 2. ....	160	14,400	Modified Competitive.	Bell A Grazing Cooperative.
OR-55325 .....	T.25S., R.34E., ..... Sec. 20, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	120	10,800	Modified Competitive.	Bell A Grazing Cooperative.
OR-55326 .....	T.25S., R.34E., ..... Sec. 28, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	40	3,600	Modified Competitive.	Bell A Grazing Cooperative.
OR-55327 .....	T.25S., R.34E., ..... Sec. 28, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	161.12	16,100	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55328 .....	T.27S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 7, lots 3, 4, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; .....	880	7,200	Modified Competitive.	Norma and Maurice Davies—Trustee c/o M. Martin and Andrea L. Davies.
OR-55329 .....	Sec. 18, lots 1, 2. ....	80	8,000	Competitive .....	None.
OR-55330 .....	T.27S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 21, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....	80	7,200	Competitive .....	None.
	T.27S., R.35E., ..... Sec. 30, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ . ....				

The following rights, reservations, and conditions will be included on the patents conveying the land:

All Parcels—A reservation for a right-of-way for ditches and canals constructed thereon by the authority of United States.

OR-53952—Patent will be subject to a right-of-way for road purposes granted to Tom Davies and a right-of-way for power line purposes granted to Harney Electric Cooperative.

OR-55316—The patent will be subject to a right-of-way for power line purposes granted to Idaho Power Company; a right-of-way for a buried telephone line purposes granted to CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon; and a right-of-way for public road purposes granted to Harney County.

OR-55321—The patent will be subject to a right-of-way for power line purposes granted to Idaho Power Company.

OR-55330—A quitclaim deed will be issued for this parcel. The deed will be subject to a previous reservation to Harney County for county road rights-of-way.

Access will not be guaranteed to any of the parcels being offered for sale, nor any warranty made as to the use of the property in violation of applicable land use laws and regulations. Before submitting a bid, prospective purchasers should check with the appropriate city

or county planning department to verify approved uses.

All persons, other than the successful bidders, claiming to own unauthorized improvements on the land are allowed 60 days from the date of sale to remove the improvements.

All land described is hereby segregated from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, pending disposition of this action, or 270 days from the date of publication of this notice, whichever occurs first.

### Bidding Procedures

#### *Competitive Procedures*

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act and its implementing regulations (43 CFR 2710) provide that competitive bidding will be the general method of selling land supported by factors such as competitive interest, accessibility, and usability of the parcel, regardless of adjacent ownership.

Under competitive procedures the land will be sold to any qualified bidder submitting the highest bid. Bidding will be by sealed bid followed by an oral auction to be held at 2:00 p.m. PST on Wednesday, January 31, 2001, at the Burns District Office, Bureau of Land Management, Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon.

To qualify for the oral auction bidders must submit a sealed bid meeting the requirements as stated below. The highest valid sealed bid will become the starting bid for the oral auction. Bidding in the oral auction will be in minimum increments of \$100. The highest bidder from the oral auction will be declared the prospective purchaser.

If no valid bids are received, the parcel will be declared unsold and offered by unsold competitive procedures on a continuing basis until sold or withdrawn from sale.

#### *Modified Competitive Procedures*

Modified competitive procedures are allowed by the regulations (43 CFR 2710.0-6(c)(3)(ii)) to provide exceptions to competitive bidding to assure compatibility with existing and potential land uses.

Under modified competitive procedures the designated bidders identified in the table above will be given the opportunity to match or exceed the apparent high bid.

The apparent high bid will be established by the highest valid sealed bid received in an initial round of public bidding. If two or more valid sealed bids of the same amount are received for the same parcel, that amount shall be determined to be the apparent high bid. The designated

bidders are required to submit a valid bid in the initial round of public bidding to maintain their preference consideration. The bid deposit for the apparent high bid(s) and the designated bidders will be retained and all others will be returned.

The designated bidders will be notified by certified mail of the apparent high bid. Where there are two or more designated bidders for a single parcel, they will be allowed 30 days to provide the authorized officer with an agreement as to the division of the property or, if agreement cannot be reached, sealed bids for not less than the apparent high bid. Failure to submit an agreement or a bid shall be considered a waiver of the option to divide the property equitably and forfeiture of the preference consideration. Failure to act by all of the designated bidders will result in the parcel being offered to the apparent high bidder or declared unsold, if no bids were received in the initial round of bidding.

#### *Unsold Competitive Procedures*

Unsold competitive procedures will be used after a parcel has been unsuccessfully offered for sale by competitive or modified competitive procedures.

Unsold parcels will be offered competitively on a continuous basis until sold. Under competitive procedures for unsold parcels the highest valid bid received during the preceding month will be declared the purchaser. Sealed bids will be accepted and held until the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. PST when they will be opened. Openings will take place every month until the parcels are sold or withdrawn from sale.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the Burns District Office, no later than 2 p.m. PST on Wednesday, January 31, 2001, the time of the bid opening and oral auction. The outside of bid envelopes must be clearly marked with "BLM Land Sale," the parcel number and the bid opening date. Bids must be for not less than the appraised market value (minimum bid). Separate bids must be submitted for each parcel. Each sealed bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, postal money order, bank draft, or cashier's check made payable to the Department of the Interior—BLM for not less than 20 percent of the amount bid. The bid envelope must also contain a statement showing the total amount bid and the name, mailing address, and phone number of the entity making the bid. A successful bidder for competitive parcels shall make an additional deposit at the close of the auction to bring the

total bid deposit up to the required 20 percent of the high bid. Personal checks or cash will be acceptable for this additional deposit only.

