

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS



THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

January 2002

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By Erik Schlenker-Goodrich

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INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) must develop comprehensive land use plans for the public lands, lands the agency holds in trust for the American people. Required by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the land use planning process contains significant opportunities for public participation. Participation includes writing comments at various stages of the planning process, participating in any meetings or workshops conducted throughout the planning process, and appealing (“protesting”) inadequate plans and decisions.

BLM’s land use plans are the basis upon which the BLM makes its decisions regarding wilderness protection, oil and gas development, livestock grazing, and protection of fish and wildlife habitat. You can help protect our incomparable cultural and natural heritage. Most notably, you can help protect untrammeled wildlands by encouraging the BLM to designate them as Wilderness Study Areas. We encourage you to participate in the planning process. This guide outlines the planning process, specifies where you can become involved, and suggests ways to most effectively leverage your efforts.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

BLM land use plans are called Resource Management Plans (RMPs). RMPs are developed for all major BLM land units, including Resource Areas, National Monuments, and National Conservation Areas. The BLM uses the same nine-stage process for each plan. Each stage has a different purpose. Some stages are used to solicit public input. Other stages are used to analyze data and information. Still other stages discuss various management alternatives and make land use decisions. The process is interdisciplinary and science-based, integrating the consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences. Each plan generally takes two to four years to develop.

Once developed, all management on the public lands must conform to the RMP. If a proposed management action does not conform to the RMP, it is either prohibited or the BLM must amend or revise the RMP to justify the proposed action. The BLM must also amend or revise the RMP to account for new information, legal developments, or management concerns. Consequently, RMPs are responsive to the needs of the public and considered “living” documents.

Completion of the RMP sets the stage for more site or resource specific planning and decision-making. The products of these processes are usually referred to as “implementation” or “activity” plans and decisions. In all planning actions – whether at the RMP or the implementation level – the BLM must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA obligates the BLM to objectively study the impacts of all major federal actions significantly affecting the environment through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Frequently, the BLM will first develop an Environmental Assessment (EA), a less detailed document, to determine whether an EIS is necessary.

However, RMPs are *always* developed with a comprehensive EIS. Amendments must be completed with at least an EA. In all circumstances, the NEPA document must consider the direct and indirect impacts (40 C.F.R. § 1508.8) of the proposed action and the cumulative impacts of connected and similar actions. Impacts studied could be ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health. Cumulative impacts are particularly important. They are defined as:

[T]he impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. (40 C.F.R. § 1508.7).

All NEPA documents must be kept current with new information. Where a NEPA document is no longer current, the BLM must supplement its analysis (40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)(1)). This occurs in two situations:

- **If the agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns; or**
- **If there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts.**

PROTECTING YOUR PUBLIC LANDS: “UMBRELLA” CONCEPTS

FLPMA established several basic “umbrella” concepts that apply to all BLM public lands and actions taken on those lands. These concepts include uniform statutory planning criteria, the management principle of multiple use and sustained yield, and a mandate to affirmatively and proactively “prevent unnecessary and undue degradation” to the public lands. You should make use of these concepts as you seek to achieve your objectives in the planning process, ideally with place-based documentation obtained through “ground truthing” – photos, field inventories, scientific data, and other information that you collect about the land.

STATUTORY PLANNING CRITERIA

The BLM must follow a series of statutory planning criteria in developing RMPs (43 U.S.C. § 1712(c)(1)-(9)). To achieve your objectives, it is important to *use* these criteria: determine how the criteria should affect land management, incorporate the criteria into your arguments, and reference the criteria in your communications to the BLM. The criteria are as follows:

- **Multiple use and sustained yield:** The multiple use and sustained yield mandates must be applied as the driving force behind land use plans. This concept is further described below.
- **Systematic, interdisciplinary approach:** The BLM should use a thorough, reproducible approach to planning that integrates the knowledge of all relevant disciplines (e.g., biology, ecology, archeology, hydrology, and engineering).
- **Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs):** The planning process must give priority to the designation and protection of ACECs. ACECs are intended to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or protect life and safety from natural hazards. You can work with the BLM to creatively use ACECs to gain protection for environmentally sensitive areas on the public lands.
- **Inventories:** To the extent available, the BLM must base its management decisions upon inventories of the resources that occur on the public lands. You should request that the BLM structure a comprehensive inventory program in each RMP with a related monitoring and evaluation program. Where the BLM lacks data about a particular ecological value or cannot adequately determine through NEPA whether a particular activity would harm that ecological value, you should request that the BLM adopt a precautionary posture whereby the agency defers to the side of conservation and prohibits the activity.
- **Present and potential uses of the land:** The BLM must consider use of the land in both present *and* potential terms (i.e., resources that may become more valuable as time passes, e.g., wilderness, wildlife habitat, and watershed protection). Thus, you should request that the BLM consider whether the land could be used for better purposes relative to current uses.
- **Scarcity of values:** The BLM must consider the “relative” scarcity of values and the availability of alternative sources of those values. You can request that the BLM determine whether there are adequate opportunities for a specific resource use elsewhere, thus allowing the BLM to emphasize alternative, undervalued (by both the BLM and by traditional commodity markets) resource uses of the public lands (such as wilderness).

- **Cost benefit analysis:** The BLM must balance short *and* long-term costs and benefits of management to both market and non-market resources. The BLM must consider potential uses of the public lands. The BLM should disclose how current resource uses result in losses of lands for wilderness, wildlife habitat, and watershed protection. The BLM could use this analysis as justification for disallowing certain destructive resource uses and practices to preserve future benefits.
- **Pollution control:** The BLM must comply with applicable pollution control laws (e.g., the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act), standards, and implementation plans. Often, this involves coordination with the EPA and state environmental quality agencies. You should request the BLM to disclose how it intends to comply with the pollution control laws, standards, and plans. Also recognize that the pollution control programs contain public participation requirements independent of the BLM. These may prove fruitful, especially where your interests pertain specifically to air or water quality.
- **Intergovernmental coordination:** The BLM must coordinate inventory, planning, and management activities with other federal departments and agencies, Indian tribes, and state and local governments to ensure consistency with those plans to the maximum extent practical and legal. Importantly, in the event of conflict, federal law generally controls.

MULTIPLE USE & SUSTAINED YIELD

The BLM is obligated to manage the public lands consistent with the concept of *multiple use*. The legal definition of multiple use in FLPMA (43 U.S.C. § 1702(c)) reflects a variety of conservation-oriented themes and provides the BLM with direction and guidance. To an extent, these themes are reflected in the statutory planning criteria, described above. An effective means of articulating your concerns and proposals to the BLM is to link your objectives and positions to these themes during the land use planning process.

The first theme of multiple use is that the BLM is obligated to prioritize the national public interest in our public lands in terms of both current and long-term needs. These needs (and uses) are both market and non-market based. Second, the BLM does not have to allow *all* uses on *all* lands. This allows the BLM to exclude non-beneficial, incompatible resource uses and bundle together complementary resource uses to optimize the public good relative to place-based conditions. Third, the BLM must consider the “relative” value of resources (thus, justifying the protection of historically devalued uses of the land such as wilderness) and cannot authorize a particular use based purely on the contribution of that use to the economy. Finally, and most importantly, all management is bound by the mandate to prevent “permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.” Under this provision, once a use runs its course, the land must be reclaimed to its original baseline health and integrity, although, as a practical matter, not necessarily the land’s original composition.

The counterpart provision to multiple use is *sustained yield* (43 U.S.C. § 1702(h)). Sustained yield deals with a single class of resources: renewable resources. It requires the BLM to emphasize the long-term management potential of our public lands to satisfy the needs of both current *and* future generations. Although the provision calls for a high level output of renewable resources, needs are satisfied only to the extent that they do not permanently impair the

productivity of the land or quality of the environment and do not cause unnecessary or undue degradation.

THE PREVENTION OF UNNECESSARY OR UNDUE DEGRADATION PROVISION

One of the potentially most powerful restraints on the BLM in making decisions during the planning process is the “prevention of unnecessary or undue degradation” provision (43 U.S.C. § 1732(b)). It is important to link your conservation-oriented objectives and positions to this provision *during* the planning process. The provision, if satisfied, could be used to prevent harmful activities. It reads in full:

In managing the public lands the Secretary shall, by regulation or otherwise, take any action necessary to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands.

