



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Southern Nevada District Office
4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89130
<http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.1.html>

In Reply Refer To:
6300 (NVS0052)

NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED ACTION **LANDS OF THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM**

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to inform all affected or interested persons or organizations about any proposed action or unauthorized activity occurring within BLM Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas. The following information is in regards to a proposal from the BLM Southern Nevada District to write a programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to conduct restoration of unauthorized disturbances within fifteen designated Wilderness areas throughout southern Nevada.

Background

The Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 designated thirteen new wilderness areas which are administered entirely or in part by the BLM, Southern Nevada District Office (SNDO). In 2004 the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act designated additional wilderness, portions of two of which are also administered by the SNDO. An inventory of existing unauthorized disturbances, including vehicle routes closed by the wilderness legislation, as well as small site disturbances within the fifteen designated wilderness areas has been initiated. These disturbances do not meet the goals of managing wilderness so as to appear "primarily affected by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."

Locations

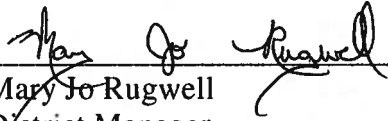
Arrow Canyon Wilderness	Eldorado Wilderness
Ireteba Peaks Wilderness	Jumbo Springs Wilderness
La Madre Mountain Wilderness	Lime Canyon Wilderness
Meadow Valley Range Wilderness	Mormon Mountains Wilderness
Mt. Charleston Wilderness	Muddy Mountains Wilderness
North McCullough Wilderness	Rainbow Mountain Wilderness
South McCullough Wilderness	Spirit Mountain Wilderness
Wee Thump Joshua Tree Wilderness	

Proposed Action

The Programmatic EA will provide site-specific direction for restoration of closed vehicle routes and small site-disturbances back to a natural and undeveloped condition. Vehicle routes include those linear disturbances created by motorized vehicle traffic. Small site disturbances include dispersed campsites and mining activities. This EA will cover specific activities on known and existing disturbances, as well as provide guidelines for future restoration activities on as yet undocumented or new disturbances. All restoration activities would be completed with the use of hand tools. The proposed action does not involve any of the Wilderness Act 4(c) prohibited uses (i.e. motor vehicles, motorized equipment, and mechanical transport).

Please submit comments, with "Programmatic Restoration" in the subject line, to the District Manager for consideration and use in evaluating and processing the proposed action at the address below. Alternately, comments may be sent to lvwilderness@blm.gov. All comments must be received by the closing date of this comment period on March 2, 2012. Environmental and minimum tool analysis will be completed and a final decision on the proposed action is expected by April 2012, with implementation beginning thereafter. If you have any questions regarding this notification please contact Matt Hamilton, Project Manager at 702-515-5157.

Sincerely,



Mary Jo Rugwell
District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Southern Nevada District Office
4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89130