

of multiple use and sustained yield in a manner that best addresses the purpose and need.

### Interdisciplinary Team

The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the plan amendment in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Specialists with expertise in the following disciplines will be involved in this planning effort: lands and realty, wildlife, botany, archaeology, air quality, hydrology, socioeconomics, outdoor recreation, rangeland management, soils, and visual resources.

### Additional Information

The BLM will identify, analyze, and consider mitigation to address the reasonably foreseeable impacts to resources from the Project and proposed RMP amendment and all analyzed reasonable alternatives and, in accordance with 40 CFR 1502.14(e), include appropriate mitigation measures not already included in the Proposed Action including the proposed RMP amendment or alternatives. Mitigation may include avoidance, minimization, rectification, reduction or elimination over time, and compensation; mitigation may be considered at multiple scales, including the landscape scale.

The BLM will utilize and coordinate the NEPA and land use planning processes for this planning effort to help support compliance with applicable procedural requirements under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3), including public involvement requirements of Section 106. Information about historic and cultural resources and threatened and endangered species within the area potentially affected by the Project and proposed RMP amendment will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources.

The BLM will consult with Indian Tribal Nations on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175, BLM MS 1780, and other Departmental policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time.

While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2, 43 CFR 2091, 43 CFR 2800.)

**Raymond Suazo,**

*State Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[MTM–56312–01]

#### Notice of Application for Withdrawal Extension and Opportunity for Public Meeting, Wisdom Administrative Site; Montana

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of withdrawal application.

**SUMMARY:** On behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Forest Service (USFS) filed an application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting the Secretary of the Interior extend Public Land Order (PLO) No. 6560 for an additional 20-year term. PLO No. 6560 as extended by PLO No. 7610 withdrew 59.99 acres of public domain land outside the exterior boundary of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Beaverhead County, Montana from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws and transferred administrative jurisdiction to the USFS, subject to valid existing rights, to protect the USFS-managed administrative site. The withdrawal created by PLO No. 6560 as extended will expire on August 5, 2024, unless extended. This notice announces to the public an opportunity to comment on the USFS application.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by October 5, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** All written comments should be sent to the Office of the Regional Forester, Northern Region, 26 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula Montana 59804.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Will Pedde, Land Status Program Manager, USFS Region One, 406–329–3204 or via email at [will.pedde@usda.gov](mailto:will.pedde@usda.gov) or you may contact the USFS office at the earlier address. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech

disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or Tele Braille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USFS filed an application requesting extension of the withdrawal established by PLO No. 6560 (49 FR 32068 (1984)) as extended by PLO No. 7610 (69 FR 50213 (2004)), which withdrew 59.99 acres of public lands in Beaverhead County, Montana, from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws (30 U.S.C. ch. 2), subject to valid existing rights, for a 20-year term. PLO No. 6560 is incorporated herein by reference.

The purpose of the proposed extension is to protect the USFS-managed facilities and capital improvements from surface entry and mining within the Wisdom Administrative Site.

The use of a rights-of-way, interagency agreement, or cooperative agreement would not provide adequate protection for this site.

There are no suitable alternative administrative sites available.

No water rights will be needed to fulfill the purpose of the withdrawal.

All interested persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the withdrawal extension application may submit a written request to the Regional Forester by October 5, 2023, at the address in the **ADDRESSES** section earlier.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at Region One, 26 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, Montana 59804, during regular business hours.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask the BLM in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from the public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

This application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2310.4.

(Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1714.)

**Sonya Germann,**  
State Director.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[BLM\_CO\_FRN\_MO4500170164]

#### Notice of Availability of the Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan, Colorado

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Eastern Colorado RMP and by this notice is announcing the start of a 30-day protest period of the Proposed RMP and public comment on proposed target shooting closures.

**DATES:** This notice announces a 30-day protest period to the BLM on the Proposed RMP beginning with the date following the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) publication of its Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in the **Federal Register**. The EPA usually publishes its NOAs on Fridays. Protests must be postmarked or electronically submitted on the BLM's ePlanning site during the 30-day protest period.

