



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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August 23, 2004

Dear Friends:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will soon initiate an amendment to the Roswell and Carlsbad Resource Management Plans. The amendment is designed to address land-use decisions affecting special status species, primarily the habitats of lesser prairie chickens and sand dune lizards. The BLM has developed Interim Management for the Shinnery Oak Sand Dune Habitat (Interim Management) guidelines to assist in protecting the habitat for the lesser prairie chicken and the sand dune lizard, as well as retain management options within the planning area until the amendment is finalized. A copy of the Interim Management guidelines and the associated map is enclosed.

These guidelines will be applied in both the Carlsbad and Roswell Field Offices and will remain in effect until the BLM completes the plan amendment. Potential changes in land-use decisions will be addressed through the plan amendment process. This process will include public involvement and development of an environmental impact statement. Decisions in the finalized Resource Management Plan Amendment will then replace the Interim Management guidelines.

If you have questions regarding the specific application of the Interim Management guidelines, please contact Larry Bray, Assistant Field Manager, Roswell Field Office, at (505) 627-0250, or Russ Sorensen, Acting Assistant Field Manager, Carlsbad Field Office, at (505) 234-5963. You may also obtain assistance by using the central office number for the Roswell Field Office at (505) 627-0272 and for the Carlsbad Field Office at (505) 234-5972. If you would like to participate in the development of the Resource Management Plan Amendment, please contact Howard Parman, Planning Team Leader, at (505) 627-0212.

Sincerely,

FOR Linda S. C. Rundell
State Director

2 Enclosures