

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit this website for more information about the planning process: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st_george/planning2/nca_resource_management.html

Find out more about the National Conservation Areas by visiting this website: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st_george/blm_special_areas/national_landscape.html

To speak with the BLM-Utah Planning Coordinator, contact Keith Rigtrup at (435) 865-3063 or krigtrup@blm.gov

OUTREACH

A BLM-UT ST. GEORGE FIELD OFFICE PLANNING NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2016



**NATIONAL
CONSERVATION
LANDS**

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BREAKING NEWS | Proposed RMPs Released

Proposed Resource Management Plans (RMPs) for Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area and Red Cliffs National Conservation Area and a Proposed Amendment to the St. George Field Office Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) released for a 30 day protest period.

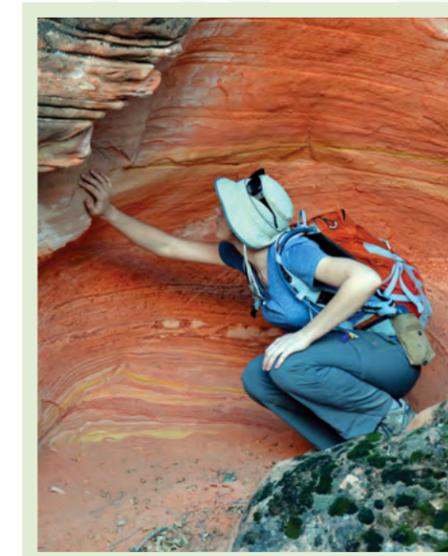
The 63,478 acre Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area (NCA) and the 44,859 acre Red Cliffs NCA are located within the administrative boundaries of the St. George Field Office, in Washington County, Utah. Congress established the two NCAs when, on March 30, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11, OPLMA); Subtitle O concerns federal

lands in Washington County, Utah. The two NCAs were created to “conserve, protect, and enhance...the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources” of the public lands (OPLMA Sections 1974 and 1975).

Through OPLMA, the St. George Field Office was directed to develop comprehensive management plans for the two NCAs and also take actions on other public lands in Washington County that require the St. George Field Office Record of Decision (ROD) and RMP (approved in 1999, amended in 2001) be amended. The three planning efforts were initiated concurrently in 2010, thereby facilitating the preparation of a single EIS to disclose the environmental

consequences of implementing the two new land use plans and an amendment to the current St. George Field Office RMP.

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MORE NEWS

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On July 17, 2015, the BLM released the Draft RMPs for the Beaver Dam Wash NCA and the Red Cliffs NCA, a Draft Amendment to the St. George Field Office RMP, and a Draft EIS for a 90 day public review and comment period. The BLM distributed a newsletter that announced the availability of the draft plans, the dates and locations of three public Open Houses, and provided information about how to provide comments. The draft documents were posted on the BLM's website and were available as hard copies and CDs at the Interagency Public Information Center in St. George, the BLM-Utah State Office, the Washington County Library (St. George) and the Salt Lake City Main Library. The documents were also available at the three public Open Houses

that were held in early September in St. George, Hurricane, and Salt Lake City, Utah. Responding to requests from the public, the BLM-Utah Acting State Director extended the comment period until November 16, 2015.

The Proposed RMPs and Proposed Amendment/Final EIS include many of the management goals, objectives, and actions identified in BLM's Preferred Alternative, Alternative B. However, the BLM used its discretion to combine components of the other alternatives analyzed in the Draft EIS, to address public concerns, while still meeting the Congressionally-defined purposes of the NCAs and OPLMA's mandates related to public land management in Washington County.



@Cameron Rogan

"When there is information, there is enlightenment. When there is debate, there are solutions."
-Atifete Jahjaga

Review Documents

How do I get copies of the Proposed NCA RMPs and Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS?

- 1 View or download the Adobe Acrobat (PDF) documents on the BLM's ePlanning website at <https://bit.ly/2av3Q1i>.
- 2 Obtain a copy of the PDF documents on compact disk (CD) from the following locations, during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays: Public Lands Information Center, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790, or BLM-Utah State Office Public Room, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.
- 3 Review a hard copy in the Public Lands Information Center and in the BLM-Utah State Office Public Room at the locations shown above.
- 4 Review a hard copy at the Washington County Public Library, 88 West 100 South, St. George, Utah 84770 and the Main Library, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

Filing a Protest

How do I protest the Proposed NCA RMPs and Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS?

The "Dear Reader Letter," found on page iii of the proposed plans, includes all of the information needed to protest, including the timeframe within which a protest must be filed and what must be included in a valid protest.



Scott Root, UDWR

NEXT STEPS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

