

sustainable recreation uses of the two NCAs, through the development of new, non-motorized trails and visitor amenities. In Alternative D of the Draft RMP for the Red Cliffs NCA, the BLM also proposed the designation of a new utility and transportation corridor to accommodate all of the potential highway alignments that Washington County provided to the BLM for the "northern transportation route". Also under Alternative D, rights-of-way could be granted for new utilities, water lines, and associated roads within the designated utility and transportation corridor.

Proposed RMPs and Proposed Amendment and Abbreviated Final EIS

The Proposed RMPs for the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs NCAs and Proposed Amendment to the St. George Field Office RMP are primarily based on the management goals, objectives, and actions identified in the draft plans as the BLM's Preferred Alternative, Alternative B. However, in response to public comments and input from the Cooperating Agencies, other Federal and State agencies, tribal governments, and local governmental entities, components of the other alternatives that were presented in the draft plans and analyzed in the Draft EIS were selected to comprise management decisions in the Proposed RMPs and Proposed Amendment. In some cases, minor edits or clarifications were made and these are shown in italicized text surrounded by brackets in the proposed plans. None of the minor edits or clarifications required modifications to the analysis of the environmental consequences presented in Chapter 4 of the Draft EIS. The BLM has prepared an abbreviated Final EIS to support the Proposed NCA RMPs and Proposed Amendment, consistent with Federal regulations at 40 CFR 1503.4 (c). The resulting Proposed RMPs and Proposed Amendment address the range of public, agency, and governmental concerns about resource management and land uses in the planning area raised during the planning process, and meet the Congressionally-defined purposes of the NCAs and OPLMA's mandates related to public land management in Washington County.

Proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

In accordance with 43 CFR 1610.7-2(b), the Notice of Availability for the Draft RMPs and Draft Amendment/Draft EIS (80 FR 42527, July 17, 2015) announced a concurrent public comment period on proposed ACECs. The Proposed Amendment includes

proposed ACEC designations for the following areas:

South Hills ACEC: (1,950 acres)

- *Value:* Endangered Species Dwarf Bearclaw Poppy (*Arctomecon humilis*) and Holmgren Milkvetch (*Astragalus holmgreniorum*).

- *Limitations on the Following Uses:* Commercial and personal use woodland products harvesting (green wood, dead and down, poles, and Christmas trees) and firewood gathering would be prohibited; closed to mineral materials disposal; managed as exclusion area for linear, site-type, and material site ROWs; closed to native seed, plants, and plant materials harvesting for commercial purposes and personal use; open to fluid mineral leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation; closed to dispersed camping; OHV area designation would be limited to designated roads and trails; and managed as Visual Resources Management (VRM) Class II.

State Line ACEC: (1,410 acres)

- *Value:* Endangered Species Holmgren's Milkvetch and Gierisch Globemallow (*Sphaeralcea gierischii*).

- *Limitations on the Following Uses:* Commercial and personal use woodland products harvesting (green wood, dead and down, poles, and Christmas trees) and firewood gathering would be prohibited; closed to mineral materials disposal; managed as exclusion area for linear, site-type, and material site ROWs; closed to native seed, plants, and plant materials harvesting for commercial purposes and personal use; open to fluid mineral leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation; closed to dispersed camping; OHV area designation would be limited to designated roads and trails; and managed as VRM Class II.

Webb Hill ACEC: (520 acres)

- *Value:* Endangered Species Dwarf Bearclaw Poppy.

- *Limitations on the Following Uses:* Commercial and personal use woodland products harvesting (green wood, dead and down, poles, and Christmas trees) and firewood gathering would be prohibited; closed to mineral materials disposal; managed as exclusion area for linear, site-type, and material site ROWs; closed to native seed, plants, and plant materials harvesting for commercial purposes and personal use; closed to fluid mineral leasing; closed to dispersed camping; OHV area designation would be limited to designated roads and trails; and managed as VRM Class II.

Instructions for filing a protest with the Director of the BLM regarding the

proposed plans may be found in the "Dear Reader" Letter of the Proposed RMPs for the Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area and the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area, and Proposed Amendment to the St. George Field Office RMP/abbreviated Final EIS and at 43 CFR 1610.5-2. All protests must be in writing and mailed to the appropriate address, as set forth in the **ADDRESSES** section above. Emailed protests will not be accepted as valid protests unless the protesting party also provides the original letter, either by regular or overnight mail and it is postmarked by the close of the protest period. Under these conditions, the BLM will consider the emailed protest as an advance copy and it will receive full consideration. If you wish to provide the BLM with such advance notification, please direct emails to protest@blm.gov. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your protest, you should be aware that your entire protest—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your protest to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 40 CFR 1506.10, 43 CFR 1610.2, 43 CFR 1610.5.

Jenna Whitlock,

Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 2016-21185 Filed 9-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Public Meetings for the John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the John Day-Snake Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The John Day-Snake RAC will hold a meeting Friday, October 7, 2016, at the River Lodge and Grill in Boardman, Oregon. The meeting will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A public

comment period will be offered from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Moore, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM Vale District Office, 100 Oregon St., Vale, Oregon 97918, phone (541) 473-6218, or email l2moore@blm.gov. 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 the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS 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 John Day-Snake RAC consists of 15 members, chartered and appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. Their diverse perspectives are represented in commodity, conservation, and general interests. They provide advice to BLM and Forest Service resource managers regarding management plans and proposed resource actions on public land in central and eastern Oregon.

Agenda items for the meeting include a discussion on fees associated with the Snake and Deschutes Rivers. Other topics will be posted along with the agenda on the John Day Snake RAC Web site at: http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/jdrac_meetingnotes.php.

All meetings are open to the public. Information to be distributed to the John Day-Snake RAC is requested prior to the start of each meeting. A public comment period will be offered on October 7, 2016, from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Unless otherwise approved by the John Day-Snake RAC Chairs, the public comment period in each meeting will last no longer than 30 minutes. Each speaker may address the John Day-Snake RAC for a maximum of 5 minutes. A public call-in number for both meeting locations is provided on the John Day-Snake RAC Web site at <http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/jdrac.php>.

Meeting times and the duration scheduled for public comment periods may be extended or altered when the authorized representative considers it necessary to accommodate business and all who seek to be heard regarding matters before the John Day-Snake RAC.

Don Gonzalez,

Vale District Manager.

[FR Doc. 2016-20819 Filed 9-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Proposed Supplementary Rules for the Zortman Ranger Station and Buffington Day Use Area on Public Land in Phillips County Near Zortman, MT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed Supplementary Rules.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Malta Field Office is proposing additional supplementary rules for the Zortman Ranger Station, a historic U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station now administered by the BLM in Zortman, Montana, and Buffington Day Use Area at the Camp Creek Recreation Area. The supplementary rules are necessary to maintain the public health and safety and to protect the environment of the recreation areas. They will help reduce erosion, reduce fire hazards, provide for public safety, prevent damage to natural resources, reduce user conflicts, and increase visitor satisfaction.

DATES: To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the proposed supplementary rules by November 1, 2016. In developing final supplementary rules, the BLM may not consider comments postmarked or received in person or by electronic mail after this date.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed or hand delivered to the BLM Malta Field Office, Attn: Field Manager, 501 South 2nd Street East, Malta, MT 59538. You may also submit comments via email to BLM_MT_Malta_FO@blm.gov or fax to 406-654-5150. Copies of the fee proposal are available at the BLM Malta Field Office, 501 South 2nd Street East, Malta, MT 59538 or on line at: http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/malta_field_office.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vinita Shea, Malta Field Manager, at the above address, or by calling 406-654-5131. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS 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:

Public Comment Procedures

You may mail, email, or hand-deliver comments to the Malta Field Office, at the addresses listed above (See **ADDRESSES**). Written comments on the proposed supplementary rules should be specific and confined to issues pertinent to the proposed rules, and should explain the reason for any recommended change. Where possible, comments should reference the specific section or paragraph of the proposal that the commenter is addressing. The BLM is not obligated to consider, or include in the Administrative Record for the final supplementary rules, comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (See **ADDRESSES**), or comments that the BLM receives after the close of the comment period (See **DATES**), unless they are postmarked or electronically dated before the deadline.

Comments, including names, street addresses, and other contact information for respondents, will be available for public review at the Malta Field Office address listed in the section **ADDRESSES** during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays). Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can 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.

Background

The Zortman Ranger Station, built in 1905, was part of the Lewis and Clark National Forest until 1965, when management of public lands in the area was transferred to the BLM. The site includes the four-room main building, a storage shed, and amphitheater which was built for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration. The main building is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2013, the BLM partnered with the Forest Service's historic preservation team to repair the outside of the main building and landscape the yard to divert runoff which was undermining the foundation. The interior of the building has been inventoried and abated for asbestos and lead paint. The site also features an amphitheater which is used for interpretive presentations.

Buffington Day Use Area is located within the Camp Creek Recreation Area just northeast of Zortman, Montana.