

Alternative would be approximately 10,122 acres, which would be reduced to 4,978 acres through interim reclamation.

The Final EIS contains detailed analysis of impacts to: Air quality, including greenhouse gas emissions; geology and minerals; paleontological resources; soil, surface water and groundwater resources; vegetation, including weeds; range, including livestock grazing; fish and wildlife, including migratory birds and raptors; special status wildlife and plant species; cultural resources; land use and transportation; recreation; visual resources; special designations, including Pariette Wetlands ACEC, Lower Green River Corridor ACEC, and Suitable Lower Green River Wild and Scenic River; and social and economic resources, including environmental justice. Based on the impact analysis, on-site, landscape and compensatory conservation and mitigation actions have been identified for each alternative to achieve resource objectives.

Also worth noting are changes between the draft and final EIS to the air quality section. In the Draft EIS BLM committed to conducting photochemical modeling post-ROD through the Air Resource Management Strategy modeling platform. However, that modeling platform became available shortly after the comment period on the Draft EIS closed, so that modeling was conducted for, and the results are included in, the Final EIS. Upon review of those modeling results, applicant-committed air quality mitigation measures were refined, and additional applicant- and BLM-committed measures to further reduce emissions from the MBPA were included in the Final EIS. This robust suite of measures was developed in consultation between Neufeld, the BLM, EPA and the State of Utah. The robust measures will help minimize and mitigate impacts to important air resource values. These measures have been analyzed in the Final EIS and are within the range of alternative analyzed in the Draft EIS.

All required consultations, including Endangered Species Act section 7 Consultation, National Historic Preservation Act section 106 Consultation, and government-to-government consultation with interested Native American Tribes, have been completed. During the section 7 Consultation for the Final EIS, many additional applicant- and agency-committed mitigation measures, including a detailed Conservation, Restoration and Mitigation Strategy for the Pariette and Uinta Basin Hookless Cactus, were developed and

incorporated into the Agency Preferred Alternative. This process is explained in greater detail in the Biological Opinion. The Biological Assessment, Biological Opinion, and additional mitigation measures and cactus strategy are all attached to the Final EIS as Appendix J.

Since the publication of the Monument Butte Draft EIS, the Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Record of Decision (ROD) has been issued. No Sagebrush Focal Areas, General Habitat Management Areas, or Priority Habitat Management Areas are present within the Monument Butte project boundary. Therefore, the BLM determined that the provisions of the Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment do not affect the MBPA.

After the conclusion of Final EIS review period, the BLM will issue a ROD which will describe the selected alternative and any conditions of approval, including a mitigation strategy.

The selected alternative will be conceptual only. Any well pads, roads, pipelines and other facilities and infrastructure that may be constructed in the future in the project area will be subject to an appropriate level of site-specific NEPA analysis prior to final approval.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10.

**Jenna Whitlock,**

*Acting State Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

#### Notice of Application for Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Idaho (IDI 38117)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS) has filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw approximately 107.02 acres of National Forest System land from the mining laws to protect the Dump Creek Diversion Ditch within the Salmon National Forest in Idaho. This notice temporarily segregates the land for up to 2 years from the United States mining laws while the application is being processed. This notice also gives an

opportunity for the public to comment on the application and to request a public meeting.

**DATES:** Comments and public meeting requests must be received by September 22, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and public meeting requests should be sent to the Idaho State Director, BLM, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83709.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Cartwright, BLM Idaho State Office 208-373-3885 or Sherry Stokes-Wood, Lands, USFS Intermountain Regional Office 801-625-5800. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact either of the above individuals. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USFS has filed an application with the BLM, pursuant to Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714, requesting that the Secretary of the Interior withdraw, for a 20-year period and subject to valid existing rights, the National Forest System land described below from location and entry under the United States mining laws. The land will remain open to discretionary uses.

#### Salmon National Forest

*Boise Meridian*

T. 23 N., R. 20 E.,

Secs. 12, 13, and 24.

Beginning at USLM No. 4, Eureka Mining District, said Monument No. 4 being more particularly located in the unsurveyed NW1/4SE1/4 Section 24. From point of beginning, North 4°32'52" East 5061.93 feet to Corner No. 1, the True Point of Beginning, said Corner being identical with Corner No. 1 Lemhi Gold Placer, as shown on Moose Creek Hydraulic Placer Mineral Survey Plat No. 3057. Thence North 0°01' West, 4109.7 feet along the west line of Lemhi Gold Placer to a point at the intersection of line 1-2 of Rocky Mountain Placer, MS No. 1867, which point lies North 58°56' West, 58.1 feet from Corner No. 1 of MS No. 1867 and said point being Corner No. 2 of herein described lands; Thence North 58°56' West, along line 1-2 of MS No. 1867 for a distance of 817.35 feet to Corner No. 3; Thence South 0°01' East, 4529.24 feet to Corner No. 4; Thence South 8°33' East, 1877.1 feet to Corner No. 5; Thence South 89°49' East, 883 feet to Corner No. 6, said Corner No. 6 being identical with Corner No. 4 of Moose Creek Hydraulic Placer MS 3057; Thence North 8°33' West, 1877.1 feet along the west line of said Moose Creek Hydraulic Placer to Corner No. 7 said Corner No. 7 being identical with Corner No. 5 of MS No. 3057; Thence North 89°49' West, 183 feet to Corner No. 1, the True Point of Beginning.

