



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

California State Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W1834  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
[www.ca.blm.gov](http://www.ca.blm.gov)



## Bureau of Land Management Report to the California State OHV Commission

Presentations will be given by:

**Jane Arteaga – California OHV / Travel Management Lead**

**Este Stifel- Central California Desert District Manager**

**Amanda James – Ukiah Field Office Manager**

### **BLM DESERT DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

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The Bureau of Land Management will hold a field tour and public meeting of the BLM California Desert District Advisory Council, starting with the field tour on Friday, June 28, from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, and followed by a formal meeting session on Saturday, June 29, from 9 am to 4 pm, at the Ramada Inn, 1511 East Main Street, Barstow, California 92311.

Advisory Councils provide recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior on resource and land management issues. The BLM maintains 38 chartered advisory committees located in the West. Advisory Committees are sounding boards for BLM initiatives, regulatory proposals and policy changes. Each citizen-based council consists of 10 to 15 members from diverse interests in local communities, and play a key role in allowing the BLM to continue to be a good neighbor in the communities we serve.

## **BLM WILL REOPEN SOUTH COW MOUNTAIN OHV MANAGEMENT AREA ON JUNE 3**

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**UKIAH, Calif.** – The South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area near Ukiah will reopen to the public Monday, June 3, after a closure for repairs related to last summer’s Mendocino Complex wildfire.

“Our staff, volunteers and contractors have been working hard to get the area ready for use,” said BLM Ukiah Field Office Manager Amanda James. “Fire damage to trails and facilities was extensive and winter rains were a challenge, but we are happy to again offer off-road riding opportunities to the public. We are grateful for hundreds of hours of volunteer work.”

James cautioned that some motorized-use trails will remain closed because of burned bridges, washouts and hazard trees. She urged users to pay attention to signs and stay off of closed routes for safety and to protect natural resources. Visitors should use only signed roads and trails and avoid driving on bulldozer fire lines.

“Visitors can expect to see fallen trees on some trails,” James said. “We would appreciate visitors letting us know about maintenance issues.”

The South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area provides more than 100 miles of trails for motorcycles, all-terrain recreation vehicles and four-wheel-drive trucks and utility vehicles. There are trails for riders and drivers of all abilities.



More information is available by contacting the BLM Ukiah Field Office at 707-468-4000.

## BLM SEEKS CALIFORNIA DESERT ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

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**MORENO VALLEY, Calif.** – The Bureau of Land Management’s California Desert District is soliciting nominations from the public for five members of its California Desert Advisory Council to serve three-year terms. The council’s 15 members provide advice and recommendations to the BLM on the management of more than 10-million acres of public lands in eight counties of southern California.



As published in the Federal Register, the BLM will consider nominations until June 14. Five vacancies are open for the 2019 Call for Nominations, including one vacancy for category one; three vacancies for category two; and one vacancy for category three.

The California Desert District has positions open in the following categories:

- Category One – Representatives of organizations associated with energy/mineral development; federal grazing permit holders; the timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; off-highway vehicle users; and commercial and developed outdoor recreation.
- Category Two – Representatives of archeological and historic organizations; dispersed recreation users; wild horse and burro organizations; and nationally or regionally-recognized environmental organizations.
- Category Three – Representatives of state, county, or local elected office; Indian tribes located within or adjacent to the area for which the DAC is organized; academicians employed in natural resource management or natural sciences; employees of a state agency responsible for management of natural resources; and the public at large.

The BLM maintains 38 such advisory committees formally chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Federal Policy and Land Management Act across the West, including the DAC, where most BLM-managed land is located. The DAC meets in formal session two to three times a year throughout the California Desert District. Members serve three-year terms and may be nominated for reappointment for an additional three-year term. Council members serve without compensation other than travel expenses.

The Secretary selects council nominees consistent with the requirements of Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which require nominees appointed to the council be balanced in terms of points of view and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands within the area for which the council is established.

The diverse membership of each DAC member helps ensure that BLM land managers receive the varying perspectives they need to achieve their mission of managing the public lands for multiple uses.

“The California Desert Advisory Council provides the BLM with vital feedback on current issues, concerns and proposals, and enables us to engage local communities and stakeholders to improve our management of public lands,” said BLM Acting State Director Joe Stout. “Our goal is to ensure the DAC members encompass a wide variety of perspectives and backgrounds to guide our work as effectively as possible.”

Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on the DAC. Nominees, who must be residents of the state or states where the DAC has jurisdiction, will be reviewed on the basis of their training, education, and knowledge of the council’s geographic area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from any represented interests or organizations, a completed DAC application, and any other information that speaks to the nominee’s qualifications.

Any group or individual may nominate a qualified person based upon education, training and knowledge of the BLM, the California Desert, and the issues involving BLM-administered public lands throughout southern California. Nominations must include letters of support. The nomination form is on the Desert Advisory Council webpage at [https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/get-involved-rac-near-you-california-california-desert-district-DAC\\_Nomination.pdf](https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/get-involved-rac-near-you-california-california-desert-district-DAC_Nomination.pdf).

As published in a notice in today’s Federal Register, the BLM will consider nominations for 45 days. For more information on the California Desert Advisory Council, contact Sarah K. Webster, Bureau of Land Management, at 916-978-4622, or email [swebster@blm.gov](mailto:swebster@blm.gov).

