

required payment. A person or party who wishes to protest against a survey must file a notice that they wish to protest (at the above address) with the Oregon/Washington State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Portland, Oregon.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kyle Hensley, (503) 808-6124, Branch of Geographic Sciences, Bureau of Land Management, 333 SW. 1st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204.

**Fred O'Ferrall,**

*Chief, Branch of Land, Mineral, and Energy Resources.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5175 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-33-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

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LFESFTF60000]

#### Notice of Temporary Closures on Public Lands in Ada and Elmore Counties, ID

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

**ACTION:** Notice of temporary closure.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Big Fire (#FNW4) and Hot Tea Fire (#FTF6) closures to motorized vehicle use are in effect on public lands administered by the Four Rivers Field Office, Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

**DATES:** The closures will be in effect on the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register** and will remain in effect for 2 years or until rescinded or modified by the authorized officer or designated Federal officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terry Humphrey, Four Rivers Field Manager, at 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705, via e-mail at [terry\\_humphrey@blm.gov](mailto:terry_humphrey@blm.gov), or phone (208) 384-3430. 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 individuals 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 Big Fire closure affects public lands located in Ada County, Idaho approximately 3 miles northwest of Eagle, Idaho, which burned on July 28, 2010. The legal description of the affected public lands is:

#### Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 5 N., R. 1 W.,

Secs. 22 through 27, inclusive.

T. 5 N., R. 1 E.,

Sec. 19;

Sec. 30.

The areas described contain approximately 1,920 acres.

The Big Fire closure is necessary because occupied and potential habitat for slickspot peppergrass, a species listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, is at risk from further damage by motorized vehicles. The closure area includes a designated management area for slickspot peppergrass (MA-2C). The closure will allow burned areas to re-establish a vegetative cover which protects the soil from erosion and provides for moisture retention. The closure will help to ensure the long-term viability of slickspot peppergrass plants and their associated habitat in this area.

The Hot Tea closure affects public lands in Elmore County, Idaho, burned August 27-29, 2010, by the Hot Tea Fire, 12 miles northwest of Mountain Home, Idaho. Unburned public lands in the Thorn Creek Pasture (#4) of the Hammett #6 Allotment and north of the powerline in the Lower Bennett Creek Allotment will also be closed. The legal description of the affected public lands is:

#### Boise Meridian, Idaho

T. 2 S., R. 8 E.,

Secs. 24 through 26, inclusive;

Secs. 34 through 35, inclusive.

T. 2 S., R. 9 E.,

Secs. 30 through 31, inclusive.

T. 3 S., R. 8 E.,

Sec. 2;

Secs. 12 through 13, inclusive;

Secs. 24 through 25, inclusive.

T. 3 S., R. 9 E.,

Secs. 5 through 8, inclusive;

Secs. 17 through 20, inclusive;

Secs. 28 through 30, inclusive.

The areas described contain approximately 6,900 acres.

The Hot Tea Fire closure is necessary to protect critical winter habitat for elk and mule deer as well as important sage-grouse habitat. The closure will help to slow the spread of noxious weeds; allow planted shrub, forb, and grass species to become established; and allow existing plants to recover from the effects of the fire. The closure will help ensure the long-term viability of habitat for wildlife populations in the area.

The BLM will post closure signs at main entry points to the closed areas and/or other locations on-site. This closure will also be posted in the BLM Boise District office. Maps of the affected area and other documents associated with this closure are

available at 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705. Under the authority of Section 303(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733(a)), 43 CFR 8360.0-7, and 43 CFR 8364.1, the BLM will enforce the following rule within the Big Fire and Hot Tea Fire closures:

#### Motorized Vehicles Must Not Be Used in the Closed Area

**Exemptions:** The following persons are exempt from this order: Federal, State, and local officers and employees in the performance of their official duties; members of organized rescue or fire-fighting forces in the performance of their official duties; and persons with written authorization from the BLM.

**Penalties:** Any person who violates the above rule may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined no more than \$1,000, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Violators may also be subject to the enhanced fines provided for in 18 U.S.C. 3571.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 8364.1.

**Terry Humphrey,**

*Four Rivers Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5130 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-GG-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[Account No. 3950-SZM]

#### President's Park—Environmental Assessment for Proposed Permanent Roadway Closures, Re-Design of Security Elements, and Preservation of Historic Landscape

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment by the National Park Service and the United States Secret Service, and notice of scoping for re-designing the security elements and preserving the landscape within President's Park South, which includes a portion of E Street, NW., in Washington, DC.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed actions are as follows: The United States Secret Service deciding whether to permanently close (1) the section of E Street, NW. between 15th and 17th Streets, NW., South Executive Avenue, and the Ellipse roadways to unauthorized vehicular traffic, and (2) State Place and West South Executive Avenue and adjacent sidewalks (contiguous to First Division Monument) and Hamilton Place and

East South Executive Avenue and adjacent sidewalks (contiguous to Sherman Park) to unauthorized vehicular and unauthorized pedestrian traffic, and to install durable, more aesthetic security elements in the area to replace the temporary, unsightly security elements currently in place; and the National Park Service deciding on landscape and infrastructure changes to the area that respond to the street closures and re-design of security elements to ensure the iconic historic nature of the landscape that is the White House and its environs and an important destination for visitors.

**DATES:** Comments should be received within 45 days of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted electronically through the NPS' Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) Web site at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/PRPA> (The NPS preferred method of receiving comments), or by mail to: Office of the National Park Service Liaison to the White House, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Room 344, Washington, DC 20242.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The NPS may be contacted at the Office of the National Park Service Liaison to the White House, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20242, (202) 619-6344. To be added to a mailing list about the proposed actions, contact the NPS at (202) 619-6344.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act*, 42 U.S.C. 4321, (NEPA), and applicable regulations and policies, the National Park Service (NPS) and the United States Secret Service (USSS), as joint lead agencies, are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will aid the USSS in deciding whether to permanently close E Street, South Executive Avenue, and the Ellipse roadways within President's Park South to unauthorized vehicular traffic, and State Place and West South Executive Avenue and adjacent sidewalks (contiguous to First Division Monument) and Hamilton Place and East South Executive Avenue and adjacent sidewalks (contiguous to Sherman Park) to unauthorized vehicular and unauthorized pedestrian traffic. The EA will further inform the USSS as it considers replacing existing security elements in the area, such as jersey barriers, provisional guard booths, canopy tents, bike rack, concrete planters and standing canine vehicles. These security elements, while effective, are visually unattractive and may detract from the iconic and historic nature of the area. The USSS would

seek to install security elements that are both durable and more aesthetic at the vehicle checkpoints and along the street closures. The NPS will utilize the EA to assist in its consideration of landscape and infrastructure changes to President's Park South that respond to USSS security requirements and conform to the area's historic features, its iconic status and popularity as a visitor destination. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) is a cooperating agency in this EA and is assisting in the development of potential alternatives by holding a limited competition for design concepts that integrate USSS security requirements and NPS cultural landscape preservation policies and guidelines.

Other government agencies are invited to serve as cooperating agencies. Interested agencies are asked to contact the Office of the National Park Service Liaison to the White House at (202) 619-6344 at the NPS as early as possible in this process. Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), including NHPA Section 106, and other laws and requirements, will be coordinated with this EA process, and government agencies that are affected by the proposed actions or have special expertise will be consulted, whether or not they are cooperating agencies.

This notice also serves as an announcement of scoping on both proposed actions, and comments are sought from the public, government agencies and other interested persons and organizations. Scoping is used to gain insight into the issues to be addressed and to identify other significant issues related to the proposed actions. For comments to be most helpful to the scoping process, they must be received within 45 days of this notice.

During scoping, a public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 31, 2011, to present information and obtain input from attendees. The meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the White House Visitor Center located at 1450 Pennsylvania Avenue South, NW., Washington, DC. At the meeting, the NPS and USSS will describe the proposed actions and how the planning will be conducted, and NCPC will describe the design concepts competition it is conducting. All comments submitted during scoping, including at the meeting, will be considered by both the NPS and USSS. If you require additional information or special assistance to attend and participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the National Park

Service Liaison to the White House at (202) 619-6344.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

There is always the possibility that the NPS and USSS might proceed to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed actions instead of an EA. If this occurs, comments submitted now will be considered for any EIS that is developed.

NEPA regulations and policies encourage agencies to collaborate or otherwise use the same NEPA analysis to avoid duplications of effort, to reduce paperwork, and to prevent delays in decision-making. The proposed actions grow out of needs identified by USSS concerning the level and type of security required for the White House. The NPS and USSS seek to re-design the security elements in this space and preserve the landscape to create a visitor and pedestrian-friendly, elegant and beautiful environment that is respectful of its historic context and iconic status, while continuing to meet USSS security needs. President's Park South is part of the National Park System unit and includes Sherman Park, First Division Monument, the Ellipse and its side panels, as well as the associated roadways in the area. These places, along with other site features, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The NPS manages President's Park South pursuant to its statutory authorities, regulations and policies, the *Comprehensive Design Plan for the White House and President's Park (2000) (Plan)*, the *Design Guidelines for the White House and President's Park (1997)*, and in light of the area's National Register status. The section of E Street, NW. within this park area is also administered by NPS.

Following the events of September 11, 2001, USSS temporarily closed the section of E Street, NW. within President's Park South to unauthorized vehicular traffic. To secure this general area, USSS placed a line of jersey barriers along the southern edge of E Street and installed provisional guard booths, canopy tents, bike rack, concrete planters and standing canine vehicles at vehicle checkpoints at the east and west ends of E Street. A vehicle check point

was also placed at the 16th Street and Constitution Avenue entrance to the Ellipse. Since that time there has been a continued, temporary closure of the roadways to unauthorized vehicular traffic. The USSS will determine whether to change the status of the closure from temporary to permanent and to integrate durable, more aesthetic security elements in place of the temporary security elements identified above.

