DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce a public

meeting of the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (Council).

DATES: Meeting: Tuesday November 15, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and

Wednesday November 16, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern standard
time). For deadlines and directions on registering to attend, submitting written
material, and giving an oral

presentation, please see “Public Input” under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Secretary’s Conference Room at the

Department of the Interior, Room 5160, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC

20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Winchell, Council Coordinator,

4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mailstop 3103–AEA, Arlington, VA 22203;
telephone (703) 358–2639; fax (703) 358–2548; or email

joshua_winchell@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In

accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5

U.S.C. App., we announce that Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation

Council will hold a meeting.

Background

Formed in February 2010, the Council provides advice about wildlife and habitat conservation endeavors that:

1. Benefit recreational hunting;
2. Benefit wildlife resources; and
3. Encourage partnership among the public, the sporting conservation community, the shooting and hunting sports industry, wildlife conservation organizations, the States, Native American tribes, and the Federal Government.

The Council advisies the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, reporting through the

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), in consultation with the

Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Chief, Forest Service (USFS);
Chief, Natural Resources Service (NRCS); and Administrator, Farm

Services Agency (FSA). The Council’s duties are strictly advisory and consist of, but are not limited to, providing

recommendations for:

1. Implementing the Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Resource Conservation Plan—A Ten-Year Plan for Implementation;
2. Increasing public awareness of and support for the Sport Wildlife Trust Fund;
3. Fostering wildlife and habitat conservation and ethics in hunting and shooting sports recreation;
4. Stimulating sportsmen and women’s participation in conservation and management of wildlife and habitat resources through outreach and education;
5. Fostering communication and coordination among State, Tribal, and Federal Government; industry; hunting and shooting sportsmen and women; wildlife and habitat conservation and management organizations; and the

public;
6. Providing appropriate access to Federal lands for recreational shooting and hunting;

7. Providing recommendation to improve implementation of Federal conservation programs that benefit wildlife, hunting and outdoor recreation on private lands; and

8. When requested by the agencies’ designated ex officio members or the

DFO in consultation with the Council Chairman, performing a variety of assessments or reviews of policies, programs, and efforts through the Council’s designated subcommittees or workgroups.

Background information on the Council is available at http://

www.fws.gov/whhcc.

Meeting Agenda

The Council will convene to consider:

2. Coordination of conservation program delivery between federal, state and private entities;
3. Programs of the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture, and their bureaus, that enhance hunting opportunities and support wildlife conservation;
4. America’s Great Outdoors; and
5. Other Council business.

The final agenda will be posted on the

Internet at http://www.fws.gov/whhcc.

PUBLIC INPUT

If you wish to

Attend the meeting .................................................................
Submit written information or questions before the meeting for the
council to consider during the meeting.

You must contact the Council Coordinator (see FOR FURTHER IN-
FORMATION CONTACT) no later than

November 7, 2011.
PUBLIC INPUT—Continued

If you wish to
Give an oral presentation during the meeting

You must contact the Council Coordinator (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) no later than November 7, 2011.

Attendance

Because entry to Federal buildings is restricted, all visitors are required to preregister to be admitted. In order to attend this meeting, you must register by close of business on the dates listed in “Public Input” under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address, and phone number to the Council Coordinator (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Submitting Written Information or Questions

Interested members of the public may submit relevant information or questions for the Council to consider during the public meeting. Written statements must be received by the date above, so that the information may be made available to the Council for their consideration prior to this meeting. Written statements must be supplied to the Council Coordinator in both of the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via email (acceptable file formats are Adobe Acrobat PDF, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or rich text file).

Giving an Oral Presentation

Individuals or groups requesting to make an oral presentation at the meeting will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker, with no more than a total of 30 minutes for all speakers. Interested parties should contact the Council Coordinator, in writing (preferably via email; see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT), to be placed on the public speaker list for this meeting. Nonregistered public speakers will not be considered during the meeting. Registered speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, or those who had wished to speak but could not be accommodated on the agenda, may submit written statements to the Council Coordinator up to 30 days subsequent to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Summary minutes of the conference will be maintained by the Council Coordinator (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) and will be available for public inspection within 90 days of the meeting and will be posted on the Council’s Web site at http://www.fws.gov/whhhcc.

Hannibal Bolton, Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVB00000.L5110000.GN0000; LVEMF09CF200.241A; NVN–067930; 11–08807; MO4500024151; TAS: 14X5017]

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Phoenix Copper Leach Project, Lander County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as modified, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Nevada has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Phoenix Copper Leach Project (Proposed Project) and by this notice is announcing the opening of the comment period.

DATES: To ensure comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Phoenix Copper Leach Project Draft EIS within 45 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public involvement activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Phoenix Copper Leach Project Draft EIS by any of the following methods to the attention of Dave Davis:

Fax: (775) 635–4034.
Email: CU_Leach@blm.gov.
Mail: Bureau of Land Management, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV 89820 Attn: Phoenix Project Manager.

Copies of the Phoenix Copper Leach Project Draft EIS are available in the Mount Lewis Field Office at the above address and on the Battle Mountain District’s National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Web page at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/national_environmental.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Dave Davis, BLM Battle Mountain District, Phoenix Copper Leach Project Manager, telephone (775) 635–4150; address 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; email CU_Leach@blm.gov.

Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Newmont Mining Corporation (Newmont) has submitted a proposed Amendment to the Plan of Operations for expansion and operation of the existing Phoenix Gold Mine to include leaching and beneficiation of copper oxide rock material that was previously permitted for disposal on waste rock facilities within the approved Phoenix Mine boundary. The Proposed Project would be located in north-central Nevada 12 miles southwest of Battle Mountain, Nevada, on private and public lands in Lander County. The proposed expansion would increase the surface disturbance of the existing mine area an additional 902 acres; 194 acres of public land and 708 acres of private land.

The Phoenix Copper Leach Project Draft EIS describes and analyzes the site-specific impacts for all affected resources. Three alternatives are analyzed: two action alternatives, the Proposed Action and the Reona Copper Heap Leach Facility (HLF) Elimination Alternative, and the No Action Alternative. Eleven other alternatives were considered then eliminated from further analysis and are discussed in the Draft EIS. Alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis include: three alternative process options; three alternative plant design options; two alternative facility location options; one alternate pond cover design option; one alternate Phoenix heap leach pad configuration option; and the Borrow Area Elimination Alternative.