



Environmental Impact Statement

PROVIDING SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS

The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Central Yukon Field Office, is developing a resource management plan (RMP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) to address the management of resources in 13 million acres of BLM-managed land in central and northern Alaska, including the Dalton Highway Corridor and central Yukon River watershed. The BLM is currently offering the public the opportunity to offer feedback on the Preliminary Alternatives Concepts being considered in the Draft RMP/EIS. The Preliminary Alternatives Concepts can be accessed by attending a public meeting, or visiting the project website at: <http://bit.ly/BLM-CYRMP>. The project website also contains information on public meetings.

WHY PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT

Public comment periods offer the opportunity for you, the public, to be involved in the BLM's decision-making process and to offer your thoughts on alternative ways for the agency to accomplish what it is proposing. In compliance with the BLM's new planning rule (known as Planning 2.0), the BLM is offering this comment period to gain early feedback on the preliminary alternatives. At this time, the BLM is specifically seeking comments on the range of the Preliminary Alternatives Concepts, the rationale for alternatives, and the basis for analysis of the alternatives.

The National Environmental Policy Act "... is intended to help public officials make decisions that are based on the understanding of environmental consequences..." [40 CFR 1501(e)]. To achieve this, the RMP/EIS will consider the effects of the BLM's actions on economic and natural resources within the planning area. Citizens such as yourself often have valuable information about places and resources they consider important, and the potential effects proposed federal actions may have on those places and resources.

PROVIDING EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

Comments that provide relevant and new information with sufficient detail are the most useful and are referred to as substantive comments. The BLM reviews all comments and identifies topics that are substantive for consideration in the final published document. Try not to provide comments that offer opinion only.

Substantive comments do one or more of the following:

- Raise issues the BLM has not considered or reinforce issues the BLM has already identified.
- Present information that can be used when developing alternatives and when the BLM considers impacts of alternatives.
- Present reasonable alternatives within the scope of the decisions being made.
- Recommend specific changes to current management.
- Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in a report already created.

Comments that are not substantive include:

- Comments in favor of or against an action without any reasoning (such as "I do/don't like ____" without providing any rationale).
- Comments that only agree or disagree with BLM policy.
- Comments that take the form of vague, open-ended questions.

Please submit
comments by
March 17, 2017

Comments can be mailed to:
Chel Ethun
BLM Fairbanks District Office
222 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Comments can also be
emailed to:
CentralYukon@blm.gov

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