



Kanab Field Office
318 N. 100 E.
Kanab, Utah 84741
(435) 644.4600

For Immediate Release
October 12, 2007

Contact: Larry "E" Crutchfield, 435-644-4310

**BLM releases Kanab Field Office Draft Resource Management
Plan for public review**

KANAB, UT– The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released its draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement (RMP/EIS) on Friday. The RMP/EIS is aimed at providing direction for how public lands in Kane and Garfield Counties, administered by the BLM's Kanab Field Office, will be managed in the future to sustain the land's health, diversity and productivity.

The draft RMP/EIS analyzes four alternatives covering a broad spectrum of management options. BLM selected a preferred alternative developed to provide the most reasonable and balanced approach to managing the public lands resources and uses. This alternative emphasizes protecting important environmental values and sensitive resources while allowing for commodities development, and offers a full range of recreation opportunities.

The release of a draft RMP represents a significant step in public lands management. The Kanab Field Office and its cooperators have been working on the effort for the past three years.

This planning effort will result in a comprehensive resource management plan for 500,000 acres of public lands administered by the Kanab Field Office. The draft plan identifies how various programs like special designations, travel management, recreation, minerals, wildlife, and livestock grazing would be managed in the future.

As provided by Federal planning regulations, the public is welcome to comment during the standard 90-day comment period which ends Jan. 10, 2008. The Kanab Field Office has planned five public meetings in Kanab, Escalante, Panguitch, St. George, and Salt Lake City, Utah, to provide information and answer questions from the public. The meetings will be held at the following locations from 6 to 8 p.m. on the following dates:

Tues., Nov. 27
GSENM Visitors Center
745 Highway 89 East
Kanab, Utah
Wednesday, November 28

Escalante Interagency Visitors Center
775 West Main
Escalante, Utah

Thurs., Nov. 29
Triple C Arena
50 East 900 North
Panguitch, Utah

Tues., Dec. 4
Dixie Center
1835 Convention Center Drive
St. George, Utah

Wed., Dec. 5
Salt Lake City Library
210 East 400 South
Salt Lake City, Utah

The draft RMP/EIS is available online at: <http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/kanab/planning.html>
This website also contains background information about the plan, as well as an electronic public comment form. Comments may also be mailed to the BLM Kanab Field Office, 318 North 100 East, Kanab, UT 84741, or emailed to UT_Kanab_Comments@blm.gov.

Copies of the draft RMP/EIS are also available for public review at the Kanab and Salt Lake City public libraries, at the Utah State BLM Office and the Kanab BLM Field office.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the draft RMP/EIS, please contact the Kanab Field Office at (435) 644-4600 or at the above address.

-BLM-