



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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In Reply Refer To:
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(NV020.00)(1610)

Dear Reader:

Enclosed is the Winnemucca District's Record of Decision (ROD) and approved Resource Management Plan (RMP). The ROD approves the RMP which will provide overall direction for management of resources on BLM administered land within the Winnemucca District. The RMP was developed through a collaborative process that included consultation with cooperating agencies, input from the Resource Advisory Council Subgroup, consideration of public comments received from issuance of the Draft RMP and associated Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and protests received on the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

The Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) requires the development and maintenance, and, as appropriate, the revision of land use plans for public lands. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for major Federal actions that could significantly affect the environment. In fulfillment of these requirements, the Draft RMP/Draft EIS incorporating analysis and input provided by the public; local, State, and other Federal agencies and organizations; Native American tribes; Cooperating Agencies, and BLM personnel was published in June of 2010. A 90-day public comment period ensued, which was extended an additional 30 days. By the end of this review period, 1,348 comments had been submitted. These comments were reviewed, summarized and considered in preparing the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

The Proposed RMP/Final EIS was made available in September 2013 for a 30-day protest period. Eleven protest letters were received. Protest issues are addressed in the Protest Summary Report, available on line at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/rmp.html

The preferred alternative, Alternative D, is being selected as the approved RMP. The ROD and RMP provide a framework for the future management direction and appropriate uses on approximately 8.4 million acres of public lands located within the jurisdiction of the Winnemucca District. The Winnemucca District is located in Northern Nevada and encompasses all of Humboldt and Pershing Counties, and parts of Washoe, Lyon and Churchill Counties.

After much consideration and adjustment, the BLM now approves the PRMP (Alternative D) as the District's land use planning document that will guide management for the next 20 years. The approved plan provides an optimal balance between the protection of sensitive cultural and natural resource values within the District and authorized resource uses.

Copies of the ROD and RMP can be obtained from the Winnemucca District's RMP webpage at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/rmp.html. Additional printed or CD copies may be obtained at: 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV 89445; or requested by email at: wfoweb@blm.gov; or by telephone at: 775-623-1500.

The BLM appreciates the extensive public involvement and the involvement of groups, organizations, cooperating agencies; local, State, and other Federal agencies; and Native American tribal representatives who contributed to the completion of this RMP.

This participation informed and improved the planning process and the planning documents. Your continued involvement is encouraged as the RMP becomes implemented and monitored as we move forward in managing the public lands together in the Winnemucca District.

Sincerely,



John F. Ruhs
Acting Nevada State Director

Enclosure:

1. Winnemucca District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan