

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[19X.LLAK930000 L16100000.PN0000]****Notice of Availability of the Draft Bering Sea-Western Interior Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Alaska; Notice of Public Meetings and Subsistence Hearings****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Anchorage Field Office, Anchorage, Alaska, is issuing for public comment the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Bering Sea-Western Interior (BSWI) planning area. The BLM is also announcing that it will hold public meetings and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Section 810 subsistence-related hearings to receive comments on the BSWI RMP/EIS.

**DATES:** To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Draft RMP/EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability of the Draft RMP/EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce public meetings and ANILCA Section 810 subsistence-related hearings and any other public participation activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

**ADDRESSES:** You may provide comments by mail, fax, email, or in person. Mail comments to: BLM Anchorage Field Office, Attention—BSWI RMP, 4700 BLM Road, Anchorage, AK 99507; fax comments to 907-267-1267; email comments to *BSWI\_RMP\_COMMENT@blm.gov*; or hand-deliver comments during normal business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to the BLM Anchorage Field Office at 4700 BLM Road, Anchorage, AK 99507.

You can review the BSWI RMP/EIS online at BLM Alaska's website at [www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI](http://www.blm.gov/alaska/BSWI). Copies of the BSWI Draft RMP/EIS are available for viewing in the BLM Anchorage Field Office at the above address; the BLM Alaska Public Information Center (Public Room) at the Federal Building at 222 West 8th Avenue, Anchorage; the Alaska Resources Library & Information Services (ARLIS) Library Building at 3211 Providence Drive, Suite 111,

Anchorage; and the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Office at 807 Eddie Hoffman Highway, Bethel. You may also request an electronic or paper copy of the BSWI Draft RMP/EIS by contacting Jorjena Barringer, BLM project lead, at 907-267-1246.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jorjena Barringer RMP Project Manager, BLM Anchorage Field Office, telephone: 907-267-1246, email: *BSWI\_RMP\_COMMENT@blm.gov*. People 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 BSWI Planning Area is located in western Alaska and encompasses approximately 62.3 million acres of land, including 13.5 million acres managed by the BLM. The planning area extends south from the Central Yukon watershed through the Kuskokwim River watershed, including all lands west of Denali National Park and Preserve to the Bering Sea. The BSWI RMP/EIS does not apply to non-BLM-managed lands, including lands conveyed through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act or Alaska Statehood Act; Federal lands administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; private lands; or Native allotments (including townsite lots).

This RMP replaces the 1981 Southwest Management Framework Plan and a small portion of the 1986 Central Yukon Resource Management Plan, including amendments. It provides:

- Consolidated direction to address land and resource use and development on BLM-managed lands within the planning area and under one RMP, and
- Analysis of the environmental effects that could result from the implementation of the alternatives proposed in the BSWI Draft RMP/EIS.

This Draft RMP/EIS evaluates four alternatives for managing the planning area. Alternative A, the no action alternative, represents existing management described by current land use plans and provides the benchmark against which to compare the other alternatives. Alternative B emphasizes reducing the potential for competition between recreational or developmental uses and subsistence resources by identifying key areas for additional management actions. Alternative C, which is identified as the preferred

alternative, emphasizes adaptive management at the planning level to maintain the long-term sustainability of resources while providing for multiple resource uses. Alternative D provides additional flexibility at the project-specific implementation level and fewer management restrictions at the planning level. Alternatives B, C, and D were developed using input from the public, stakeholders, and cooperating agencies. Major planning issues addressed include subsistence resources, including water resources, fisheries, and wildlife; forestry; minerals and mining; recreation; travel management and access; and areas of critical environmental concern.

Section 810 of ANILCA requires BLM to evaluate the effects of the alternatives presented in the Draft EIS on subsistence resources and activities, and to hold public hearings if it finds that any alternative may significantly restrict subsistence uses. The preliminary evaluation of subsistence impacts indicates that each of the alternatives analyzed in the Draft EIS and the associated cumulative impacts may significantly restrict subsistence uses. Therefore, BLM will hold public hearings on subsistence resources and activities in conjunction with the Draft EIS public meetings in, or in the vicinity of, potentially affected communities.

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

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 3120(a); 40 CFR 1506.6(b)

**Ted A. Murphy,***Acting State Director, Alaska.*

[FR Doc. 2019-05291 Filed 3-19-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[19X LLWO230 L11100000.PN0000 LXSGPL000000]****Notice of Availability of Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment for the Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Region****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Approved Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA).

**DATES:** The State Director signed the ROD on March 14, 2019, which constitutes the final decision of the BLM, and makes the ROD effective immediately.

