

United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



Upper Colorado River District 2815 H Road Grand Junction, CO 81506 www.blm.gov/colorado

In Reply Refer To: 1610 (LLCOG00000)

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is pleased to announce the completion of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the **Colorado River Valley Field Office (CRVFO)**. Within the CRVFO portion of the planning area, approximately 517,500 acres of BLM-administered surface lands and approximately 711,300 acres of BLM-administered federal fluid mineral estate in Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Pitkin, and Routt Counties in Colorado.

The BLM prepared this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to comply with the settlement agreements in litigation of the CRVFO RMP (Wilderness Workshop v. BLM, 16-cv-01822) and subsequent oil and gas leasing in both field offices (Wilderness Workshop v. BLM, 18-cv-00987) as well as to revisit the Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO) RMP, as described in the BLM's motion for voluntary remand in litigation associated with the GJFO RMP (Center for Biological Diversity v. BLM, 19-cv-02869).

The enclosed ROD and Approved RMP were prepared in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The ROD serves as the final decision for all land use planning decisions described in the enclosed Approved RMP.

The BLM provided the Proposed RMP/Final Supplemental EIS for public protest on June 21, 2024 for a 30-day protest period and received three protest letters and one comment letter. The BLM Assistant Director resolved all protests. Responses to protest issues have been compiled and documented in a Protest Resolution Report. After careful review of the report by the BLM's Assistant Director for Resources and Planning, the Assistant Director concluded that the BLM Colorado State Director followed the applicable laws, regulations, and policies and considered all relevant resource information and public input. The Assistant Director addressed the protests and issued a Protest Resolution Report to protesting parties and posted the report on the BLM's website; no changes to the Proposed RMP/Final Supplemental EIS were necessary.

The 60-day Governor's consistency review period for the Proposed RMP/Final Supplemental EIS, which promotes consistency with State government plans or policies, concluded on August

20, 2024. The Governor's office did not identify any inconsistencies with State government plans or policies.

The ROD and Approved RMP are available online at https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2016085/510. Printed copies of the ROD/Approved RMP are available for public inspection at the Colorado River Valley Field Office.

The BLM greatly appreciates all those who contributed to this planning effort, particularly members of the public, who provided important feedback; our cooperating agencies, which included federal, state, and local governments; and Native American Tribes. The extensive public interest and involvement in this planning process ensured that the Approved RMP will sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of BLM-administered lands.

Sincerely,

Greg Larson District Manager