

Dakotas Resource Advisory Councils will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The Western Montana RAC meeting will be held September 10, 2003, at the Search and Rescue Building in Dillon, Montana, beginning at 10 a.m. The public comment period on Sustaining Working Landscapes (SWL) and other topics will begin at 1 p.m. and the meeting is expected to adjourn by 3 p.m. Also on the agenda will be information about the Montana/Dakotas Off-Highway Vehicle policy.

The Central Montana RAC will meet September 23–25, 2003, at the Agricultural Museum in Fort Benton, Montana. The RAC members will tour the Missouri River on September 23. The meeting will convene at 8 a.m. on September 24. Public comment periods on SWL and other topics are scheduled for that day from 12–12:30 p.m. and 4–5 p.m. Another public comment session is scheduled for 8 a.m.–8:30 a.m. on September 25. The meeting should adjourn at 12:45 p.m. on September 25. Also on the agenda will be information about the Montana/Dakotas Off-Highway Vehicle policy and the Blackleaf EIS.

The Eastern Montana RAC will meet August 14, 2003, at 8 a.m. in Billings, Montana, at the Hampton Inn. The public comment period on SWL and other topics will begin at 2 p.m., and the meeting will adjourn at about 3:30 p.m. Also on the agenda will be information about the Montana/Dakotas Off-Highway Vehicle policy.

The Dakotas RAC will meet September 3, 2003, at 2 p.m. at the Golden Hills Resort Best Western, in Lead, South Dakota, to tour Grizzly Gulch fire rehabilitation and monitoring. The meeting will resume at 8 a.m. on September 4, 2003, at the Golden Hills Resort Best Western. Sustaining Working Landscapes and other topics, including the Montana/Dakotas Off-Highway Vehicle policy, will be discussed with public comment taken on those and other issues beginning at 2 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member Councils advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Montana and the Dakotas. At these four meetings, the Councils will accept public comment on the SWL initiative and possibly develop recommendations on the same for the consideration of the Montana/Dakotas State Director.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written

comments to the Council. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the Western Montana RAC, contact Marilyn Krause, Resource Advisory Council Coordinator, at the Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701, telephone 406–533–7617, or Tim Bozorth, Field Manager, at the Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, MT 59725, telephone 406–683–2337.

For the Central Montana RAC, contact David L. Mari, Lewistown Field Manager, at the Lewistown Field Office, P.O. Box 1160, Airport Road, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406–538–7461.

For the Eastern Montana RAC, contact Mark Jacobsen, Resource Advisory Council Coordinator, at the Miles City Field Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301, 406–233–2831.

For the Dakotas RAC, contact Doug Burger, North Dakota Field Manager, at the North Dakota Field Office, 2933 Third Avenue West, Dickinson, ND 58601, 701–227–7700.

Dated: July 17, 2003.

A. Jerry Meredith,

Associate State Director, Montana State Office.

[FR Doc. 03–18956 Filed 7–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR–100–5882–AF; HAG03–0236]

Notice of Public Meeting, Roseburg Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Cancellation of meetings for the Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Advisory Committee under section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–393).

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Meeting notice is hereby given for the Roseburg District BLM Resource Advisory Committee pursuant to section 205 of the Secure Rural School and

Community Self Determination Act of 2000, Public Law 106–393 (the Act). Topics to be discussed by the Roseburg District BLM Resource Advisory Committee include specific information of specific projects and/or decisions on specific projects.

DATES: The Roseburg Resource Advisory Committee was scheduled to meet at the BLM Roseburg District Office, 777 NW. Garden Valley Boulevard, Roseburg, Oregon 97470 on July 21, July 28, and August 4, 2003 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. These meetings have been canceled. For briefing information please refer to HAG–03–0134.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Act, five Resource Advisory Committees have been formed for western Oregon BLM district that contain Oregon & California (O&C) Grant Lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road lands. The Act establishes a six-year payment schedule to local counties in lieu of funds derived from the harvest of timber on federal lands, which have dropped dramatically over the past 10 years.

The Act creates a new mechanism for local community collaboration with Federal land management activities in the selection of projects to be conducted on Federal lands or that will benefit resources on Federal lands using funds under Title II of the Act. The Roseburg District BLM Resource Advisory Committee consists of 15 local citizens (plus 6 alternates) representing a wide array of interests.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information concerning the Roseburg District BLM Resource Advisory Committee may be obtained from E. Lynn Burkett, Public Affairs Officer, Roseburg District Office, 777 NW. Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon 97470 or elynn_burkett@blm.gov, or on the Web at <http://www.or.blm.gov>.

Dated: July 18, 2003.

Gail S. Schaefer,

Acting Roseburg District Manager.

[FR Doc. 03–18958 Filed 7–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Environmental Documents Prepared for Proposed Oil and Gas Operations on the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of the availability of environmental documents. Prepared for OCS mineral proposals on the Gulf of Mexico OCS.

SUMMARY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), in accordance with Federal regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), announces the availability of NEPA-related Site-Specific Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI), prepared by MMS for the following oil and gas activities proposed on the Gulf of Mexico OCS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Public Information Unit, Information Services Section at the number below.

Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Attention: Public Information Office (MS 5034), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Room 114, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, or by calling 1-800-200-GULF.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: MMS prepares SEAs and FONSI for proposals that relate to exploration for and the development/production of oil and gas resources on the Gulf of Mexico OCS. These SEAs examine the potential environmental effects of activities described in the proposals and present MMS conclusions regarding the significance of those effects. Environmental Assessments are used as a basis for determining whether or not approval of the proposals constitutes

major Federal actions that significantly affect the quality of the human environment in the sense of NEPA section 102(2)(C). A FONSI is prepared in those instances where MMS finds that approval will not result in significant effects on the quality of the human environment. The FONSI briefly presents the basis for that finding and includes a summary or copy of the SEA.

This notice constitutes the public notice of availability of environmental documents required under the NEPA Regulations.

This listing includes all proposals for which the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region prepared a FONSI in the period subsequent to publication of the preceding notice dated August 13, 2002.

Activity/Operator	Location	Date
Kerr McGee Oil & Gas Corporation, Development Operations Coordination Plan and Lease-Term Pipeline, PEA No. N-7625 and Segment No. P-14109.	Garden Banks Area, Blocks 667, 668 and 669, Leases OCS-G 17406, 17407 and 17408, respectively, located 117.5 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	04/02/03
BP Exploration & Production, Inc., Development Operations Coordination Plan, SEA No. N-7646.	Green Canyon Area, Blocks 742, 743, 744, 787 and 788, Leases OCS-G 15606, 15607, 15608, Unleased and Unleased, respectively, located 122 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/25/03
Fugro Geoservices, Inc. for BP America, Inc., Geological and Geophysical Exploration Plan, SEA No. L03-17.	Located in the Central Gulf of Mexico southeast of Patterson, Louisiana.	05/02/03
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Initial Exploration Plan, SEA No. N-7686.	DeSoto Canyon Area, Block 621, Lease OCS-G 23529, located 95.5 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/05/03
Shell Offshore, Inc., Initial Exploration Plan, SEA No. N-7698 ...	Lloyd Ridge Area, Block 399, Lease OCS-G 23480, located 128 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/07/03
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Initial Exploration Plan, SEA No. N-7713.	Lloyd Ridge Area, Blocks 265 and 309, Leases OCS-G 03472 and 03473, respectively, located 120 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/07/03
Amerada Hess Corporation, Initial Exploration Plan, SEA No. N-7672.	DeSoto Canyon Area, Block 620, Lease OCS-G 23528, located 93 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/21/03
W & T Inc., Right-of-Way Pipeline Application, SEA No. P-14037.	Offshore, Garden Banks Area, Block 139, Lease OCS-G 17295 to High Island Area, Block A389, Lease OCS-G 02759, located 123 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/30/03
Endymion Oil Pipeline Company, LLC, Right-of-Way Pipeline Application, SEA No. P-13534.	South Pass Area, Block 89, to traverse through Federal waters in South Pass Block 88, West Delta Blocks 145, 128, 129, 126, 125, 112, 113, 104, 103, 91, 92, 93, 72, 71, 66, 67, 39 and 38, and Grand Isle Blocks 20, 19 and 18, and continue through Louisiana State waters to Louisiana Offshore Oil Port near Clovelly, Louisiana, length through Federal waters is 46 miles and total length in offshore waters is 54 miles.	05/29/03
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Initial Exploration Plan, SEA No. N-7751.	Lloyd Ridge Area, Blocks 47, 91 and 135, located 111 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/17/03
ATP Oil & Gas Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR Nos. 03-010 and 03-011.	Vermilion Area (South Addition), Block 389, Lease OCS-G 14430, and Block 410, Lease OCS-G 11903, located 109-110 miles south of Cameron, Louisiana, and 129-131 miles south-southeast of Cameron Parish, Louisiana.	02/04/03
WesternGeco for Exxon Mobil Production Company, Geological & Geophysical Exploration, SEA No. L03-12.	Located in the central Gulf of Mexico southeast of Fourchon, Louisiana.	03/31/03
WesternGeco for Multi-Client, Geological & Geophysical Exploration, SEA No. L03-13.	Located in the central Gulf of Mexico southeast of Fourchon, Louisiana, and New Orleans, Louisiana.	04/15/03
Energy Resource Technology, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-067.	South Timbalier Area, Block 213, Lease OCS-G 18055, located 50 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/07/03
Energy Resource Technology, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-068.	West Cameron Area, Block 277, Lease OCS-G 04761, located 60 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/07/03
Petrobras America, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-069.	Ship Shoal Area, Block 301, Lease OCS-G 10794, located 57 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/06/03
Anadarko E & P Company, LP, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-070.	Eugene Island Area, Block 296, Lease OCS-G 02105, located 61 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/06/03
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-071.	Vermilion Area, Block 68, Lease OCS-G 08662, located 15 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/06/03
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-072.	East Cameron Area, Block 152, Lease OCS-G 17849, located 44 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/06/03

