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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
Washington

ORDER NO. 3280

SIGNATURE DATE: December 16, 2008

Subject: Designating the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands the “National System of Public Lands”

Sec. 1 **Purpose.** The purpose of this Order is to designate the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands the “National System of Public Lands.”

Sec. 2 **Background.** The new designation promotes the understanding of the public lands’ many uses, resources, and characteristics. Lack of identity makes it difficult for the public to readily understand the diversity of the public lands that BLM manages under its multiple-use mission as authorized by the Congress under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). The designation “National System of Public Lands” provides the public with a meaningful term that accurately characterizes the interconnectedness of the public lands and their multiple uses. The designation allows for the continued education of the public, the Congress, and other interested parties about the many ways that the public lands and their natural resources contribute to the quality of American life. It also underscores and promotes the importance of citizen-based participation in the management of the public lands.

Sec. 3 **Authority.** This Order is issued under the authority of Section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat.1262), as amended.

Sec. 4 **Implementation.** The Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management is responsible for implementing the requirements in the Order. Implementation will coincide with a modification to the BLM emblem to include the designation “National System of Public Lands.” A communications plan has been developed to convey the new designation to the public, interested parties, other interested Federal agencies, and Congress.

Sec. 5 **Expiration Date.** This Order is effective immediately. It will remain in effect until its provisions are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded, or revoked, whichever occurs first. In the absence of any of the foregoing actions, the provisions of this Order will terminate and be considered obsolete on September 30, 2013. The termination of this Order will not nullify implementation of the name change effected herein.

/s/ DIRK KEMPTHORNE  
Secretary of the Interior

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