Federal law requires that public land may be sold only to either: (1) Citizens of the United States 18 years of age or older; (2) corporations subject to the laws of any state or the United States; (3) other entities such as associations and partnerships capable of holding land or interests therein under the laws of the state within which the land is located; or (4) states, state instrumentalities or political subdivisions authorized to hold property. Certifications and evidence to this effect will be required of the purchaser prior to issuance of conveyance documents.

Prospective purchasers will be allowed 180 days to submit the balance of the purchase price. Failure to meet this timeframe shall cause the deposit to be forfeited to the BLM. The parcel will then be offered to the next lowest qualified bidder, or if no other bids were received, the parcel will be declared unsold.

A successful bid on a parcel constitutes an application for conveyance of those mineral interests offered under the authority of section 209(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. In addition to the full purchase price, a nonrefundable fee of \$50 will be required from the prospective purchaser for purchase of the mineral interests to be conveyed simultaneously with the sale of the land.

**DATES:** On or before January 2, 2001, interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed sale to the Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager at the address described below. Comments or protests must reference a specific parcel and be identified with the appropriate serial number. In the absence of any objections, this proposal will become the determination of the Department of the Interior.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, bids, and inquiries should be submitted to the Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, HC 74-12533, Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Detailed information concerning this public land sale is available on the internet at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns> or may be obtained from Craig M. Hansen, Field Manager; Rudy Heftner, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist; or Holly LaChapelle, Resource Assistant, Three Rivers

Resource Area at the above address, phone (541) 573-4400.

Dated: November 7, 2000.

**Rudolph J. Hefter,**

*Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist.*

[FR Doc. 00-29117 Filed 11-15-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-33-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-030-1310-DB]

#### **Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Federal Fluid Minerals Leasing and Development in Sierra and Otero Counties, New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, the BLM Las Cruces Field Office (through Dames and Moore, Inc., a qualified consultant) has prepared a Draft RMPA/EIS. The RMPA/EIS addresses Federal fluid minerals (oil, gas, and geothermal) leasing and subsequent activities (e.g., exploration, development, or production) in Sierra and Otero Counties, New Mexico.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Draft RMPA/EIS must be postmarked on or before February 20, 2001. Public hearings will be held at the times and

places listed under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to: Tom Phillips, RMPA/EIS Team Leader, BLM, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Phillips, RMPA/EIS Team Leader, (505) 525-4377.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public hearings will be held at the following times and locations.

Date	Time	City	Location
January 9, 2001 .....	7:00 p.m. ....	Roswell, New Mexico	Sally Port Inn, 2000 N. Main St.
January 10, 2001 .....	7:00 p.m. ....	Alamogordo, New Mexico.	County Commission Chambers, 1000 New York Ave.
January 11, 2001 .....	7:00 p.m. ....	Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.	County Commission Chambers, 100 N. Date St.

Both oral and written comments may be given at the hearings. Written comments may also be submitted to the BLM, Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, NM 88005 on or before February 20, 2001.

A time limit for oral testimony at the hearings will be established by the presiding hearings officer, based on the number of people wishing to make comments at each hearing. Written text of prepared comments may be filed at the hearing whether or not the speaker has been able to complete the oral delivery in the allotted time.

All oral and written comments on the adequacy of the Draft RMPA/EIS will receive consideration in the Proposed RMPA/Final EIS.

Copies of the Draft RMPA/EIS have been distributed to a mailing list of identified interested parties. Single copies of the Draft RMPA/EIS may be obtained from the BLM Las Cruces Field Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Public reading copies are available for review at public and university libraries in Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Truth or Consequences, Roswell, and Santa Fe, New Mexico and El Paso, Texas.

The RMPA amends the 1986 RMP for the White Sands Resource Area. The

objective of the RMPA is to determine (1) which lands overlying Federal fluid minerals are suitable and available for leasing and subsequent development and (2) how those leased lands will be managed. The EIS identifies the potential impacts that alternative plans for fluid minerals leasing and subsequent activities could have on the environment and identifies appropriate measures to mitigate those impacts.

Dated: November 7, 2000.

**Amy L. Lueders,**

*Field Manager, Las Cruces.*

[FR Doc. 00-29315 Filed 11-15-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-VC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CA-942-5700-BJ-044B]

#### **Filing of Plats of Survey; California**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to inform the public and interested state and local government officials of the

latest filing of Plats of Survey in California.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Unless otherwise noted, filing was effective at 10 a.m. on the next federal work day following the plat acceptance date.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lance J. Bishop, Chief, Branch of Geographic Services, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825; (916) 978-4310.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The plats of Survey of lands described below have been officially filed at the California State Office of the Bureau of Land Management in Sacramento, California.

#### **Humboldt Meridian, California**

T. 5 N., R. 1 W.

Supplemental Plat of a portion of the south half of sections 31 and 32, accepted June 27, 2000, to meet certain administrative needs of the BLM, Arcata Field Office.

Ts. 4 and 5 N., R. 1 W.

Dependent resurvey, corrective resurvey, and survey Group 1313, accepted June 27, 2000, to meet certain administrative needs of the BLM, Arcata Field Office.

T. 3 S., R. 2 W.