

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

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**Notice of Intent To Collect Fees on
Public Land in Tooele and Rich
Counties, UT**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to applicable provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), the Salt Lake Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to begin collecting fees for overnight camping within two developed campgrounds.

DATES: Effective six months after the publication of this notice, the BLM-Utah, Salt Lake Field Office would initiate fee collection at the Simpson Springs Campground Group Site and at the Little Creek Campground for both single occupancy campsites and group sites, unless the BLM publishes a **Federal Register** notice to the contrary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ray Kelsey, Outdoor Recreation Planner, BLM-Salt Lake Field Office, 2370 South Decker Lake Blvd., West Valley City, Utah 84119, Phone: 801-977-4333, Email: rkelsey@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 leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Utah Resource Advisory Council (RAC), functioning as a Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (RRAC), will review the proposal to charge fees at the two campgrounds. Future adjustments in the fee amount will be made in accordance with the Salt Lake Field Office's publicly-reviewed recreation fee business plan covering the campgrounds. Fee adjustments will be made after consultation with the Utah RRAC and general public support for the proposed fees are documented in conformance with section 6803(c) of the REA.

The two developed camping areas discussed in this notice are: Simpson Springs Campground (T. 9 S., R. 8 W, Sec. 18, SLM) and the Little Creek Campground (T. 11 N., R. 6 E., Sec. 24, SLM). Under section 6802(g)(2) of the REA, the campgrounds listed above

qualify as sites wherein visitors can be charged an "Expanded Amenity Recreation Fee."

Visitors wishing to use the expanded amenities the BLM has developed at Simpson Springs and Little Creek Campgrounds would purchase a Recreation Use Permit as described at 43 CFR 2933. Pursuant to REA and implementing regulations at 43 CFR 2933, fees may be charged for overnight camping and group use reservations where specific amenities and services are provided. Specific visitor fees will be identified and posted at the developed campgrounds. Fees for individual sites at Little Creek Campground must be paid at the self-service pay station located at the camping areas. Fees for the Simpson Springs and Little Creek group sites must be paid for in advance with the Salt Lake Field Office. People holding the "America the Beautiful—The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Senior Pass" or an Annual Access Pass would be entitled to a 50 percent discount on all expanded amenity fees except those associated with group reservations. Fees charged for use of the group sites would include a non-refundable site reservation fee.

The Simpson Springs Campground is located within the Pony Express Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Individual campsite fees have been charged at Simpson Springs for several decades, but a group camping site has not been established until now. Simpson Springs Campground offers a public water system, a toilet, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, and picnic tables.

The Little Creek Campground has existed with individual sites and a group picnic pavilion since the mid-1990s, but BLM has not proposed fees at this location until now. Little Creek Campground offers a public water system, a toilet, an access road, regular patrols, fire rings, tent spaces, refuse containers, and picnic tables.

The BLM is committed to providing and receiving fair market value for the use of developed recreation facilities and services in a manner that meets public use demands, provides quality experiences and protects important resources. The BLM's policy is to collect fees at all specialized recreation sites, or where the BLM provides facilities, equipment or services at Federal expense, in connection with outdoor use as authorized by REA. In an effort to meet increasing demands for services and increased maintenance of developed facilities, the BLM would implement a fee program for the campgrounds. The BLM's mission for

the campgrounds is to ensure that funding is available to maintain facilities and recreational opportunities, to provide for law enforcement presence, and to protect public health and safety and public land resources. This mission entails communication with those who will be most directly affected by the campgrounds such as recreationists, other recreation providers, partners, neighbors, elected officials, and other agencies.

Camping and group use fees would be consistent with other established fee sites in the area including other BLM-administered sites and those managed by the United States Forest Service, National Park Service, and Utah State Parks and Recreation. Future adjustments in the fee amount will be made following the Salt Lake Field Office's recreation fee business plan covering the sites, in consultation with the Utah RRAC and other public stakeholders prior to a fee adjustment.

In December 2004, the REA was signed into law. The REA provides authority for the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to establish, modify, charge, and collect recreation fees for the use of some Federal recreation lands and waters, and contains specific provisions addressing public involvement in the establishment of recreation fees, including a requirement that RRACs or Councils have the opportunity to make recommendations regarding establishment of such fees. The REA also directed the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to publish advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established under their respective jurisdictions. In accordance with the BLM recreation fee program policy, the Salt Lake Field Office's draft Business Plan for Salt Lake Field Office Campgrounds explains the proposal to collect fees at the two campgrounds, the fee collection process, and how the fees will be used at the two campgrounds. The BLM provided the public an opportunity to comment on the draft Business Plan for Salt Lake Field Office Campgrounds from November 10, 2014 through January 12, 2015. The Utah RRAC will review the fee proposals at its next meeting, following REA guidelines. Fee amounts will be posted on-site, on the BLM-Salt Lake Field Office Web site and at the Salt Lake Field Office.

