



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tres Rios Field Office
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, Colorado 81323

In Reply Refer To:
1794 (LLC0S01000)

JAN 16 2020

RE: DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2020-0009-EA

OPTIONAL REPLY DUE: February 11, 2020

Dear Interested Party:

The Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tres Rios Field Office (TRFO) is seeking input on a proposal to revise the 1994 Spring Creek Basin Herd Area Management Plan (HMAP) for the Spring Creek Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area in Dolores and San Miguel Counties, Colorado. You are receiving this letter because you have been identified as a party interested in the associated activities.

The BLM is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) to analyze the proposed action and alternatives to that action.

What: **Name/Type of Proposed Project:** Spring Creek Basin Herd Management Area Plan (HMAP) Revision.

Where: **General and Legal:** This Spring Creek Basin Herd Management Area (HMA) is located within the Spring Creek Basin portion of Disappointment Valley in Southwest Colorado (Map 1). The HMA is approximately 21,932 acres in size and lies within both Dolores and San Miguel Counties.

Disturbance: **Estimated Disturbance (acres/area) Description:** The HMAP Revision will include the proposal for constructing two water catchment structures which will result in approximately 1.0 acres of total of ground disturbance.

When: **Expected Implementation and Duration:** The Herd Management Area Plan would be implemented immediately following the issuance of the Final Decision.

Purpose and Need: The BLM is proposing to revise the 1994 Spring Creek Basin HMAP. Herd Area Management Plans identify specific management actions, goals, objectives and monitoring for managing wild horses and/or burro herds and their habitat. Therefore, the proposed HMAP revision will identify goals, objectives and monitoring to address 1) existing appropriate management level (AML) of wild horses; 2) rangeland health conditions; 3) population control measures; 4) removal criteria and gather techniques; 5) genetics; 6) population dynamics; 7) range improvements; and 8) sustaining healthy populations of wild horses.

The proposed project documents and maps are available for review at the Tres Rios Field Office, 29211 Highway 184, Dolores, Colorado 81323. The project information can also be accessed electronically using the BLM ePlanning project website: <https://go.usa.gov/xpJKn>

If you need assistance accessing documents through the website, you may contact Michael Jensen of this office by phone at (970) 882-1126, or e-mail at M50jense@blm.gov.

Comments regarding the project can also be mailed to the following addresses:

BLM Tres Rios Field Office
Attn: Michael Jensen
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323

NEPA review will be used to comply with public involvement component of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). We invite you to comment on the effects of the proposal on cultural resources in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

If you have questions regarding the proposed project or for additional project-specific information, please contact Michael Jensen, Rangeland Management Specialist, at 970-882-1126.

Sincerely,



Connie Clementson
Tres Rios Field Manager

Enclosure:
Map

Map 1 Spring Creek Basin HMA

