
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Record of Decision (ROD) and approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) were prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Winnemucca District (WD) and provide overall management direction for resources on BLM-administered land in the WD planning area, Nevada. These documents are the result of a multi-year planning effort to revise the decisions in the 1982 Management Framework Plan (MFP) and 1999 Lands Amendments by the BLM Washington Office, Nevada State Office, and Winnemucca District, cooperating agencies, special interest and user groups, and concerned citizens. The decisions outlined in these documents will enable the BLM to manage the lands and resources administered by the WD to achieve the desired future conditions and management objectives in partnership with communities and citizens.

The WD administrative boundary encompasses about 11.3 million acres and includes all of Humboldt and Pershing Counties and parts of Washoe, Lyon and Churchill Counties. This area includes all lands within the WD administrative boundary regardless of ownership and includes public lands within the Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA). The BLM manages about 75 percent, or about 8.4 million acres, of public lands within this administrative boundary. The WD planning area encompasses about 7.2 million acres of public lands and does not include private lands, federal lands not administered by the BLM, tribal lands, or state lands. Public lands within the NCA are also not included in the planning area as they are managed under the Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA RMP. Where program administrative boundaries overlap (e.g., grazing allotments, priority wildlife areas, herd management areas [HMAs]), public lands will be managed in full conformance with the NCA RMP and the WD RMP. The WD Decision area includes about 7.4 million acres of public lands within the planning area, excluding the NCA, plus certain lands administered outside of the planning area, managed in accordance with memorandums of agreement between adjoining BLM Districts. These include the Little Owyhee and Bullhead Allotments located within the administrative boundary of the BLM Elko District. The BLM manages the surface and subsurface of federal lands under its jurisdiction and, in some cases, has administrative duties for mineral activities on lands managed by other federal agencies or on private split-estate lands.

The ROD documents the approval of the RMP, describes the modifications and clarifications made to the Proposed RMP after release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), presents an overview of the alternatives considered in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, provides rationale for the decision, identifies mitigation and the monitoring plan, and describes the public involvement process, consultation and coordination conducted during the planning process. The RMP presents the purpose and need warranting the revisiting decisions in the 1982 MFP and 1999 Lands Amendments, planning issues considered and addressed, overall vision for the RMP, management decisions, and how the RMP will be implemented and evaluated. The ROD and RMP are supported by maps and appendices.

The WD RMP was one of the plans identified during the development of the Greater Sage Grouse EIS as one that will be amended as a result of the EIS and related decisions. This was presented to the public in the Notice of Intent (Federal Register Notice #76 FR 77008 12/09/2011). A copy of this Federal Register Notice is available on the Nevada/California Greater Sage Grouse website: https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/lup/21152/29302/30502/NOI_2011-31652_.pdf. ACEC nominations are being analyzed in the Greater Sage Grouse EIS.

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