“Degradation” is the consequence of an impact that impairs, inhibits, or damages the structure, composition, or function of the landscape. The landscape includes both biological and ecological resources, such as wildlife and wildlife habitat, but also geologic resources, such as free-flowing rivers and waterways, and healthy, stable soils.

An action could be deemed *unnecessary* if the BLM could avoid harm to the land or the environment, or if the BLM’s actions are ill advised (e.g., the costs outweigh the benefits, the resources harmed are rare, or the action is not environmentally or economically sustainable).

An action could be deemed *undue* even where those impacts are considered *necessary* (e.g., unavoidable) to the proposed action. This type of situation could arise where the action permanently impairs the productivity of the land or quality of the environment. It could also arise where the action has an exceptionally high negative impact on other resources, or, similarly, where the action prevents the public from realizing other resource values (e.g., an authorization to allow widespread use of off-road vehicles could eliminate the opportunity for high-quality low-impact hiking or wildlife watching).

THE PLANNING STAGES

There are nine planning stages for every resource management planning process. The following sections provide a brief sketch of each planning stage. While many stages provide for public participation, many planning stages do not. Nonetheless, you should meet regularly with the BLM throughout the process. Moreover, you can voice your concerns and suggestions, ask the BLM for information, or ask them to clarify questions and concerns you may have at *any* time. In all your communications, remember that the BLM is more likely to be receptive to your message if you have developed cordial and professional working relationships with them. Establishing a good working relationship with BLM personnel does not imply that you should compromise your values or objectives. It just means that you may have a better chance at getting fair consideration from those in charge of preparing the plan.

STAGE 1: ISSUE IDENTIFICATION (SCOPING)

The BLM begins the planning process by publishing in the Federal Register (available online or at libraries) and in local newspapers and other outlets a Notice of Intent (NOI) that it intends to develop an RMP. You can also receive notice by asking the local or state BLM office to place you on their mailing list. Most state offices have regular newsletters, or other means of informing the public about their planning schedules and other activities. The BLM provides the public with *at least* 30 days to write in comments identifying issues that they think the BLM should consider in the planning process. If you feel that you need more time to participate in this stage, request, in writing, an extension from the BLM.

The purpose of this stage, also called “scoping,” is for the BLM to solicit public input before any decisions are made and obtain a basic understanding of the major resource issues of the management area, especially those that the public is interested in. This allows the BLM to actively think about the management actions needed to resolve conflicts and manage the land.

It is at this stage that you should begin to communicate your positions and desires to the BLM in writing. Importantly, this stage is about raising issues, not necessarily responding to specific BLM actions. Defend your positions and desires with well-reasoned arguments and documentation to increase the chance that the BLM listens to you. If the BLM excludes an issue raised by the public, it must justify this decision in writing. If new issues arise during the planning process, you can request the BLM to add those issues to the list of identified issues that the RMP must take into account.

STAGE 2: DEVELOP PLANNING CRITERIA

In this stage the BLM determines the “sideboards” of the planning process. The planning criteria shape the development of the RMP, ensure that the RMP is legal and tailored to the identified issues, and help the BLM to avoid unnecessary data collection and analysis. The BLM issues a notice for proposed planning criteria and gives you *at least* 30 days for review and comment. This stage should be carried out independent of the issue identification stage. Importantly, once approved, the planning criteria can be changed or modified depending on public suggestions and new information. As with scoping, your communications with the BLM need not be confined to formal, written presentations, although if you want to assure that your communications with the BLM are included in the administrative record, you should submit written information to the agency.

STAGE 3: COLLECT INVENTORY DATA

Once the BLM has identified the issues to be resolved during the planning process, it compiles necessary and relevant information. This information may take the form of internal inventory, monitoring, and evaluation data. It also includes peer-reviewed scientific journals and information gathered and submitted by the public during the issue identification stage. The BLM may also carry out data collection in the field, but generally relies on existing information.

Although the public is not formally involved in this stage, you can still submit information that the BLM is obliged to take into account. For example, although many state Natural Heritage programs have good working relationships with the BLM, it is a good idea to make sure the BLM has Natural Heritage information (usually held by state natural resource agencies, universities, or nature conservancy offices) on the biota within a planning area. If not, this is a good time to submit it, if you did not do so during the scoping period. Or, if you have assembled data on wildlands that deserve designation as Wilderness Study Areas, be sure the BLM has this information at this stage of the process (see below).