The area described contains 107.02 acres in Lemhi County.

The purpose of the withdrawal is to ensure the continued conservation of the aquatic and riparian habitats, and to protect the USFS watershed investments in the Salmon River Drainage.

The use of a right-of-way, interagency agreement, or cooperative agreement would not adequately protect the land from nondiscretionary uses which could result in a permanent loss of significant values and capital investments.

There are no suitable alternative sites with equal or greater benefit to the government and the structures needing protection already exist on this site. It is not economically feasible to construct the necessary watershed protection dam and other related improvements on alternative sites because of the topography and hydrologic conditions.

The USFS would not need to acquire water rights to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal.

Records related to the application may be examined by contacting the Salmon-Challis National Forest, Forest Supervisor's Office, at 1206 S. Challis St. Salmon, ID 83467, or by contacting Jeff Cartwright at the above BLM address or by phone number.

For a period until September 22, 2016, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the withdrawal application may present their views in writing to the BLM State Director at the address indicated above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review during regular business hours. 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 may 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.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public meeting is afforded in connection with the withdrawal application. All interested persons who desire a public meeting for the purpose of being heard on the withdrawal application must submit a written request to the BLM State Director at the address indicated above by September 22, 2016. Upon determination by the authorized officer that a public meeting will be held, a notice of the time and place will be

published in the **Federal Register** and a newspaper having a general circulation in the vicinity of the land at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

For a period until June 25, 2018, the National Forest System land described in this notice will be segregated from location and entry under the United States mining laws, but not from discretionary uses, unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR part 2300.

**James M. Fincher,**

*Chief, Branch of Lands, Minerals and Water Rights, Resource Services.*

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**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

[Docket No. BOEM-2016-0049]

#### Environmental Assessment for Commercial Wind Leasing and Site Assessment Activities on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Offshore the Island of Oahu, Hawaii; MMAA104000

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment.

**SUMMARY:** BOEM is announcing its intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of potential commercial wind leasing and site assessment activities on the OCS offshore the island of Oahu, Hawaii. The EA will address environmental impacts and socioeconomic effects related to the proposed action, issuance of one or more commercial wind energy leases and approval of site assessment activities on those leases. This notice serves to announce the beginning of the formal scoping process. Scoping will help identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, focus the analysis in the EA on potentially significant issues, and eliminate those issues that are determined to be insignificant or considered irrelevant to the analysis. BOEM will also use the scoping process to seek public comment on the full range of potential environmental impacts, including input relevant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Additional information on the proposed action may be found at <http://www.boem.gov/Hawaii/>.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted no later than August 8, 2016.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Eckenrode, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Pacific OCS Region, 760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102, Camarillo, California 93010, (805) 384-6388, or [mark.eckenrode@boem.gov](mailto:mark.eckenrode@boem.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 1. Proposed Action

The proposed action that will be the subject of the EA consists of (a) the issuance of a wind energy lease or leases within some or all of the Call Area (see below) offshore the island of Oahu; and (b) the approval of site assessment activities (including the installation and operation of a meteorological tower and/or one or more meteorological buoys) on the lease or leases. BOEM will also consider the environmental impacts associated with potential site characterization activities—including geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological, and biological surveys—that a lessee may undertake to fulfill the information requirements for its Site Assessment Plan and Construction and Operation Plan at 30 CFR 585.610 and .626 respectively.

##### 2. Description of the Call Area

A detailed description of the Call Area can be found in the *Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf Offshore the Island of Oahu, Hawaii—Call for Information and Nominations* that is being published concurrently with this notice. A map of the Call Area can be found at: <http://www.boem.gov/Hawaii/>.

##### 3. National Historic Preservation Act

BOEM will use the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to inform its Section 106 consultation pursuant to the NHPA (54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*), as provided for in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). BOEM will consider the potential effects of wind energy development on historic properties early in the planning process. BOEM is seeking public comment and input regarding the identification of historic properties or potential impacts to historic properties located in nearshore and coastal areas adjacent to the Call Area from the proposed action.

##### 4. Cooperating Agencies

BOEM invites other Federal, State, and local governments to consider becoming cooperating agencies in the preparation of this EA. CEQ regulations implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA define cooperating agencies as those with “jurisdiction by law or special expertise” (40 CFR 1508.5).