## **IMPERIAL SAND DUNES RECREATION AREA - CALIFORNIA**

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May 16 at 3:33 PM ·

#PublicLandsInfrastructure: BLM's Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area, United Desert Gateway and Imperial Irrigation District repaved the Osborne Overlook parking lot for Imperial Sand Dunes or #Glamis where on a busy holiday there's upward of 200,000 off-road visitors.





## **BLM RELEASES FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS FOR THE WEST MOJAVE ROUTE NETWORK PROJECT**

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The proposed project prepared in response to public comments aims to minimize land use conflicts, balance public access and protection of resources.

**MORENO VALLEY, Calif.** – In keeping with the Administration’s effort to increase recreational access and to promote shared stewardship of public lands, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment for the West Mojave Route Network Project (WMRNP).

The route network accesses approximately 3.1 million acres of BLM-managed public lands in the western portion of the Mojave Desert, including parts of San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Riverside, Kern, and Inyo counties. The entire planning area covers 9.4 million acres of the California Desert Conservation Area, which includes lands managed by federal, private and military entities. The BLM prepared the WMRNP Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment and Final Supplemental EIS to comply with a U.S. District Court Order.

The route network project provides increased access to recreation areas and points of interests, connectivity, and consistency across jurisdictional boundaries. It addresses the need for public, authorized and administrative access to and across BLM-managed lands, including motorized, non-motorized and non-mechanized modes of travel. It also eliminates parallel and redundant routes and allows restoration to address use impacts and improve resource conditions.



The route network project aligns with Secretarial Orders 3347, 3356 and 3366, increasing outdoor recreational opportunities, advancing conservation stewardship and restoring trust as a good neighbor through sound travel management of public lands.

The announcement in the Federal Register on the motorized route network designation and implementation strategy opens a 30-day protest period, which will run through May 28, 2019. The Final Supplemental EIS and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment are now available on ePlanning at <https://bit.ly/2Zz246b>. To submit a protest electronically, go to the ePlanning project web page and follow the instructions at the top of the home page. Anyone who participated in the planning process for the West Mojave Route Network Project and who has an interest that is, or may be, adversely affected by the proposed land use plan amendment in the Final Supplemental EIS will have the opportunity to protest the proposed plan amendments. The California governor also has 60 days to review the proposed land use plan amendment for consistency with state and local laws and regulations.

All protests must be in writing and mailed to the appropriate address or submitted electronically through the BLM ePlanning project website. If submitting a protest in hard copy, it must be mailed to BLM Director (210), Attention: Protest Coordinator, WO-210, P.O. Box 71383,

Washington, D.C. 20024-1383; or by overnight Delivery to: BLM Director (210), Attention: Protest Coordinator, WO-210, 20 M Street SE, Room 2134LM, Washington, D.C. 20003.

Before including addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or other personal identifying information in a comment, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may ask the BLM to withhold personal identifying information from public review, the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

## **IMPROVEMENTS ON WILEY’S WELL CAMPGROUND – PALM SPRINGS FIELD OFFICE**

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May 21 at 11:32 AM ·

#PublicLandsInfrastructure: Located in the lower Colorado Desert in eastern Riverside County, Wiley's Well Campground is known for easy 4-wheel drive access to nearby rock-hounding sites like Hauser Geode Beds and Opal Hill Fire Agate Mine. The historic Bradshaw Trail National Scenic Byway provides access to numerous trails, gem and mineral collection sites, and an historic stage route/mining area. BLM recently completed a campground renovation and improvement project.



## **BLM OPENING CAMPGROUNDS, RECREATION SITES FOR SPRING AND SUMMER SEASONS**

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**SUSANVILLE, Calif.** – Campgrounds and recreation areas on Bureau of Land Management public lands in northeast California are now opening for the spring and summer recreation seasons.

“These recreation sites are in beautiful locations. They provide great settings for families to enjoy their public lands,” said Brian Novosak, manager of the BLM Eagle Lake Field Office in Susanville.



The Hobo Camp Day Use Area just west of Susanville is now open during daylight hours. There is no fee. Visitors enjoy good access to the Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail, the Southside Trail, and to fishing and swimming areas in the Susan River. To reach the area, take Richmond Road in Susanville south to the intersection with South Street, turn right, and follow signs.

The North Eagle Lake Campground near the junction of California Route 139 and Lassen County Route A1 will open May 18. There are 20 developed campsites, including RV and trailer sites, available on a first-come, first-served basis. To get there from Susanville take Highway 139 North about 30 miles, turn left at County Route A1 and watch for the campground on the right.

The BLM also offers Eagle Lake shoreline camping at Rocky Point along Route 139. The area is best suited for fully self-contained camping. There is no fee. To get there from Susanville take Route 139 north about 30 miles. Turn left on County Route A1 and continue about 10 miles to Lakeside Drive and turn left. Continue to the end of the pavement and follow signs to Rocky Point.

Camping for off-road recreation enthusiasts is available at the Fort Sage Off Highway Vehicle Recreation near Doyle, Calif., at the Rice Canyon OHV area near Susanville, and at the Dry Valley OHV area east of Wendel, Calif. Information is available by telephoning the Eagle Lake Field Office, 530-257-0456.

Information about camping and other recreation opportunities offered by the Eagle Lake Field Office is available online at <https://www.blm.gov/office/eagle-lake-field-office>.