Activity/Operator	Location	Date
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-073.	Galveston Area, Block 283, Lease OCS-G 09039, located 15 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-074.	Galveston Area, Block 393, Lease OCS-G 15761, located 22 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-07, 03-076 and 03-077.	Brazos Area, Block 399, Lease OCS-G 07218, located 14 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-078.	Brazos Area, Block 432, Lease OCS-G 09018, located 20 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Amerada Hess Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-080.	West Cameron Area, Block 505, Lease OCS-G 16200, located 97 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/03/03
Amerada Hess Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-081 and 03-082.	West Cameron Area, Block 556, Lease OCS-G 05346, located 97 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Amerada Hess Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-083.	Galveston Area, Block 210, Lease OCS-G 07236, located 97 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.	05/06/03
Hunt Oil Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-087, 03-088, 03-089, 03-090 and 03-091.	South Pass Area, Block 37, Leases OCS-G 01335 and OCS 00697, located 6-8 miles east-southeast of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana shoreline.	04/15/03
ATP Oil & Gas Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA No. ES/SR 03-092.	South Timbalier Area, Block 30, Lease OCS-G 13928, located 7 miles south of LaFourche Parish, Louisiana shoreline.	04/14/03
J. M. Huber Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-093 and 03-094.	South Timbalier Area, Block 21, Lease OCS-G 00263, located 5 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/11/03
BP America Production Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-095.	High Island Area, Block A1, Lease OCS-G 15780, located 30 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/14/03
Chevron U.S.A., Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-096 and 03-097.	Eugene Island Area, Block 23, Lease OCS-G 00980, located 45 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/16/03
Chevron U.S.A., Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-098.	Ship Shoal Area, Block 108, Lease OCS-00814, located 20 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/22/03
Burlington Resources offshore, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-099.	Eugene Island Area, Block 159, Lease OCS-G 04449, located 35 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/16/03
Murphy Exploration & Production Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-100, 03-101, 03-102, 03-103, 03-104, 03-105, 03-106, 03-107, 03-108, and 03-109.	South Pelto Area, Blocks 12 and 19, Leases OCS-G 00072 and 00073; Ship Shoal Area, Block 101, Lease OCS-G 09612; and Vermilion Area, Block 130, Lease OCS-G 16296; all located 8 to 32 miles south and southwest from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/23/03
J. M. Huber Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-110.	West Cameron Area, Block 238, Lease No. OCS-02834, located 40 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/23/03
TotalFinaElf E&P USA, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-111 and 03-112.	West Cameron Area, Block 167, Lease OCS-G 09400, located 25 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	04/29/03
McMoRan Oil & Gas, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-113.	Eugene Island Area, Block 215, Lease OCS-G 00578, located 43 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/06/03
W & T Offshore, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-114.	East Cameron Area, Block 303, Lease OCS-G 12850, located 88 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/19/03
Spinnaker Exploration Company, LLC, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-115-03-117.	East Cameron Area, Blocks 138 and 139, Leases OCS-G 13863 and 21576, located 45 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/14/03
Spinnaker Exploration Company, LLC, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-118.	High Island Area, Block 235, Lease OCS-G 18941, located 30 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/16/03
Chinese Offshore Oil Geophysical Corporation for GX Technology Corporation, Geological and Geo-Physical Exploration Plan, SEA No. T03-08.	Located in the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico from south of Fourchon, Louisiana, extending offshore to northeast of Port Isabel, Texas.	05/16/03
El Paso Production Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 97-095A.	West Cameron, (South Addition) Area, Block 498, Lease OCS-G 03520, located 92 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/20/03
ChevronTexaco, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR Nos. 00-1342A, 03-119, 95-049A, 07-090A, 03-120 and 03-121.	High Island Area (South Addition), Block A548, Lease OCS-G 02706; West Cameron Area, Blocks 17 and 48, Lease OCS-G 01351, located 99 miles southeast of Galveston, Texas, and 3.5 miles south of Cameron, Louisiana, respectively.	05/21/03
The William G. Helis Company, LLC, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-122.	South Timbalier (South Addition) Area, Block 212, Lease OCS-G 14538, located 43 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/21/03
Forest Oil Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-123.	Eugene Island Area, Block 273, Lease OCS-G 00987, located 60 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/21/03
Chevron U.S.A., Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-124.	Eugene Island Area, Block 64, Lease OCS-G 02098, located 20 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/02/03
Callon Petroleum Operating Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-125.	Main Pass Area, Block 161, Lease OCS-G 05703, 45 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	05/29/03
El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-126.	East Cameron Area, Block 82, Lease OCS-G 08640, located 28 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/03/03
WesternGeco for Multi-Client, Geological & Geophysical Exploration, SEA No. L03-32.	Located in the central Gulf of Mexico south of Cocodrie, Louisiana.	06/03/03
WesternGeco for Multi-Client, Geological & Geophysical Exploration, SEA No. L03-26 and L03-27.	Located in the central Gulf of Mexico south of Cocodrie and Fourchon, Louisiana.	06/05/03
WesternGeco for Multi-Client, Geological & Geophysical Exploration, SEA No. L03-28 and L03-29.	Located in the central Gulf of Mexico south of Louisiana and Leeville, Louisiana.	06/05/03

Activity/Operator	Location	Date
Ocean Energy, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-127.	Main Pass Area, Block 63, Lease OCS-G 18086, located 16 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/20/03
Maritech Resources, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-128, 03-129 and 03-130.	Eugene Island Area, Block 215, Lease OCS-G 00580, 37 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/18/03
Hunt Oil Company, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-131.	Eugene Island Area, Block 76, Lease OCS-G 04823, located 17 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/11/03
Union Oil Company of California, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-132.	South March Island Area, Block 11, Lease OCS-G 01182, located 35 miles southwest from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/09/03
Torch Energy Services, Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-133.	Main Pass Area, Block 100, Lease OCS-G 04910, located 13 miles east-southeast of the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/16/03
EOG Resources, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-137.	East Cameron Area, Block 118, Lease OCS-G 14362, located 36 miles south-southwest from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/16/03
Nexen Petroleum U.S.A., Inc., Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-134.	Eugene Island Area, Block 295, Lease OCS-G 02104, located 70 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/18/03
Walter Oil & Gas Corporation, Structure Removal Activity, SEA ES/SR No. 03-135 and 03-136.	Padre Island Area, Blocks 976 and 996, OCS-G 05954 and 08962, located 25 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.	06/23/03

Persons interested in reviewing environmental documents for the proposals listed above or obtaining information about SEAs and FONSI's prepared for activities on the Gulf of Mexico OCS are encouraged to contact MMS at the address or telephone listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section.

Dated: June 27, 2003.

Chris C. Oynes,

Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.
[FR Doc. 03-18531 Filed 7-24-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Lake Casitas Resource Management Plan, Ventura County, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Reclamation proposes to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for Lake Casitas Resource Management Plan (RMP), which will be issued concurrent with the DEIS. Reclamation will be conducting two public scoping meetings to elicit comments on the scope and issues to be addressed in both the RMP and EIS. The date and time of these meetings are listed below. Reclamation is also seeking written comments, as noted below. The Draft RMP and DEIS are expected to be issued in late 2004.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before September 23, 2003.

The two scoping meetings will be held as follows:

- September 24, 2003, at 7 p.m., Ojai, CA 93023

- September 25, 2003, at 7 p.m., Ventura, CA 93001

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the RMP and DEIS should be sent to Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 N Street, Fresno, CA 93721-1813; or by telephone at 559-487-5409; or faxed to 559-487-5130 (TDD 559-487-5933).

The meeting locations are:

- Ojai, California, at the Soule Golf Course, Banquet Room, 1033 East Ojai Avenue

- Ventura, California, at the E.P. Foster Library, Topping Room, 651 East Main Street

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Holsapple, Bureau of Reclamation, 559-487-5409.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Casitas Project (originally called the Ventura Project) was constructed in the early 1950's by Reclamation on behalf of Ventura County and Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas). The project includes Casitas Dam, Lake Casitas, the developed Recreation Area at the north end of the lake, and the Open Space Lands north of the lake, purchased in the late 1970's. Casitas operates the dam and manages the Open Space Lands under contracts with Reclamation. Casitas manages the Recreation Area, although a formal contract has not been established with Reclamation to date.

Reclamation is preparing a RMP for government lands associated with the Casitas Project, including the Recreation Area. The RMP will include long-term management actions to protect natural resources while maintaining and enhancing recreational opportunities. The RMP will be used to guide the

development of a long-term recreation contract between Reclamation and the non-Federal Managing Partner, Casitas.

The RMP will specifically address the Recreation Area, the entire lake, and all government land surrounding the lake. The objective of an RMP is to establish management objectives, guidelines, and actions to be implemented by Reclamation directly, or through its recreation contract with Casitas, that will protect the water supply and water quality functions of Lake Casitas; protect and enhance natural and cultural resources in the Recreation Area consistent with Federal law and Reclamation policies; and provide recreational opportunities and facilities consistent with the Project purposes and Reclamation policies.

The development of the RMP will be performed within the authorities provided by the Congress through the Reclamation Act, Federal Water Project Recreation Act, Reclamation Recreation Management Act, and applicable agency and Department of the Interior policies.

The RMP will be developed based on a comprehensive inventory of environmental resources and Project facilities. It will include an analysis of the natural resources of the area, the identification of land use suitability and capability, and the development of management policies, objectives, responsibilities, guidelines, and plans. The overall purpose of an RMP is to foster stewardship of Reclamation lands. The RMP will enable managers to make land-use and resource decisions that are consistent with the overall management objectives of Reclamation land and water areas and the needs of the public. The RMP will assist Reclamation in minimizing conflicts among the competing interests and types of use at Lake Casitas.