



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Colorado State Office  
2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7210  
[www.co.blm.gov](http://www.co.blm.gov)



In Reply Refer to:  
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**MAY 20 2016**

Dear Reader:

The Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMP/EIS) for the Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) is available for your review and comment. The BLM prepared this document in consultation with cooperating agencies, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, implementing regulations, the BLM's Land Use Planning Handbook (H-1601-1), and other applicable law and policy.

This Draft considers management for all BLM administered lands and minerals in the Uncompahgre Planning Area. The Planning Area consists of about 675,800 acres of BLM-administered public lands and 971,220 acres of federal subsurface mineral estate in Delta, Gunnison, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel Counties in southwestern Colorado. The planning area does not include the Gunnison Gorge or Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Areas, which are managed under separate RMPs. When approved, this RMP will replace the 1985 San Juan/San Miguel RMP and 1989 Uncompahgre Basin RMP and will guide the management of public lands administered by the Uncompahgre Field Office into the future. The Uncompahgre Draft RMP/EIS and supporting information is available on the project web site at: <http://www.uformp.com>.

The BLM encourages the public to provide information and comments regarding the analysis presented in the Draft RMP/EIS. Your timely comments on the Uncompahgre Draft RMP/EIS will help formulate the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. We are particularly interested in comments concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the proposed alternatives, the analysis of their respective management decisions, and any new information that would help the BLM as it continues to develop the RMP.

In developing the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, which is the next phase of the planning process, the BLM decision maker may select management decisions from each of the alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS for the purpose of creating a management strategy that best meets the needs of the resources and values in this area under the BLM multiple-use and sustained-yield mandate.

If you wish to submit comments on the Draft RMPA/SEIS, please make your comments as specific as possible. Comments will be more helpful if they reference a section or page number and if they include suggest changes, methodologies, sources of information, or focus on components of the alternatives. Comments containing only opinions or preferences will be considered as part of the decision making process, although they will not receive a formal response from the BLM. Comments will be accepted for ninety (90) calendar days following the

Environmental Protection Agency's publication of its Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. The BLM can best utilize your comments and resource information submissions if received within the review period.

Comments may be submitted electronically (email) to: [uformp@blm.gov](mailto:uformp@blm.gov). Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Project Manager, Uncompahgre RMP  
Bureau of Land Management  
Uncompahgre Field Office  
2465 South Townsend Ave  
Montrose, CO 81401

To facilitate analysis of comments and information submitted, we strongly encourage you to submit comments in an electronic format (e.g. email). There is no need to submit the same comment more than once or in more than one format.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Public meetings to provide an overview of the document, respond to questions, and take written public comments will be announced by local media, the project website, and/or public mailings at least 15 days in advance.

Copies of the Uncompahgre Draft RMP/EIS have been sent to affected federal, state, and local government agencies and tribal governments. Copies of the document and associated documents such as maps and supporting background information can be reviewed at several locations: the project web site, the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office (2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401) or BLM Colorado State Office (2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, CO 80215) during normal working hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except weekends and holidays), and Public Libraries in the planning area.

A small number of the Uncompahgre Draft RMP/EIS have been printed. Viewing the document electronically from the project website or from a CD is encouraged.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Uncompahgre RMP. We appreciate the information and suggestions you contribute to the planning process. For additional information or clarification regarding this document or the planning process, please contact the RMP Project Manager at the address shown above.

Sincerely,



Ruth Welch  
Colorado State Director