STAGE 4: ANALYZE INVENTORY AND IDENTIFIED ISSUES

After the BLM collects the necessary data, the BLM *analyzes* the compiled data and information relative to the identified issues and opportunities. The BLM often refers to this fairly technical stage as a “Management Situation Analysis,” which it sometimes makes public, although the public is not formally involved in this stage. Regardless, you should request a copy of the Management Situation Analysis from the BLM, review the document, and communicate your suggestions or concerns to the BLM in writing.

The analysis describes the current characteristics and conditions of the landscape and expresses the direction of change for certain resources and values between the present and some point in the past or future. It also discloses the probability that a specific action or inaction will cause an undesired effect, the vulnerability of ecological and socioeconomic components to existing and contemplated actions, and the potential responsiveness of the land to actions intended to improve resource condition or reduce risk. The BLM refers to this information as “status,” “trend,” “risk,” and “opportunity” data.

STAGE 5: FORMULATE ALTERNATIVES

Based on the Management Situation Analysis, the agency identifies the desired outcomes for the resource area and the allowable uses and land health protection and restoration measures designed to achieve those outcomes. The BLM develops a reasonable range of alternatives designed to satisfy the identified issues and comply with all law and policy guidance. One alternative must be a “no action” alternative that maintains the status quo of resource use and protection (the no action alternative does not consist of “no use” of the resource area). Although the public is not formally involved in developing alternatives, you can suggest alternatives to the BLM, ideally as early on in the planning process as possible (the issue identification stage).

STAGE 6: ESTIMATE THE EFFECTS OF EACH ALTERNATIVE

Once formulated, the BLM estimates and displays the physical, biological, economic, and social effects (direct, indirect, and cumulative) of implementing each alternative. In practical terms, the

BLM applies the planning criteria developed in stage two through NEPA's environmental impact analysis process. Resource effects or output levels should be presented in measurable units, such as tons of minerals and animal unit months of forage for livestock. Resource effects and or output levels should also be presented, where possible, in not only measurable *potential* terms, but also in *probable* terms. For example, if the amount of *technically* recoverable oil or gas is presented, the amount of *economically* recoverable oil or gas resources should also be presented. This gives the public the most realistic perspective as to possible use and impacts to the land. Again, the public is not formally involved in this stage, although you do have an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIS in the next stage.

STAGE 7: SELECT A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

In this stage, the BLM publishes a Draft RMP and EIS. The Draft RMP includes a *preferred alternative* selected by the BLM, as well as three or more other alternatives considered by the BLM. The public once again becomes involved and is notified of the document's availability through the Federal Register, mail, and the media. The BLM gives you at least 90-days to review and comment on the Draft RMP/EIS. The BLM frequently holds meetings or "open house" workshops to receive comments from the public as well. This is a critical stage of public input into the process, and you need to participate in this phase in order to establish your "standing" to later challenge the BLM's decisions, if that becomes necessary. Review, and where necessary, comment on the Draft RMP/EIS to ensure that it contains the following suggested elements:

- **A vision of place:** The Draft identifies the purpose and significance of the particular management area, especially in relationship to the surrounding landscape.
- **Law and policy:** The Draft clearly outlines the BLM's obligations under its laws and policies. This includes providing specific information relating to how the BLM intends to comply with laws and policies such as the Clean Water Act or the Endangered Species Act. In particular, the BLM should identify how the RMP satisfies the umbrella requirements imposed by the statutory planning criteria, multiple use and sustained, and the prevention of unnecessary or undue degradation provision, all of which are described above.
- **Desired future resource conditions:** The Draft prescribes management actions that define the desired future resource conditions and identifies necessary steps to achieve the desired future resource conditions in light of the purpose and significance of the management area. For example, the BLM might state that a desired future condition is to meet all Water Quality Standards developed pursuant to the Clean Water Act for the rivers and waterways within the planning unit within 5 years. The Draft should prescribe the steps that the BLM intends to take to accomplish that objective, such as the removal of livestock from sensitive or degraded riparian areas or the insertion of stipulations into mineral leases requiring mitigation measures designed to protect the rivers and waterways of the planning unit.
- **Sustainability:** The Draft prescribes management actions that provide for the long-term sustainability of all of the lands' many natural resources, including biotic species. Management must not impair the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment. No use should cause unnecessary or undue degradation.
- **Adaptive ecosystem management:** The Draft establishes an "Information Management System" that establishes a systematic and comprehensive monitoring and evaluation program

