News Release

BLM Wyoming, High Desert District, Rock Springs Field Office

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BLM seeks additional input for resource management plan in southwestern Wyoming

Scoping period extended 45 days and public meeting scheduled for Dec. 3

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo. – The Bureau of Land Management is providing additional time for the public to comment on a proposed amendment and associated environmental assessment that will review special management designations and evaluate mineral development opportunities across approximately 3.6 million acres of BLM-managed land in Fremont, Sublette, and Sweetwater counties, Wyoming. The BLM will accept comments until Dec. 18, 2025.

"This amendment is about striking a better balance," said **Acting BLM Wyoming State Director Kris Kirby**. "By providing more time for public review and comment, the BLM is ensuring a transparent process to assess how we can support multiple-use management, meet current energy demands, and honor the unique ecological, cultural and recreational values of that make these lands unique."

The BLM also will host a public meeting as an opportunity for the public to learn more about the proposed amendment. The meeting will occur Dec. 3, 2025, from 3-6 p.m. MST at the Sweetwater Events Complex, 3320 Yellowstone Road, Rock Springs.

The amendment responds to <u>Executive Order 14154</u>, Unleashing American Energy, which direct federal agencies to reassess policies that may unnecessarily restrict access to domestic energy and mineral resources. The BLM determined that existing mineral restrictions and special management designations within the Rock Springs Field Office require reevaluation.

The planning area contains twelve <u>Areas of Critical Environmental Concern</u>, five <u>Special Recreation Management Areas</u>, a <u>National Historic Trails</u> corridor, and thirteen <u>Wilderness Study Areas</u>. The BLM will reexamine these designations to determine whether special management is still warranted and where development may be appropriate. The amendment will also consider advances in technology, evolving industry interest, and updated mineral potential data.

The BLM encourages participation from local communities, Tribes, industry, and stakeholders throughout the process. Public comments will help identify relevant issues and inform the development of alternatives in the environmental assessment. The BLM is also accepting nominations for new Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

The BLM is committed to providing access to the meeting information for all participants. Individuals who need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact BLM in advance at BLM_WY_RockSpringsRMP@blm.gov. People who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message; you will receive a reply during normal business hours.

Additional information is available at the <u>BLM National NEPA Register</u>, where comments may be submitted through the "Participate Now" option. For more information, please contact BLM at 307-775-6015 or <u>BLM_WY_RockSpringsRMP@blm.gov</u>.

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The BLM manages about 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 western states, including Alaska, on behalf of the American people. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. Our mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.