



# Bureau of Land Management

Utah  
News

MOAB FIELD OFFICE  
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HTTP://WWW.BLM.GOV/UT/ST/EN.HTML

For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Beth Ransel, (435)259-2100

## **BLM Seeks Public Comment on Permanently Restricting Roped Activities at Corona Arch and Gemini Bridges**

**Moab, Utah**—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office is seeking public comment on an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed permanent restriction to rope use at Corona Arch and Gemini Bridges, examples of rope use include ziplining, highlining, slacklining, climbing, rappelling and swinging.

Corona Arch and Gemini Bridges are iconic hiking destinations for many visitors to Moab. Corona Arch was acquired in 2014 by the BLM from the State of Utah and is within a Hiking Focus Area. A two-year temporary restriction on roped activities on the two arches was instituted in early 2015. The EA analyzes the impacts of roped activities, including rope-swinging and other such high-adrenaline activities, on the experiences of the visitor that has hiked to the arch to enjoy its splendor.

In January of 2015, the BLM concluded a public involvement process resulting in a Decision closing the two arches to roped activities for a period of two years. The two year temporary restriction became effective on May 14, 2015 and is currently in place.

The EA, including maps of the proposed restrictions, can be accessed, and comments submitted electronically, using the BLM ePlanning website:

[https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do)

Please navigate to the website identified above, choose the “Advanced Search” hyperlink under “Text Search,” and type “Permanent Restriction of Corona Arch and Gemini Bridges to Roped Activities” in the “Project Name” field. Open the project webpage (located at the bottom of the page) and click on “Documents,” then select the “Comment on Document” button if you wish to provide a comment. Electronic comments are due by February 19, 2016.

Written comments will also be accepted by letter through February 19, 2016. Please reference “Corona” when submitting written comments. Written comments may be mailed using the following addresses:

Bureau of Land Management

Moab Field Office  
82 East Dogwood  
Moab, Utah 84532

Please note that the most useful comments are those that contain new technical or scientific information relevant to the proposed action. Comments should be as specific as possible. Comments which contain only opinions or preferences will not receive a formal response but may be considered in the BLM decision-making process.

Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comments, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. The BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

For additional information, contact Katie Stevens at (435) 259-2100. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question with the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

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