to track management prescriptions and their impacts on the environment. Such a program should look at not only the specific *action*, but also the direct, indirect, and cumulative *impacts* of the action. Although seemingly obvious, this is an important consideration that is often, unfortunately, ignored. Management prescriptions should be responsive to the knowledge acquired through the monitoring and evaluation program.

- **Alternatives:** The Draft provides a reasonable range of feasible alternatives, each of which addresses the major issues of the management area, including those submitted by the public.
- **Impacts and costs:** The Draft thoroughly analyzes the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts and costs of each management alternative to the multiple natural and cultural resources of the management area.

STAGE 8: SELECT A PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

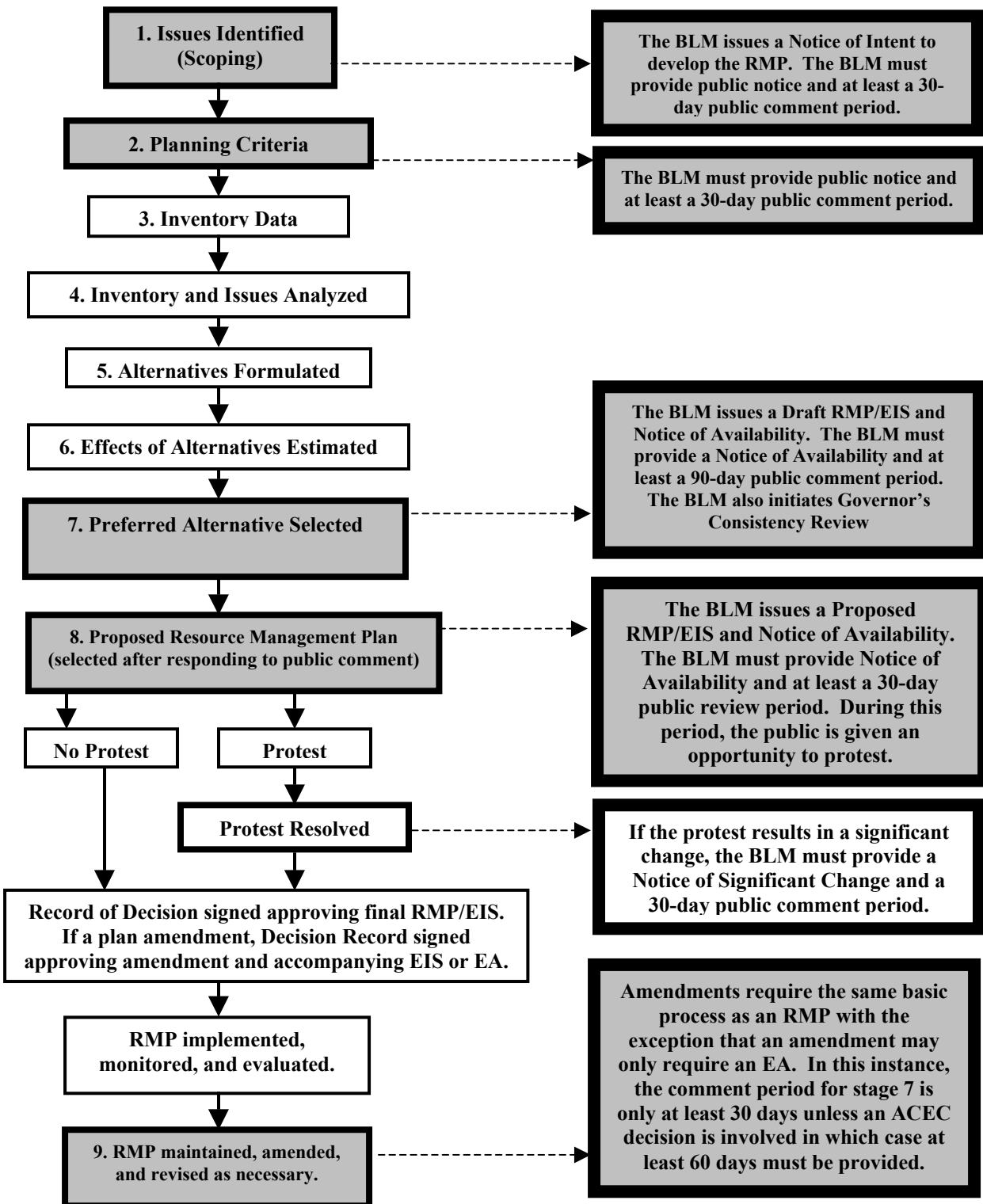
Once the public has reviewed the Draft RMP/EIS, and submits comments, the BLM analyzes the comments and determines whether changes are desired or necessary. If changes are made, the BLM must determine whether the altered mix or intensity of resource activities warrants a return to stage six to revise the effects analysis. Once any revisions or alterations are completed, the BLM approves and publishes a Proposed Final RMP/EIS. The BLM must then give you 30 days to review the Proposed Final RMP/EIS through a notice in the Federal Register. During this time, you have the right to *protest* (43 C.F.R. § 1610.5-2) the Proposed RMP/EIS to the BLM Director (national *not* state) if you will be adversely affected by the plan's approval *and* you participated in the planning process (most importantly, stage seven). Once all protests have run their course, the BLM documents final approval of the plan in a concise public *record of decision* (ROD) that complies with NEPA. The plan is fully final and operational only after all protests are resolved and the ROD is issued.

