

## Livestock Grazing Plan Amendment EIS

# PLANNING CRITERIA AND PLANNING ISSUES

### PRELIMINARY PLANNING CRITERIA

The BLM prepares planning criteria to guide the management plan amendment process. Planning criteria are the standards, rules, and other factors that the BLM uses to form judgments about decisionmaking, analysis, and data collection during planning. The BLM, in consultation with the National Park Service (NPS), has identified the following preliminary planning criteria.

- The Plan Amendment will be limited to making land use planning decisions specific to livestock grazing.
- Lands addressed in the Plan Amendment will be public lands managed by the BLM and the NPS.
- Grazing within GCNRA will be administered in a manner that protects GCNRA values and purposes pursuant to Public Law 92–593 and in accordance with the 1916 NPS Organic Act.
- The process must utilize the *Utah BLM Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management*. The BLM will apply existing applicable Land Health Standards to all alternatives.
- The approved GSENM Plan Amendment will comply with FLPMA, NEPA, National Historic Preservation Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508, Department of the Interior regulations at 43 CFR part 46 and 43 CFR part 1600, the BLM *H–1601–1 Land Use Planning Handbook*, the 2008 BLM *H–1790–1 NEPA Handbook*, and all other applicable BLM policies and guidance.
- Land use planning decisions must be consistent with the purpose and objectives outlined in the presidential proclamation for GSENM and the enabling legislation for GCNRA, as applicable.
- Socio-economic analysis will use an accepted input-output quantitative model such as IMPLAN or RIMSII, and/or JEDI for analysis.
- The BLM and the NPS will review and use as appropriate current scientific information, research, technologies, and results of inventory, monitoring, and coordination to determine appropriate management strategies.
- The BLM and the NPS will coordinate and communicate with State, local, and tribal governments to ensure that the BLM and the NPS consider provisions of pertinent plans, seek to resolve inconsistencies between State, local, and Tribal plans, and provide ample opportunities for State, local, and Tribal governments to comment on the development of amendments.
- The Plan Amendment will be based on the principles of adaptive management.

Are there additional criteria that the BLM and the NPS should consider? Do you have specific information related to these criteria that should be considered?

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*The BLM is an agency in the US Department of the Interior that manages approximately a quarter billion acres – more than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. Approximately 27 million acres of BLM administered lands make up the collection of National Conservation Lands, also known as the National Landscape Conservation System. These include BLM National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, and National Scenic and Historic Trails. The mission of the National Conservation Lands is to conserve, protect, and restore these nationally significant landscapes that are recognized for their outstanding cultural, ecological,*

**NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS**



# PLANNING CRITERIA AND PLANNING ISSUES

(continued)

## PRELIMINARY PLANNING ISSUES

Planning issues are concerns or controversies about existing and potential land and resource allocations, levels of resource use, and related management practices. Planning issues may lead to the development of alternatives or to analysis of potentially significant impacts.

Preliminary planning issues related to livestock grazing that are likely to be addressed in the plan amendment and environmental impact statement are listed below.

- Effects on GSENM proclamation-identified scientific and historic objects and values
- Lands available for livestock grazing within the planning area
- Effects on the resources and values for which GCNRA was established
- Forage currently available on an area-wide basis for livestock grazing and available for future anticipated demands
- Guidelines and criteria for future allotment-specific adjustments, such as rotational grazing plans, that affect the livestock use
- Impacts on local custom and culture as well as the area's economy
- Management of existing rangeland improvement seedings

These preliminary planning issues may be revised based on the comments we receive, and new issue statements may be added. Are there other issues that the BLM and

the NPS should consider? Do you have specific information related to these issues that should be considered?



For more information, please visit the GSENM Livestock Grazing Plan Amendment Webpage: <http://blm.gov/pgld>

**Please submit your comments by  
January 13, 2013.**

You can email, fax, or mail your comments.

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

