DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

PUBLIC LAND ORDER NO. 7832 EXTENSION OF PUBLIC LAND ORDER NO. 7133;

WASHINGTON

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public Land Order.

SUMMARY: This order extends the duration of the withdrawal created by Public Land Order 7133 for an additional 20-year period. This extension is necessary to continue protection of the Brown Mountain, Pal Moore Meadows, Teepee, Cedar Creek, and Flowery Trail Seed Orchards, located in the Colville and Kaniksu National Forests, which will expire on April 12, 2015, unless extended.

DATE: Effective Date: April 13, 2015.


The NPS will execute a Record of Decision not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability for the Final EIS in the Federal Register.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[FR Doc. 2015–08009 Filed 4–7–15; 8:45 am]

Final Environmental Impact Statement for Wilderness Stewardship Plan, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Fresno and Tulare Counties, California

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) has prepared a Wilderness Stewardship Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (Final WSP/EIS). The Final WSP/EIS identifies and analyzes five alternatives that will provide direction for the NPS to make decisions regarding the future use and protection of the Sequoia-Kings Canyon and John Krebs Wilderness within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

DATES: The NPS will execute a Record of Decision not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability for the Final EIS in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Hendricks, Environmental Compliance and Planning Coordinator, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271, (559) 565–3102. Electronic versions of the complete document are available online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seykiwild. Request printed documents or CDs through email (seki_planning@nps.gov) (type “Final WSP/EIS” in the subject line) or telephone (559) 565–3102.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purposes of the WSP/EIS include implementing the long-term vision for protecting wilderness character that is contained in the parks’ Final General Management Plan (GMP)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), as well as enhancing established programs and actions for managing these areas as wilderness. A variety of controversial or long-standing issues are addressed in the WSP/EIS, including visitor capacity, wilderness permitting, party (group) size limits for people and stock, campfire regulations, camping locations and regulations, food-storage requirements, human-waste management, stock access, stock grazing, maintenance of facilities and trails, and management of frontcountry facilities that support wilderness use. The WSP/EIS also analyzes and determines the types and levels of commercial services that may be performed for activities that are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the areas, as required by § 4(d)(5) of the Wilderness Act (Extent Necessary Determination). The WSP/EIS considers five alternatives that would manage the overall character of the parks’ wilderness, including key aspects such as wilderness use levels, access and trails, stock use and grazing, recreational and administrative infrastructure, and the extent to which those activities proper for realizing wilderness purposes may be supported by commercial services. The main differences between these alternatives lie in the key elements of wilderness management—use levels, access and trails, stock use and grazing, and infrastructure, both recreational and administrative. These differences are driven by the different approaches to management that each alternative offers. Each alternative serves visitor and/or operational needs in different ways, and would preserve natural resources in a condition that is consistent with the purposes of the Wilderness Act. Alternative 1 (No-action/Status Quo) would continue to implement the existing Backcountry Management Plan (BMP) and the Stock Use and Meadow Management Plan (SUMMP) to guide wilderness management. The BMP establishes trailhead quotas, a wilderness permit system, and management objectives for campfires, campsites, sanitation, food storage, special-use limits, area closures, stock use and grazing, education and interpretation, trails and travel, signs, commercial operations, ranger stations, administrative policies, and monitoring (e.g., meadows monitoring). The SUMMP establishes the management system and tools for stock use and includes site-specific opening dates for grazing, grazing management, use levels, protection of Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep ewe-lamb ranges, installation of...