STAGE 9: MAINTAIN, AMEND, AND REVISE THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Once the plan is finalized, all subsequent decisions about how that land is used (for example, how many drilling permits are issued, what areas are withdrawn for mineral activities, how much livestock is grazed, where off-road vehicle use is prohibited or allowed, or which areas will be recommended for Wilderness designation) must conform to the new land use plan. The BLM ensures that the RMP/EIS is current by maintaining, amending, and revising the RMP as necessary. In other words, the RMP is a dynamic document that can be altered to accommodate changing information, policies, and needs. Maintenance actions are minor, technical changes carried out without public participation. Amendments are more significant and represent "mini" resource management planning actions focused on a particular subject, place, or issue. Revisions are comprehensive; they consist of fully reviewing and revising all aspects of the RMP.

Amendments and revisions must be completed consistent with the planning process described herein. For an amendment, the primary difference is that in certain instances, the BLM need not complete a full EIS and can satisfy NEPA with only an EA. Importantly, keep in mind that NEPA imposes obligations independent of the resource management planning process that may require the BLM to take action, irrespective of the BLM's desire or need to maintain, amend, or revise the RMP. Usually, this takes the form of a Supplemental EIS or EA (40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)(1)) (see above).

FLOWCHART: THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS



NOTE: Public meetings and workshops may occur throughout the planning process. Each meeting requires a minimum 15-day advance notice.

PROTECTING WILDERNESS QUALITY LANDS

One important decision the BLM is obligated to make during the planning process is to determine whether any places within the planning area deserve to be designated as Wilderness Study Areas. Although you can simply request the BLM to inventory lands for wilderness suitability, your request is most effective if supported with a documented citizen wilderness proposal that meets the BLM's criteria. If you submit a citizen wilderness proposal to the BLM, the agency must then consider designating those lands as Wilderness Study Areas. This protects the land so that Congress can properly determine whether those lands should be permanently protected as Wilderness under the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Your proposal should specify the lands that the BLM should identify for study in its own inventory process and then protect through the planning process. Remember, these lands must meet the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. § 1131(c)). If you propose lands that meet the definition of Wilderness as deserving of interim protection as Wilderness Study Areas, you must satisfy several criteria:

- **Maps:** You must include a map that identifies the specific boundaries of the area in question.
- **Narrative:** You must include a detailed narrative that describes the wilderness characteristics of the area and documents how that information significantly differs from the information in prior inventories conducted by the BLM regarding the wilderness values of the area.
- **Photographic documentation:** You must include photographs of the area that document the wilderness values of the area.

