

plan. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plan, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individualized responses to comments will not be provided.

The subspecies being considered in this recovery plan is the Hawaiian hoary bat, *Lasiurus cinereus semotus*. It is known from the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Oahu Kauai, and Molokai. Population numbers are not known, but Hawaiian hoary bats are observed regularly only on Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the bat is apparently restricted in distribution on the latter two islands. There is a general lack of historic and current data on this subspecies, and its present status is not well understood. Habitat requirements for the Hawaiian hoary bat are not well known. Bats are most often observed foraging in open areas, near the edges of native forests, or over open water. Hawaiian hoary bats roost solitarily in trees. Habitat requirements may vary seasonally, but this is not clear. Threats to this subspecies include habitat destruction (elimination of roosting sites), and possibly direct and indirect effects of predation, pesticides, introduced insects, and disease.

The objective of the actions proposed by this recovery plan is to delist the Hawaiian hoary bat. Interim goals include determining the abundance, distribution, and habitat needs of this subspecies. Interim criteria for downlisting the Hawaiian hoary bat to threatened status are also identified.

Delisting and downlisting decisions cannot be made without a basic understanding of the Hawaiian hoary bat's distribution, abundance, and habitat needs. Research addressing these questions must be undertaken prior to consideration of delisting or downlisting.

Downlisting Objectives

A widespread population of Hawaiian hoary bats must be naturally reproducing and stable or increasing in size on the island of Hawaii for a minimum of 5 consecutive years before downlisting is considered.

Delisting Objectives

Hawaiian hoary bat populations on Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui must be well-distributed, naturally reproducing, and stable or increasing in size for at least 5 consecutive years before delisting is considered.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of this plan.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: September 15, 1997.

Thomas J. Dwyer,

Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1.

[FR Doc. 97-25424 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-050-1220-00]

Closure of Public Lands

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Closure of public lands, roads and trails in Fremont County, CO.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that effective October 1, 1997 that certain public lands, including all existing roads and trails, east of Badger Creek in Fremont County are closed to all types of motor vehicle (including but not limited to 4x4, ATVs, and motorcycles) travel. The purpose of this closure is to prevent further disturbance to soils and vegetation in and near the riparian area, reduce sedimentation into Badger Creek, and stop the expansion of user-created trails in the area. This closure is made under the authority of 43 CFR 8364.1. The public lands affected by this emergency closure are specifically identified as follows: Fremont County, Colorado.

New Mexico Principal Meridian

T. 49 N., R. 10 E.,
Sec. 22 east of Badger Creek
Sec. 23 N¹/₂
Sec. 24 N¹/₂ west of BLM Road 5980
Sec. 13 S¹/₂ west of BLM Road 5980
Sec. 14 SE¹/₄ (locally known as Bloody Gulch and/or Rattlesnake Canyon).

DATES: Effective October 1, 1997 and will remain in effect unless revised, revoked or amended.

ADDRESSES: Bureau of Land Management, Canon City District Office, 3170 East Main Street, Canon City, Colorado 81212; Telephone (719) 269-8500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Levi Deike, Area Manager, Royal Gorge Resource Area at the above address and

phone number or John Nahomenuk, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, P.O. Box 126, Salida, CO 81201; (719) 539-7289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This closure does not apply to emergency, law enforcement, and federal or other government vehicles while being used for official or emergency purposes, or to any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized or otherwise officially approved by BLM. Violation of this order is punishable by fine and/or imprisonment as defined in 18 USC 3571. A copy of this **Federal Register** Notice and map showing the closure area is posted in the Canon City District Office and in public places in the affected area.

Stuart L. Freer,

Associate District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-25475 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-220-1060-00-24 1A]

Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board; Re-opening of Public Call for Nominations

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Re-opening of Public Call for Nominations for the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

SUMMARY: This notice is published in accordance with Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.). Notice is hereby given that the public call for nominations for membership on the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board is being re-opened for a 30-day period to ensure that all interested parties have had an adequate opportunity to submit nominations for board membership.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. Individuals may also nominate themselves for Board membership. Nominations that have already been made do not have to be resubmitted. All nomination letters should include the name, address, profession, relevant biographic data, and reference sources for each nominee, and should be sent to the address below.

Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:

Wild horse and burro advocacy group
Wild horse and burro research
(especially genetics and population biology)

Veterinary medicine (equine science)
Natural resources management
(especially rangeland science)
Humane organization
Wildlife management
Livestock management
Public-at-large.

The specific category that the nominee will represent should be identified in the letter of nomination.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below no later than October 27, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Fox, Bureau of Land Management, LS 314, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, telephone (202) 452-7744. Internet: j1fox@wo.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will be to advise the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Chief of the Forest Service on matters pertaining to management and protection of wild free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

Board membership shall be balanced in terms of categories of interest represented. Each member will be a person who, as a result of training and experience, has knowledge or special expertise that qualifies him or her to provide advice from among the categories of interest listed above. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act, members of the Board shall not be employees of Federal or State Government.

Members will serve without salary, but will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees.

The Board will meet no less than two times annually. Additional meetings may be called by the Director, Bureau of Land Management, in connection with special needs for advice.

Dated: September 19, 1997.

Tom Fry,
Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 97-25469 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-020-1020-00]

Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Montana, Miles City District, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Miles City District Resource Advisory Council will have a meeting Wednesday, October 22, 1997 at 8:00 a.m. at the Big Horn Restaurant meeting room in Lovell, Wyoming. On October 23 the Council will participate in a field trip to the Pryor Mountains.

Topics of discussion at the meeting will be an overview of the management and gather plan for the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, access, and updates on current BLM projects including the alluvial valley floor coal exchange.

The meeting is open to the public and the public comment period is set for 12:30 p.m. The public may make oral statements before the Council or file written statements for the Council to consider. Depending on the number of persons wishing to make an oral statement, a per person time limit may be established. Summary minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marilyn Krause, Public Affairs Specialist, Miles City District, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, Montana 59301, telephone (406) 233-2831.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management. The 15 member Council includes individuals who have expertise, education, training or practical experience in the planning and management of public lands and their resources and who have a knowledge of the geographical jurisdiction of the Council.

Dated: September 17, 1997.

Timothy M. Murphy,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-25472 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-070-1230-00]

Castle Peak Area Travel Management Designations and Use Restrictions

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of change in off highway vehicle use designations, and area closure and use restrictions.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given on changes in the off highway vehicle use designations and travel related rules of conduct on approximately 119,631 acres

of public land administered by the Grand Junction District, Glenwood Springs Resource Area of the Bureau of Land Management. This order closes public lands in the Bull Gulch and Castle Peak Wilderness Study Areas to use and operation of all motorized and mechanized vehicles, limits use of said vehicles to designated routes on all other public lands in the Castle Peak planning area, and prohibits use of motorized vehicles in specified areas during the fall and winter seasons. The motorized and mechanized travel designations and use restrictions are established pursuant 43 CFR 8341.2(a), and 43 CFR 8464.1. These designations and use restrictions modify current designations established in the Glenwood Springs Resource Area Resource Management Plan, record of decision signed in January 1984, and supersede general rules of conduct for recreational use of public lands in the affected area.

The affected public lands are bounded by the Colorado River, Eagle River and Highway 131 and are located in Townships 2, 3, 4, and 5 South, Ranges 83, 84, 85 and 86 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Eagle County, Colorado.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The designations will be effective as of the date of approval of the Castle Peak Travel Management Plan. The use restrictions shall be effective as of September 15, 1997 until rescinded or modified by the Authorized Officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public lands in the Castle Peak area contain important and fragile resource values and provide a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. Changes in the current travel designations are needed to protect erosive soils, wintering wildlife habitat, sensitive water quality management areas, cultural resources, important scenic values, semi-primitive non-motorized settings, and wilderness values. Growing recreational use in the area is expected to continue, and travel management is needed to prevent conflicts between users and unacceptable impacts on resource values, while continuing to provide a variety of recreational opportunities.

These travel designations and use restrictions are the result of the Castle Peak Travel Management Plan. Public comments were received throughout the planning process beginning in April 1996, which included scoping of the issues and potential solutions, review of alternatives and the plan proposed in September 1996, and review of the final plan with record of decision approved