**ADDRESSES:** The ROD is available on the BLM ePlanning project website at <https://go.usa.gov/xP8xc>. Click the Documents and Reports link on the left side of the screen to find the electronic version of these materials. Hard copies of the ROD are also available for public inspection at the BLM Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Quincy Bahr, Greater Sage-Grouse RMP Project Manager; telephone 801-539-4122; address 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101; or by email [qfbahr@blm.gov](mailto:qfbahr@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 Mr. Bahr. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with Mr. Bahr. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM developed the Approved RMPA using its discretion and authority under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) to improve alignment with State management strategies and plans for Greater Sage-Grouse, while continuing to conserve, enhance, and restore Greater Sage-Grouse and its habitat. The Approved RMPA also addressed Sagebrush Focal Areas (SFAs) that were challenged in the Federal District Court in Nevada, who determined that the BLM had violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in designating these SFAs in the 2015 plans.

The BLM developed the Approved RMPA in collaboration with Utah Governor Gary Herbert, State wildlife managers, and other concerned organizations and individuals, largely through the Western Governors Association's Sage-Grouse Task Force. This Approved RMPA is one of six separate plan amendments developed and issued in response to the Secretary's Order (SO) 3353 (Greater Sage-grouse Conservation and Cooperation with Western States) and in accordance with SO 3349 (American Energy

Independence). The amendments refine the previous management plan adopted in 2015 and aim to strike a regulatory balance and build greater trust among neighboring interests in Western communities.

The Utah Greater-Sage Grouse Approved RMPA specifically addresses the following issues: SFA designations; disturbance and density caps; mitigation; modification of habitat objectives; changes to fluid mineral leasing waivers, exceptions, and modification criteria; the need for General Habitat Management Areas; exceptions to Greater Sage-Grouse management within non-habitat portions of Priority Habitat Management Areas; lek buffers; reversing adaptive management responses when the BLM determines that resource conditions no longer warrant those responses; fluid mineral leasing objective; land disposals and exchanges; predation; burial of transmission lines; decisions that require analysis of specific alternatives during implementation; adjustment of habitat boundaries to reflect new information; grazing systems and prioritization of grazing permits; water developments management in relation to water rights; travel and transportation management planning; and surface coal mining. The Approved RMPA amends the following RMPs for BLM-administered lands in Utah:

- Box Elder Resource Management Plan (1986)
- Cedar/Beaver/Garfield/Antimony Resource Management Plan (1986)
- Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan (2000)
- House Range Resource Management Plan (1987)
- Kanab Resource Management Plan (2008)
- Park City Management Framework Plan (1975)
- Pinyon Management Framework Plan (1978)
- Pony Express Resource Management Plan (1990)
- Price Resource Management Plan (2008)
- Randolph Management Framework Plan (1980)
- Richfield Resource Management Plan (2008)
- Salt Lake District Isolated Tracts Planning Analysis (1985)
- Vernal Resource Management Plan (2008)
- Warm Springs Resource Management Plan (1987)

The planning area includes approximately 48,158,700 acres of BLM, National Park Service, United States Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of

Reclamation, State, local, and private lands located in Utah, in 27 counties: Beaver, Box Elder, Cache, Carbon, Daggett, Davis, Duchesne, Emery, Garfield, Grand, Iron, Juab, Kane, Millard, Morgan, Piute, Rich, Salt Lake, Sanpete, Sevier, Summit, Tooele, Uintah, Utah, Wasatch, Wayne, and Weber. Within the decision area, which is limited to the portions of the planning area that are BLM-managed lands, the BLM administers public lands that provide approximately 4.1 million acres of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat, comprised of nearly 2.6 million acres of surface estate and 1.5 million acres of federal mineral estate. Surface management decisions made in the Approved RMPA apply only to lands administered by the BLM in the decision area.

The BLM prepared an EIS in accordance with the NEPA to analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts associated with the proposed action and the alternatives. The ROD approves the Agency's Proposed Plan Amendment identified in the Final EIS. The BLM issued the ROD based on compliance with relevant laws, regulations, policies, and plans, including those guiding agency decisions that may have an impact on resources and their values, services, and functions.

On December 10, 2018, the NOA for the Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Proposed RMPA and Final EIS (83 FR 63527) was published in the **Federal Register**. The publication of the NOA initiated a 30-day protest period for the proposed land-use-planning decision. The protest period was later extended an additional seven days to help account for technical issues the public encountered when submitting protests during the partial Federal government shutdown in January 2019. NOA publication also initiated a simultaneous 60-day consistency review by the Governor of Utah to identify any inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs. At the close of the protest period, the BLM received 8 protests. The BLM Director resolved these protests; individual protest response letters were sent to all protesting parties; and the RMPA was not modified as a result of the protest resolutions. Protest resolutions are contained in the Director's Protest Summary Report, which is available online at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/protest-resolution-reports>. The BLM received the Utah Governor's review response on February 4, 2019. The Governor outlined some points of clarification regarding the implementation of

