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[Notices]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management
[CA-360-1220-00]

Closure and Restriction Orders

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

ACTION: Firearm use restrictions for certain public lands within Shasta County, California.

SUMMARY: The BLM is restricting the use of firearms on certain public lands located within the Lower Clear Creek Greenbelt in Shasta County, California. All current and future BLM land located within the Lower Clear Creek Greenbelt within portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 6 West, sections 10, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36; portions of M.D.M. Township 30 North, Range 6 West, section 1; portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 5 West, sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, and portions of the San Buenaventura Land Grant within the Bottomlands area; portions of M.D.M. Township 30 North, Range 5 West, sections 5 and 6; are closed to firearm shooting. Firearm shooting is defined as the discharge of any pistol, firearm, airgun, musket or instrument of any kind, character or description, which throws a bullet or missile for any distance by means of the elastic force of air, except that use being conducted under the auspices of hunting.

All current and future BLM land located within the Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve and the Clear Creek Bottomlands within portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 6 West, section 36 (east of Clear Creek and north of Clear Creek Road, and all BLM land south of Clear Creek Road); portions of M.D.M. Township 30 North, Range 6 West, section 1; portions of M.D.M. Township 30 North, Range 5 West, sections 5 and 6; portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 5 West, sections 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, and

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portions of land within the San Buenaventura Land Grant within the Bottomlands area are closed to hunting. Hunting is defined as the lawful pursuit or take of birds and mammals under regulations adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission under the authority of the California Fish and Game Code.

All current and future BLM land located within the Cloverdale Canyon area that are located south of Placer Road and east of Clear Creek within portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 6 West, sections 25 and 26 are closed to hunting. Hunting is defined as the lawful pursuit or take of birds and mammals under regulations adopted

by the California Fish and Game Commission under the authority of the California Fish and Game Code.

All current and future BLM land located west of Clear Creek within the Cloverdale Canyon area within portions of M.D.M. Township 31 North, Range 6 West, sections 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 (west of Clear Creek and north of Clear Creek Road) are closed to firearm hunting except for shotgun hunting. Maps showing the exact boundaries of the restriction areas are available at the BLM office in Redding, California.

BACKGROUND: The BLM prepared an environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) which analyzed the impacts of firearm use on BLM lands within the Lower Clear Creek Greenbelt. The EA and FONSI were prepared in response to a request for action from a Firearm-Use Subcommittee of the Lower Clear Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan. The Subcommittee was composed of a diverse group of citizens including landowners, sportsmen, and other recreational users.

Restrictions analyzed within the EA are necessary to improve consistency with adjoining Federal lands and City of Redding restrictions under Redding City Code 7.04.090 and 10.58.010 which prohibit firearm shooting and hunting within the Redding City limits. The authority for these closures and rule makings is 43 CFR 8364.1. Any person who fails to comply with a closure order or rule making is subject to arrest and fines of up to \$100,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

DATES: These restrictions will take effect March 26, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles M. Schultz, Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, CA 96002.

Charles M. Schultz,
Redding Area Manager.

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