

parcel being offered to the apparent high bidder or declared unsold, if no bids were received in the initial round of bidding.

Unsold Competitive Procedures

Unsold competitive procedures will be used after a parcel has been unsuccessfully offered for sale by competitive or modified competitive procedures.

Unsold parcels will be offered competitively on a continuous basis until sold. Under competitive procedures for unsold parcels the highest valid bid received during the preceding month will be declared the purchaser. Sealed bids will be accepted and held until the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. PST when they will be opened. Openings will take place every month until the parcels are sold or withdrawn from sale.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the Burns District Office, no later than 2:00 p.m. PST on Wednesday, March 8, 2000, the time of the bid opening and oral auction. The outside of bid envelopes must be clearly marked with "BLM Land Sale," the parcel number and the bid opening date. Bids must be for not less than the appraised market value (minimum bid). Separate bids must be submitted for each parcel. Each sealed bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, postal money order, bank draft, or cashier's check made payable to the Department of the Interior-BLM for not less than 20 percent of the amount bid. The bid envelope must also contain a statement showing the total amount bid and the name, mailing address and phone number of the entity making the bid. A successful bidder for competitive parcels shall make an additional deposit at the close of the auction to bring the total bid deposit up to the required 20 percent of the high bid. Personal checks or cash will be acceptable for this additional deposit only.

Federal law requires that public land may be sold only to either, (1) citizens of the United States 18 years of age or older; (2) corporations subject to the laws of any state or the United States; (3) other entities such as associations and partnerships capable of holding land or interests therein under the laws of the state within which the land is located; or (4) states, state instrumentalities or political subdivisions authorized to hold property. Certifications and evidence to this effect will be required of the purchaser prior to issuance of conveyance documents.

Prospective purchasers will be allowed 180 days to submit the balance

of the purchase price. Failure to meet this timeframe shall cause the deposit to be forfeited to the BLM. The parcel will then be offered to the next lowest qualified bidder, or if no other bids were received, the parcel will be declared unsold.

A successful bid on a parcel constitutes an application for conveyance of those mineral interests offered under the authority of section 209(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. In addition to the full purchase price, a nonrefundable fee of \$50 will be required for the prospective purchaser for purchase of the mineral interests to be conveyed simultaneously with the sale of the land. Note that in the case of Parcels OR-54927 and OR-54928 only partial mineral interests are being offered. All minerals will be conveyed with the remainder of the parcels.

DATES: On or before January 24, 2000, interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed sale to the Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager at the address described below. Comments or protests must reference a specific parcel and be identified with the appropriate serial number. In the absence of any objections, this proposal will become the determination of the Department of the Interior.

ADDRESSES: Comments, bids, and inquiries should be submitted to the Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, HC 74-12533, Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Detailed information concerning this public land sale is available from Craig M. Hansen, Field Manager or Skip Renchler, Realty Specialist, Three Rivers Resource Area at the above address, phone (541) 573-4400.

Dated: November 30, 1999.

Craig M. Hansen,
Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-070-99-1430-EQ; Designation Order MT-070-0001]

Off-Road Vehicle Designation, Butte Field Office, Montana

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Off-Road Vehicle Designation Decision.

SUMMARY: Final notice is hereby given that effective immediately all public lands in the Mount Belmont area, within the boundaries of the Great Divide Ski Area (895.91 acres) in:

Principal Meridian, Montana

T. 12 N., R. 6 W.,
Sec. 26, 27, 34, and 35, and
T. 11 N., R. 6 W.,
Sec. 2 and 3

are permanently closed to all yearlong motorized vehicle uses with the exception that a seasonal closure will be established on the Whippoorwill and Gloster Roads from December 2 through May 15. The area is located about 25 miles northwest of Helena, Montana. The purpose of this closure is to prevent soil erosion, inhibit the spread of noxious weeds, minimize visitor safety risks, and reduce user conflicts.

A public meeting and comment period were provided in conjunction with the Great Divide Ski Area expansion lease, and all responses received were considered prior to making this designation.

This decision is consistent with the Headwaters Resource Management Plan and is authorized in 43 CFR 8342. This designation will remain in effect until rescinded or modified by the authorized official. An appeal of this decision may be filed within 30 days of this notice with the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Hartmann, Assistant Field Manager, P.O. Box 3388, Butte, Montana 59702, 406-494-5059.

Dated: November 19, 1999.

Merle Good,
Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf: Operations (OCS), Annual List of Notices to Lessees and Operators (NTLs)

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public, industry, and other Government agencies of NTLs that are in effect as of December 9, 1999. It also officially rescinds several Letters to Lessees and Operators (LTLs).

ADDRESSES: You may obtain copies of NTLs through our website at "www.mms.gov/eod/library.htm" or by contacting the MMS National Office or the OCS Region that issued the NTL at the following addresses: