

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Lynn Pettit, Project Manager, at (702) 635-4000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Battle Mountain Gold Mining Company has recently submitted a proposal to develop a mining facility at the south end of the Battle Mountain Range, in Lander County, Nevada, approximately 15 miles southwest of Battle Mountain. The proposed mining development will involve an expansion of the current heap leaching and tailings facilities, and a new mill. One extracted from proposed open pits will be processed for gold recovery by milling and heap leaching processes. Dewatering will be necessary in order to mine several of the proposed open pits. To prevent anticipated pit lake quality problems due to the composition of the host rock in one of the pits, Battle Mountain Gold is proposing a permanent ground water conveyance system that would begin at an entry way within the pit, travel downgradient through an underground drainage system to a portal opening and from there travel via an above ground channel to a location that would serve as an infiltration basin and/or wetland. The majority of the waste rock will be partially, or completely, backfilled into open pits and used to cap existing copper leach run-of-mine dumps. The total land disturbance (private + public) over the life of the mine could reach 1,909 acres. Land previously disturbed by mining related activity would make up 1,278 of these acres.

Potentially significant and significant direct, indirect, cumulative and residual impacts from the proposal will be analyzed in the EIS. Significant issues to be addressed in the EIS include those relating to air quality, surface and ground water resources, geochemistry, reclamation, and social and economic values, and cumulative impacts. Additional significant issues to be addressed may arise during the scoping process. Federal, state, and local agencies and other individuals or organizations who may be interested in or affected by the BLM's decision on this plan of operation are invited to participate in the scoping process.

Dated: January 30, 1995.

**Michael C. Mitchel,**

*Acting District Manager.*

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[ID-056-1610-00]

**Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Bennett Hills Draft Resource Management Plan and Amendment to the Jarbridge Resource Management Plan, Idaho**

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

**ACTION:** The Shoshone District Bureau of Land Management announces the intent to prepare a supplement to the Bennett Hills Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and Amendment to the Jarbridge Resource Management Plan.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 40 CFR 1502.9(c) implementing the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969*, the Bureau of Land Management's Idaho State Director has determined the need to prepare a supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Bennett Hills Draft Resource Management Plan issued for public comment on April 1, 1994. This action is taken to allow the agency to fully consider and incorporate comments received on the draft.

**DATES:** No date has been set for the release of the Supplement. Notification of release will be made in the **Federal Register** and local news media. The Supplement will be circulated for an additional 90-day public comment period.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Project Manager William H. West, Shoshone District Bureau of Land Management, P.O. 2-B, Shoshone, Idaho 83352, telephone (208) 886-7203.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 20, 1990, the Shoshone District Bureau of Land Management published a Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Bennett Hills Resource Area. On March 25, 1992, the Boise District of the Bureau of Land Management published a Notice of Intent to prepare an Amendment to the Jarbridge Resource Management Plan to be incorporated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Bennett Hills Draft Resource Management Plan. On April 1, 1994, a Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was published in the **Federal Register** and the public was invited to comment.

The public comment period ended on July 1, 1994, with 170 comment letters received containing over 400 individual comments. The comments identified new actions, standards and guidelines not contained in the Draft. The

comments include specific suggestions for livestock management prescriptions in riparian areas, proposals for new Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and land exchanges to accommodate recent community expansion needs that were not contained or analyzed in the Draft.

The comments also provided clarity and focus to the public's desires and needs not found in the original scoping for the Draft in 1990. At the time of the original scoping, five open houses were held at different locations in the valley; however, less than 30 people attended and, despite concerted efforts to solicit public opinion, only 66 total comments were received during the formal scoping period. The scoping comments were very broad in nature and often dealt with general BLM policy questions not directed toward actions within the jurisdiction of the RMP. Comments received on the Draft were directed toward management actions on the planning area and within the scope of a Resource Management Plan decision. Additionally, because of the long lag time from the scoping to the publication of the Draft, the public's wishes for management of the public land had changed.

Dated: January 31, 1995.

**Robert D. Cordell,**

*Area Manager, Bennett Hills Resource Area.*

[FR Doc. 95-3274 Filed 2-8-95; 8:45 am]

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[CO-056-1430-00]

**Seasonal Road Closure**

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

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given in accordance with 43 CFR 8364.1(a) Closure and Restriction. Pursuant to 43 CFR 8364.1 the following Bureau of Land Management (BLM) roads in Conejos, Rio Grande, and Saquache Counties will be temporarily closed to motorized vehicle use to protect roads and fragile resources during the wet conditions of the spring thaw.

**Conejos County:** Cumbres Toltec Rd. (#5035), Bighorn Rd. (#5041), Las Mestas Rd. (#5048), Poso Loop Rd. (#5046), RaJadero Rd. (#5065), Posito Creek Rd. (#5075), Capulin Peak Rd. (#5060) and Cinder Pits Rd. (#5055).

**Rio Grande County:** Bronson Peak Rd. (#5100), Spring Gulch Rd. (#5105), and the Nine Mile Road access onto BLM Rd. #5100.

**Saquache County:** Poncha Loop Rd. (#5325), Clover Creek Rd. (#5330), Dorsey Creek Rd. (#5331), Noland Gulch Loop Rd. (#5305), Clayton Cone Rd.