News Release
Royal Gorge Field Office, Colorado

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BLM Seeks Comments on Draft Management Plan for Land and Mineral Estate in Eastern Colorado

CANON CITY, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Royal Gorge Field Office today announced the release of its draft plan for managing BLM-administered surface land and mineral estate in eastern Colorado. The BLM is seeking public comments on the four alternative management scenarios analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan. The preferred alternative allows for sustainably developing energy and natural resources and increasing access to minerals, renewable energy, livestock grazing, right-of-way development, and recreation.

These public lands generate up to 1,400 jobs and $370 million in regional revenue annually, primarily through recreation, agriculture, and energy development.

“Our partners and constituents have provided valuable input throughout this process,” said BLM Royal Gorge Field Manager Keith Berger. “Their perspectives are critical and we want to ensure that the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan is responsive to their needs.”


The alternatives in the Draft RMP are compatible with existing plans and policies of adjacent local, state, and federal agencies. The alternatives also conform with federal laws and regulations that govern resource management on public lands. In addition, the RMP will recognize valid existing rights, including grazing permits, archaeological and paleontological permits, and recreation permits.

The formal 90-day public comment period for the Draft Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement will begin when the Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register, scheduled for June 21, 2019. During this time, the document will be available for review on the BLM’s ePlanning website at https://go.usa.gov/xQcZT.

BLM staff will be hosting public open house events during the formal comment period, where the public will be invited to discuss the plan with BLM staff specialists. Meetings are currently scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30
p.m. on the following dates. If changes occur to the meeting schedule, updates can be found on the ePlanning website.

- July 8, in Salida at the SteamPlant Event Center, 220 West Sackett Avenue
- July 9 in Cañon City at The Abbey, 3011 East Highway 50
- July 11 in Fairplay at the Fairplay Community Center, 880 Bogue Street
- July 15: Walsenburg at the Washington School, 201 East 5th Street
- July 18: Golden at the Denver Marriott West, 1717 Denver West Boulevard
- July 22: Colorado Springs at the Westside Community Center, 1628 W Bijou Street
- July 23: Greeley at the Greeley Recreation Center, 651 10th Avenue

Members of the public are encouraged to submit comments through the BLM’s ePlanning website at https://go.usa.gov/xQcZT and must be received by the closing date of September, 20 2019.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or any other personal identifying information in your comments, be advised that your entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request the BLM to withhold personal identifying information from public view, the BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so.

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*The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated $96 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2017. These activities supported more than 468,000 jobs.*