In accordance with the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019 (Dingell Act, Pub. L. 116-9, Section 4103), the BLM is announcing the opening of a 60-day public comment period on the proposed closure of recreational target shooting (referred to as "target shooting" in the RMP) near residences and at certain rock climbing areas, trail networks, campgrounds, and other high-use recreation sites identified in the Proposed RMP alternative.

**ADDRESSES:** The Proposed RMP and Final EIS is available on the BLM ePlanning project website at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/39877>. Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined online at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/39877> and at the Royal Gorge Field Office.

Instructions for filing a protest of the proposed Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan can be found at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/filing-a-plan-protest> and at 43 CFR 1610.5-2.

You may submit comments on the proposed shooting closures by the following methods:

*Mail:* RMP Project Manager Royal, Gorge Field Office, 3028 E Main St., Cañon City, CO 81212.

*Email:* [BLM\\_CO\\_RG\\_RMP\\_Comments@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_CO_RG_RMP_Comments@blm.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Smeins, Project Manager, telephone (719) 252-8212; address 3028 E Main St., Cañon City, CO 81212; email [jsmeins@blm.gov](mailto:jsmeins@blm.gov). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services for contacting Mr. Smeins. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM prepared the Eastern Colorado Proposed RMP/Final EIS to evaluate and revise the management strategy for resources, resource uses, and special designations on public lands managed by the Royal Gorge Field Office, which is the planning area for the RMP. Existing management decisions for public lands and resources in the Royal Gorge Field Office are currently described in two documents: the 1986 Northeast RMP, as amended; and the 1996 Royal Gorge RMP, as amended.

The planning area encompasses approximately 35 million acres of land under various jurisdictions, including the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, State of Colorado, and local government and private lands in 37 counties across south-central and eastern Colorado. The Browns Canyon National Monument is not part of the planning area for this RMP/EIS, as it is the subject of a separate plan. The Eastern Colorado RMP will provide management direction for approximately 658,200 acres of BLM-administered surface land and approximately 3,311,900 acres of BLM-administered mineral estate. The decision area includes all BLM public lands and approximately 2,673,000 acres of split-estate Federal minerals on private, local government, and State lands. It does not include National Forest System land and other Federal

land where the BLM does not make planning decisions about oil and gas management and other uses. The BLM typically adopts the requirements determined by those Federal surface-managing agencies when leasing the associated mineral estate; while such lands are within the planning area, they are outside the decision area for this RMP.

In preparing the Proposed RMP, the BLM evaluated, in detail, a No Action Alternative (Alternative A) and three action alternatives (Alternatives B, C and D). Alternative A retains the current management goals, objectives, and direction specified in the 1986 Northeast RMP and the 1996 Royal Gorge RMP. Alternative B emphasizes improving, rehabilitating, and restoring resources; sustaining the ecological integrity of habitats for all priority plant, wildlife, and fish species; and allowing appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, recreation, communication sites, and livestock grazing). Alternative C emphasizes a mix of uses that maximizes utilization of resources while protecting land health. The development scenarios for allowable uses in this alternative emphasize maximizing resource production in an environmentally responsible manner while maintaining the basic protection needed to sustain resources, including mitigating impacts on land health. Alternative D, the Proposed RMP, emphasizes balancing resources and resource use among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resource values, while sustaining and enhancing ecological integrity across the landscape, including plant, wildlife, and fish habitat. This alternative has four geographic landscapes with distinct management, and incorporates a balanced level of protection, restoration, and enhancement, as well as the use of resources and services to meet ongoing programs and land uses with an emphasis on local community visions for the future of public lands.

Public review of the Eastern Colorado Draft RMP/EIS began on June 21, 2019. The BLM held seven public open-house meetings across the Eastern Colorado Planning Area during the 90-day public comment period. Comments on the Draft RMP/EIS were considered and incorporated into the final EIS and proposed plan as appropriate. Public and cooperating agency comments and further internal BLM review resulted in the addition of clarifying text and refinement of Alternative D to include backcountry conservation areas, expanded ACEC designations, and the