

Bering Sea - Western Interior Resource Management Plan



Meeting Objective:

- Share information about the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Land Use Planning Process.
- Introduce you to BLM lands in the planning area.
- Introduce you to some of the preliminary issues in the planning area.
- Listen to you.
 - Learn how you use BLM lands.
 - Learn about your concerns and issues related to BLM land management.
 - Learn your desires for future natural and cultural resource management.
 - Learn the best ways to continue to involve you in the future.

Meeting Agenda:

- 1) Introduction and Welcome
 - Meeting purpose and agenda
 - Review some basics about BLM's RMP planning
- 2) Group Presentation Option
 - Review of posters, wall maps, handouts, comment forms
 - Powerpoint presentation overview
- 3) Group Sharing Session
 - Review meeting guide and comment forms
 - Opportunity for questions and comment
- 4) Conclusion & Wrap – up
 - Summarize some of the major concerns shared
 - Request best way to share future information and keep you informed

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BERING SEA WESTERN INTERIOR RMP
INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

WHO WE ARE

- BLM Anchorage Field Office manages 10.6 million acres in the BSWI Planning Area.

WHY ARE WE HERE

- We are currently in the “Scoping” stage of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process.
- During this stage, it is important for us to learn what is important to you, what opportunities there are, and what concerns you have.
- Learning this helps us to determine the “scope” of what will be addressed in the RMP.

WHAT IS A RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

- A comprehensive plan to guide BLM public land management into the future.
- RMPs provide broad land and resource management goals for the future.
 - Identify existing resource conditions
 - Identify existing resource uses, land uses, and activities
 - Identify trends and projected future conditions and levels of use and activity
 - Identify desired future condition of resources
 - To meet the desired future conditions for resources, RMPs:
 - Identify areas of land WHERE uses and activities should occur or, be excluded
 - Identify HOW uses and activities should occur or, restrictions and limitations
 - Identify areas that may be suitable for special designations such as areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC) and wild & scenic rivers

WHERE DOES THE RMP APPLY?

- RMP direction applies only on BLM land within the boundaries of BSWI Planning Area
- The plan strives to be consistent to the maximum extent possible to the management objectives, uses and resources of adjacent landowners

WHY DOES THE RMP PROCESS MATTER?

- The RMP will direct BLM land and resource management into the future
- RMP decisions directly affect environmental health, economic vitality, and quality of life

WHY REVISE NOW?

- Existing plans are from 1981 and 1986 and they do not address more current issues

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

- During this scoping stage, you can let us know
 - What currently works well on BLM land
 - What concerns you have about BLM land
 - What you would like to see in the future
- Will engage you over the course of the next four years, over all phases

For more information, please visit: <http://www.blm.gov/ak/planning>
To provide comments or suggestions, please email: BSWI_RMP_COMMENT@blm.gov

BERING SEA WESTERN INTERIOR RMP DRAFT PRELIMINARY ISSUES

Planning issues are resource and land management problems and opportunities that need to be addressed in the RMP. The following are draft internally-generated BLM issues. The BLM will continue to refine these preliminary issues and develop additional issues based on comments received during the scoping period.

1) Management of Resources

- Vegetation
- Soil, Water, Air
- Fish
- Wildlife
- Wildland Fire
- Cultural
- Visual
- Wilderness Character

BLM would like to learn

- How would you like these resources managed in the future?
- Are there sensitive areas where a certain resource occurs that warrant special protections?
- How might climate change affect these resources?

2) Management of Resource Uses and Activities

- Forestry Products (berries, bark, mushrooms, firewood, etc)
- Grazing (Reindeer)
- Renewable Energy (wind, hydropower, biomass, geothermal)
- Mining
- Lands & Realty Authorizations
 - Withdrawals
 - Right-of-Way corridors - utility, roads, pipelines,
 - Communications tower sites
- Recreation
 - Commercial and Non-commercial recreation activities
- Trails, Travel Management, Off-Highway Vehicles

BLM would like to learn

- How would you like these uses or activities to be managed in the future?
- Are there areas where you would like to see more or less of these uses or activities?
- Do you know of any conflicts with these uses or activities?

BERING SEA WESTERN INTERIOR RMP
DRAFT PRELIMINARY ISSUES – *CONTINUED*

3) Special Designations

- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)
- Wild and Scenic Rivers

BLM would like to learn

- Any nominations for Wild and Scenic River designation?
- Are existing ACECs still needed?
- Any nominations for new or different ACECs?

4) Public Safety, Social and Economic Features

- Subsistence
- Abandoned Mine Sites / Hazardous Materials
- Environmental Justice

BLM would like to learn

- Any knowledge of hazardous substances or abandoned mines on BLM lands?
- Which areas on BLM land are important for subsistence use and why?
- How can the BLM protect resources that are important to maintaining a subsistence lifestyle?
- RMP decisions should be fair and no group of people should experience a disproportionate share of negative environmental or economic consequences that may result from decisions made in an RMP. How can the BLM minimize this for you and/or your community?