The intent is to integrate durable, more aesthetic security elements that not only help satisfy the requirement to maintain the historic and iconic character of President's Park South, but also improve the experience of visitors moving through the area to enter or view the White House and its grounds.

The EA will assess a range of alternatives establishing a permanent closure of E Street and associated roadways and the installation of re-designed security elements resulting in changes to the area, along with a no-action alternative for continuing the current closure using the existing, temporary security elements. The *Plan* was developed as an EIS and it will serve as a foundation for this EA, and the EA will also review the *Plan's* treatment of President's Park South.

In 2008, the NCPC Security Task Force recommended, and the NPS and USSS agreed, that NCPC, through its Task Force, would manage a limited competition to generate creative and thoughtful design concepts that incorporate necessary USSS security elements while improving the experience of visitors moving through the area to enter or view the White House and its grounds. The NCPC is a Federal agency whose mission includes serving as the central planning agency for the Federal activities in the greater Washington, DC area. The design concepts generated through this process may become alternatives in the EA.

Dated: December 22, 2010.

**Peggy O'Dell,**

*Regional Director, National Capital Region.*

[FR Doc. 2011-5253 Filed 3-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-54-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### **Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Hold Public Scoping Meetings for the Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Water Shortage Policy (WSP), Central Valley Project (CVP)**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent and public scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region (Reclamation) proposes to prepare an EIS to analyze the potential effects of an update to the M&I WSP. The policy would be implemented by Reclamation during water short years. Reclamation previously developed, in consultation with the CVP M&I Water Service contractors, a draft CVP M&I WSP in 2001, and in 2005 prepared an Environmental Assessment (2005 EA). The 2005 EA was published on October 2005 and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed in December 2005. The 2001 M&I WSP was modified by, and is being implemented in accordance with, Alternative 1B in the 2005 EA.

Since the publication of the 2005 EA, Reclamation received additional comments from several CVP water service contractors. The contractors expressed a need for clarity on certain aspects of the 2001 M&I WSP, as modified. Other comments received by Reclamation suggested consideration of alternatives to the 2001 M&I WSP. The comments coupled with recent significant changes in the Bay-Delta and CVP/State Water Project operations, has impelled Reclamation to evaluate alternatives and provide an M&I WSP that best recognizes the needs of various segments of the water user community and how those needs could be addressed in times of water shortages.

**DATES:** Written comments on the scope of the EIS will be accepted until May 9, 2011.

Four public scoping meetings will be held to solicit public input on the scope of the environmental document, alternatives, concerns, and issues to be addressed in the EIS. The scoping meeting dates are:

- Monday, March 21, 2011, 2-4 p.m., Sacramento, CA.
- Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 6-8 p.m., Willows, CA.
- Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 6-8 p.m., Fresno, CA.
- Thursday, March 24, 2011, 6-8 p.m., Oakland, CA.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments on the scope of the M&I WSP EIS to Tamara LaFramboise, Natural Resource Specialist, Mid-Pacific Regional Office, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, MP-410, Sacramento, CA 95825; or e-mail [tlaframboise@usbr.gov](mailto:tlaframboise@usbr.gov).

Scoping meetings will be held at:

- Sacramento—Best Western Expo Inn and Suites, 1413 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825.
- Willows—Veteran's Memorial Hall Building of Willows, 525 W. Sycamore Street, Willows, CA 95988.
- Fresno—Piccadilly Inn Express, 5115 E. McKinley Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727.
- Oakland—Red Lion Hotel Oakland International Airport, 150 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA 94621.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Rust, Program Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, via e-mail at [trust@usbr.gov](mailto:trust@usbr.gov) or at (916) 978-5516; or Mike Chotkowski, Chief, Division of Environmental Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation, via e-mail at [mchotowski@usbr.gov](mailto:mchotowski@usbr.gov) or at (916) 978-5025.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The CVP is operated under Federal statutes authorizing the CVP, and by the terms and conditions of water rights acquired pursuant to California law. During any year, constraints may occur on the availability of CVP water for M&I water service contractors. The cause of the water shortage may be drought, unavoidable causes, or restricted operations resulting from legal and environmental obligations or mandates. Those legal and environmental obligations include, but are not limited to, the Endangered Species Act, the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), and conditions imposed on CVP's water rights by the California State Water Resources Control Board. The 2001 M&I WSP, as modified, establishes the terms and conditions regarding the constraints on availability of water supply for the CVP M&I water service contracts.

Allocation of CVP water supplies for any given water year is based upon forecasted reservoir inflows and Central Valley hydrologic conditions, amounts of storage in CVP reservoirs, regulatory requirements, and management of Section 3406(b)(2) resources and refuge water supplies in accordance with CVPIA. In some cases, M&I water shortage allocations may differ between CVP divisions due to regional CVP water supply availability, system capacity, or other operational constraints.