



BLM News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sloan Canyon public scoping meetings slated

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will hold scoping meetings in four locations to encourage public participation in the development of a resource management plan for the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area (NCA).

"The scoping workshops will give people an opportunity to help shape the future management of the area's newest NCA," said Sloan Canyon NCA Manager Charles Carroll.

Scoping meetings will be held in the following locations:

- Monday, November 17, 2003- Desert Willow Community Center
2020 Horizon Ridge Dr., Henderson - 6 to 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 18, 2003 - Cora Coleman Senior Center
2100 Bonnie Lane, Las Vegas - 6 to 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 19, 2003 - Boulder City Campus of CCSN
700 Wyoming Street (room B1A), Boulder City – 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, November 20, 2003- Gardens Community Center
10401 Garden Park Las Vegas - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

"Our goal is a shared vision for managing the NCA," said Carroll. "We welcome ideas on the management approach that will best fulfill the requirements of the Act, protect the unique character of the NCA and allow visitors to experience and enjoy its remarkable resources."

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Each scoping meeting will begin with a brief presentation on the planning process and NCA designation. The remainder of the meeting will follow an open house format, where participants can ask questions and visit various resource stations. Public comments will be gathered through a variety of methods.

The scoping meetings are part of the BLM's two-year planning process aimed at developing a resource management plan by November 2005. The scoping period began with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on September 15, 2003 and will last until December 31, 2003. The BLM is relying on ideas, comments and issues to be brought forward during this and future comment periods to help the BLM manage this nationally significant area.

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For more information on the Sloan Canyon NCA visit www.sloancanyon.org or call Charles Carroll at 702-515-5291.

The President designated the Sloan Canyon NCA in November 2002 with the signing of the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002. The NCA includes more than 48,000 acres of scenic and culturally significant Mojave Desert terrain south of Las Vegas and adjoining Henderson. The Act also established the North McCullough Wilderness, which is entirely contained within the NCA.

Charged by the Act, “. . . to conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations the cultural, archaeological, natural, wilderness, scientific, geological, historical, biological, wildlife, educational, and scenic resources of the Conservation Area,” the BLM is embracing an open and collaborative process for developing the plan and accompanying environmental impact statement.

Initial funding for the management of the NCA was provided by the sale of nearly 500 acres of public land.