Copies of the business plan will be available at Salt Lake Field Office and the BLM-Utah State Office.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 6803(b).

Jenna Whitlock,
Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 2015-15793 Filed 6-26-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Intent To Amend the Resource Management Plan and Prepare an Associated Environmental Assessment for the Ukiah Field Office, California, To Modify the Boundary of the Knoxville Area of Critical Environmental Concern and Identify Public Lands for Disposal

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ukiah Field Office, Ukiah, California intends to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) amendment with an associated Environmental Assessment (EA) to modify the boundary of the Knoxville Area of Environmental Concern (ACEC) and identify public lands for exchange in Lake, Napa and Yolo Counties. By this notice, the BLM is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the RMP amendment and associated EA. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until 30 days after the date of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through the local news media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: www.blm.gov/ca/ukiah. In order to be included in the analysis, all comments must be received prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. Additional opportunities for public participation will be provided as appropriate.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to the RMP amendment EA by any of the following methods:

- *Mail:* Bureau of Land Management, Ukiah Field Office, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482
- *Fax:* 707-468-4027
- *Email:* blm_ca_ukiah_fo_web@blm.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The BLM Ukiah Field Office, telephone: 707-468-4000; address: Bureau of Land Management, Ukiah Field Office, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482; or email: blm_ca_ukiah_fo_web@blm.gov. Contact Ms. Jonna Hildenbrand to have your name added to our mailing list. 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: This document provides notice that the BLM Ukiah Field Office, Ukiah, California, intends to prepare an RMP amendment with an associated EA to modify the boundary of the Knoxville Area of Critical Environmental Concern and identify public lands for exchange. This notice announces the beginning of the scoping process, and seeks public input on issues and planning criteria. The planning area is located in Lake, Napa, and Yolo counties and encompasses approximately 170 acres of public land.

In 1999, the BLM Ukiah Field Office was approached by Homestake Mining Company of California, about a proposed land exchange. The proposal stated that the BLM would dispose of four non-contiguous, scattered, and mostly non-accessible federal parcels comprising 170 acres in Lake, Napa, and Yolo counties. The BLM would acquire portions of two private parcels comprising approximately 345 acres in Napa County, California.

The BLM initiated the exchange feasibility process in 2000 as required by the BLM's lands and realty policy and regulations. A feasibility analysis report was finalized for the proposed exchange and approved by the BLM California State Director with written concurrence and approval by the BLM Washington Office in 2007. The Record of Decision (ROD) for the Ukiah RMP was signed on September 25, 2006. During preparation of the Ukiah RMP, the BLM lands identified for disposal as part of the land exchange were not clearly depicted on the map. As a result, some of the parcels were mistakenly included within an ACEC.

Accordingly, the BLM is preparing to identify lands that were in the process of disposal prior to, during and after the ROD was signed. The RMP amendment will incorporate new relevant information and program guidance and policies developed since the 2006 ROD.

The proposed exchange would assist in meeting the goals and objectives of the RMP by acquiring willingly offered private lands to consolidate land ownership while also disposing of scattered tracts where federal management for recreation and resource enhancement is impractical. Additionally, this will satisfy agreements created prior to the RMP between all the parties involved in the exchange.

The purpose of the exchange is to acquire private lands to enhance legal public access primarily for recreational opportunities and values which include off highway vehicle use, camping, hunting, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and scenic and wildlife viewing within the Knoxville Recreation Area.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the planning process. Preliminary issues for the plan amendment area have been identified by BLM personnel; Federal, State, and local agencies; and other stakeholders. The issues include recreation management, fire management, and the designation and management of special areas such as ACECs and public lands identified as suitable for disposal through land exchange under section 206 of FLPMA. Preliminary planning criteria include:

1. Compliance with FLPMA, NEPA, and all other applicable laws;
2. Coordination with local and county governments for analysis of economic and social impacts;
3. Government-to-government consultation with federally recognized Tribes;
4. Consideration of cost effectiveness of proposed actions and alternatives; and
5. Consideration of impacts to visitors and resources.

You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria in writing to the BLM at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them to the BLM using one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above. You should submit comments by the close of the 30-day scoping period or within 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later.

The BLM will provide opportunities for public participation as required by NEPA and the National Historic