In tailoring your citizen's wilderness inventory to the planning process, familiarize yourself with the BLM's Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures Handbook, available at <http://www.blm.gov/nhp/efoia/wo/fy01/ib2001-043.html>. The handbook sets out the criteria noted above and describes the process by which the BLM verifies whether a proposed area should be protected as Wilderness. The closer your citizen's wilderness proposal mirrors the BLM's process, the more likely it is that your area will be protected as a Wilderness Study Area.

EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY

In advocating for the protection of your public lands, here are some suggestions:

- **Know the land (ground truthing).** Knowledge of the land can turn a *reasonable* argument into a *compelling* argument: the “story” and “life” of the land is important. Link your place-based knowledge, gained either through personal narrative or science-based studies and documentation, to your legal and policy-based positions.
- **Take people to the land.** Field trips to the lands in question can help develop a shared understanding of the situation. Arrange site-visits with BLM officials and other stakeholders to figure out how they view the land and what they think should be done. Such visits are also an excellent way to express your concerns and ideas and to rally support and attention for your efforts. Take people to not only degraded lands, but also healthy lands. Contrast can be a powerful tool.
- **Be diligent and anticipate actions.** Keep an eye on what is going on in your area. Ask questions and follow up on answers. Ground yourself with good information, but do not hesitate to trust your intuition. By staying informed, you can anticipate actions before they occur and thus work to prevent a poor decision from gaining momentum.
- **Listen.** Public advocacy is about effective communication; it is not a contest to out-shout other stakeholders.
- **Attend public & collaborative events.** The BLM or stakeholders may host public meetings and workshops. Attend these meetings and workshops and express your viewpoints. Importantly, encourage the organizers to give these hearings and workshops *vitality* to give a fair voice to everyone and to discuss ways to come to mutually agreeable solutions.
- **Build Coalitions.** Communicate and interact with individuals and organizations sympathetic to your mission. Coalitions can help leverage limited resources, disseminate information, strengthen campaigns, and open doors otherwise closed.
- **Get to know your BLM officials.** Establish good, professional, working relationships with your local BLM officials. They are the day-to-day decision-makers and can provide you with invaluable information.
- **Sign up for BLM mailing lists.** Write both your BLM State Office and local Field Office and ask the BLM to place you on their mailing lists for all issues concerning the programs, issues, or lands that you are working on. Be as specific as possible.
- **Compile information.** You should have a working familiarity with the basic laws and processes the BLM follows and how those laws and policies are applied on the ground.
- **Make copies and keep records.** Make sure that you have copies of everything you send and receive. Where you are involved in a formal process, this is especially important. Send formal documents by certified mail to provide proof that the recipient received the document. Take good notes of all phone conversations, including name, time, and the substance of the discussion.

USEFUL WEB SITES

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook: www.blm.gov/nhp/efoia/wo/handbook/handbook.html

BLM Land Use Planning Manual: www.blm.gov/nhp/efoia/wo/manual/manuals.html

BLM Office of the National Landscape Conservation System: www.blm.gov/nlcs/

BLM: www.blm.gov

Community Based Collaboration: www.cbcc.org/

Cornell University Legal Search Engine: www.law.cornell.edu

NEPA Web Site (Council on Environmental Quality): www.ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/nepanet.htm

Federal Register: www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html

Findlaw Legal Search Engine: www.findlaw.com

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (text): www.wilderness.net/nwps/legis/flpma_legis.cfm

Protecting National Monuments (information, resources, advocacy tools): www.wilderness.org/monuments

The Wilderness Act of 1964 (text): www.wilderness.net/nwps/legis/nwps_act.cfm

The Wilderness Information Network: www.wilderness.net/

The Wilderness Society: www.wilderness.org

Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures Handbook:
www.blm.gov/nhp/efoia/wo/fy01/ib2001-043.html

THE MISSION OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Founded in 1935, The Wilderness Society works to protect America's wilderness and wildlife and to develop a nationwide network of wildlands through public education, scientific analysis and advocacy. Our goal is to ensure that future generations will enjoy the clean air and water, wildlife, beauty and opportunities for recreation and renewal that pristine forests, rivers, deserts and mountains provide.



THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

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