disturbance and density caps, modification of habitat objectives, and application of sage-grouse lek buffers. His letter also recommended revisions to the 2019 Approved RMPA and ROD to recognize the recent changes to Utah's Conservation Plan for Greater Sage-Grouse, which creates more consistency between Utah's plan and the BLM's Approved RMPA. The State of Utah's disturbance cap in designated sage-grouse habitat was adjusted and set at three percent disturbance above their 2013 baseline, a change made to better align Utah's sage-grouse plan with the BLM's and is highlighted in the ROD. In addition to this change, Utah's plan was also updated to include a "Utah's Habitat Guidelines" table establishing habitat objectives. The BLM's Approved RMPA, Appendix B, has been updated to state that analysis determining impacts on lek persistence will be conducted in coordination with the appropriate State of Utah agency. The BLM also responded to the governor's letter by updating the ROD to document the ongoing coordination required to resolve the consistency issues he identified. In addition to updating the ROD, the BLM will present the field,

district, and monument offices with a table and other implementation materials detailing the changes in the 2019 Approved RMPA and which actions from 2015 Approved RMPA will be affected upon the signing of the ROD.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6.

**Edwin L. Roberson,**

*State Director.*

[FR Doc. 2019-05295 Filed 3-19-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-84-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

**[NPS-WASO-CONC-26526; PPWOBSADC0, PPMVSCS1Y.Y00000]**

#### Notice of Continuation of Concession Contracts

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the terms of existing concession contracts, public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service intends to request a continuation of visitor services for the periods specified below.

**DATES:** The National Park Service intends for the continuation to commence on January 1, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kurt Rausch, Acting Chief, Commercial Services Program, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 2410, Washington, DC 20240, Telephone: 202-513-7156.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The contracts listed below have been extended to the maximum allowable under 36 CFR 51.23. Under the provisions of the respective concession contracts and pending the completion of the public solicitation of a prospectus for a new concession contract, the National Park Service authorizes continuation of visitor services for a period not-to-exceed 1-year commencing January 1, 2019, under the terms and conditions of the current contract as amended. The continuation of operations does not affect any rights with respect to selection for award of a new concession contract. The publication of this notice merely reflects the intent of the National Park Service but does not bind the National Park Service to continue any of the contracts listed below.

Park unit	CONCID	Concessioner
National Mall and Memorial Parks .....	NACC003-86	Guest Services, Inc.
Independence National Historical Park .....	INDE001-94	Concepts by Staib, Ltd.
Cape Hatteras National Seashore .....	CAHA001-98	Koru Village Incorporated.
Cape Hatteras National Seashore .....	CAHA004-98	Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, Inc.
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area .....	GLCA002-88	ARAMARK Sports and Entertainment Services, Inc.
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area .....	GLCA003-69	ARAMARK Leisure Services, Inc.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area .....	LAKE001-73	Rex G. Maughan and Ruth G. Maughan.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area .....	LAKE002-82	Lake Mead R.V. Village, LLC.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area .....	LAKE005-97	Rex G. Maughan and Ruth G. Maughan.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area .....	LAKE006-74	Las Vegas Boat Harbor, Inc.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area .....	LAKE009-88	Temple Bar Marina, LLC.
National Capital Parks Central .....	NACC001-89	Golf Course Specialists, Inc.

Dated: March 12, 2019.

**Lena McDowall,**

*Deputy Director, Management and Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2019-05197 Filed 3-19-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-53-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

**[NPS-WASO-CONC-26525; PPWOBSADC0, PPMVSCS1Y.Y00000]**

#### Notice of Extension of Concession Contracts and Intent To Award Temporary Concession Contract

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service hereby gives public notice that it proposes to extend the expiring concession contracts listed in the table below until the date shown in the "Extension Date" column, or until the effective date of a new contract, whichever occurs sooner. The National Park Service hereby gives public notice that it intends to award one temporary concession contract as described below.

**DATES:** The National Park Service intends for the extensions and temporary concession contract to commence on January 1, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kurt Rausch, Acting Program Chief, Commercial Services Program, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Mail

Stop 2410, Washington, DC 20240, Telephone: 202-513-7156.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All of the concession contracts listed in the first table below will expire by their terms on or before December 31, 2018. The National Park Service intends to extend the concession contracts shown until the specific date shown in the "Extension Date" column, or until the effective date of a new concession contract, whichever occurs first. For the second table, the contract is extended until the date shown in the "Extension Date" column. Under the provisions of current concession contracts, the National Park Service authorizes extension of visitor services for the listed contracts under the terms and conditions of the current contract (as amended if applicable). The extension