



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE

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New Date for Close of the Comment Period for the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-Grouse EIS As A Result of the Federal Government Shutdown (10-22-13)

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the new date for the close of the comment period for the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-Grouse Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan Amendment.

The BLM initially scheduled 90 days for comment, and the original date for the close of the comment period was *Nov. 14, 2013*. Due to the lapse in appropriations and the resulting Federal government shutdown, the documents were not available on the BLM website from October 1 through October 16, 2013. Accordingly, the new date for the close of the comment period will be Dec. 2, 2013.

Public involvement is an essential and required part of the planning process, and comments submitted by Dec. 2, 2013 will be considered before the BLM makes a final decision.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

--BLM--

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