BLM ROYAL GORGE FIELD OFFICE

Providing Comments During Public Scoping

John Smeins, Project Lead 3028 East Main Street Cañon City, CO 81212 Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Phone: (719) 269-8581 FAX: 719-269-8599

The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Royal Gorge Field Office (RGFO) is seeking public input as it initiates a Resource Management Plan (RMP) Revision and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for modifying the 1996 and 1986 RMPs, as amended. The Eastern Colorado RMP/EIS will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on BLM-administered lands within the planning area and establish a plan for managing those resources for the next 20-plus years under the BLM's multiple use mandate.

PROVIDING EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for you to be involved in the BLM's decision-making process and to offer your thoughts on alternative ways for the agency to accomplish what it is proposing. Many public land users, organizations, and individuals want to provide comments to help in the Eastern Colorado RMP planning effort. Comments that provide relevant and new information with sufficient detail are most useful and are referred to as substantive comments. The BLM reviews all comments and identifies the topics that are substantive for consideration in the final published scoping report. Try not to provide comments that offer opinion only.

Substantive comments during scoping do one or more of the following:

- Raise issues the BLM has not considered or reinforce issues the BLM has already identified
- Identify additional planning criteria
- Present information that can be used when developing alternatives
- Present reasonable alternatives
- Present information that can be used when the BLM considers impacts of alternatives
- Raise concerns, with reasoning, regarding public land resources within the planning area
- Raise concerns, with reasoning, regarding uses of BLM-administered lands within the planning area
- Recommend specific changes to the landscape or management actions
- Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in an existing report

Comments that are not substantive include:

- Comments in favor of or against an action without any reasoning (such as "I don't like ______
 without providing any rationale)
- Comments that only agree or disagree with BLM policy
- Comments without justification or supporting data (such as "allow more grazing")
- Comments that do not pertain to the planning area (such as "the government should eliminate all dams throughout the west")
- Comments that take the form of vague, open-ended questions

Comments can also be mailed to:

Comments can be faxed to: 719-269-8599

John Smeins
Bureau of Land Management
3028 East Main Street
Cañon City, CO 81212

Email address for public comments: ECRMP.comments@blm.gov

Ξ

Providing Comments During