

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY – POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

THROUGH: Tommy P. Beaudreau
Acting Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management

FROM: Acting Deputy Director for Operations, Bureau of Land Management

SUBJECT: Petition/Application for Proposed Withdrawal, Trinity Wild and Scenic River,
California

DATE: July 16, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requests that the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget approve our petition to file an application to withdraw 3,123 acres of public lands from location and entry under the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral or geothermal leasing laws, for a period of 20 years to protect the cultural, recreational, and biological resource values found within the recreational segments of the Trinity Wild and Scenic River in Trinity County, California.

II. BACKGROUND

Trinity River is noted as a recreational component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System which remained open to location and entry under the United States mining laws. The 1992 BLM Redding Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (RRMP-EIS) evaluated the Trinity River between Lewiston and North Fork for designation as an ACEC. No ACEC designation was pursued in 1992 because Trinity River lands were “recommended for withdrawal from mineral entry” (RRMP-EIS Appendix C-8)). Withdrawal of public lands within the Trinity River management area was further identified in the BLM Redding Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision that was approved on July 27, 1993.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has filed an application to withdraw 541 acres of National Forest System lands along the Trinity River. The BLM and USFS applications will be processed concurrently.

III. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

The filing of the petition/application is the first step in processing a proposed Department of the Interior agency withdrawal. The BLM will publish a Notice of Proposed Withdrawal in the *Federal Register* and a newspaper of general circulation in the Trinity River area. These notices invite public review of the proposed withdrawal and offer an opportunity to request a public meeting. Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget approval of the petition/application would allow the BLM to consult with Federal, State and local governmental organizations, tribal governments, and stakeholders and to complete an analysis relative to the need for the withdrawal.

IV. LEGAL STATUS

There is no litigation associated with this withdrawal petition/application.