



Welcome

White River Field Office

Oil and Gas

Resource Management Plan

Amendment (RMPA)

and

Environmental Impact

Statement (EIS)



We need you!

Your input

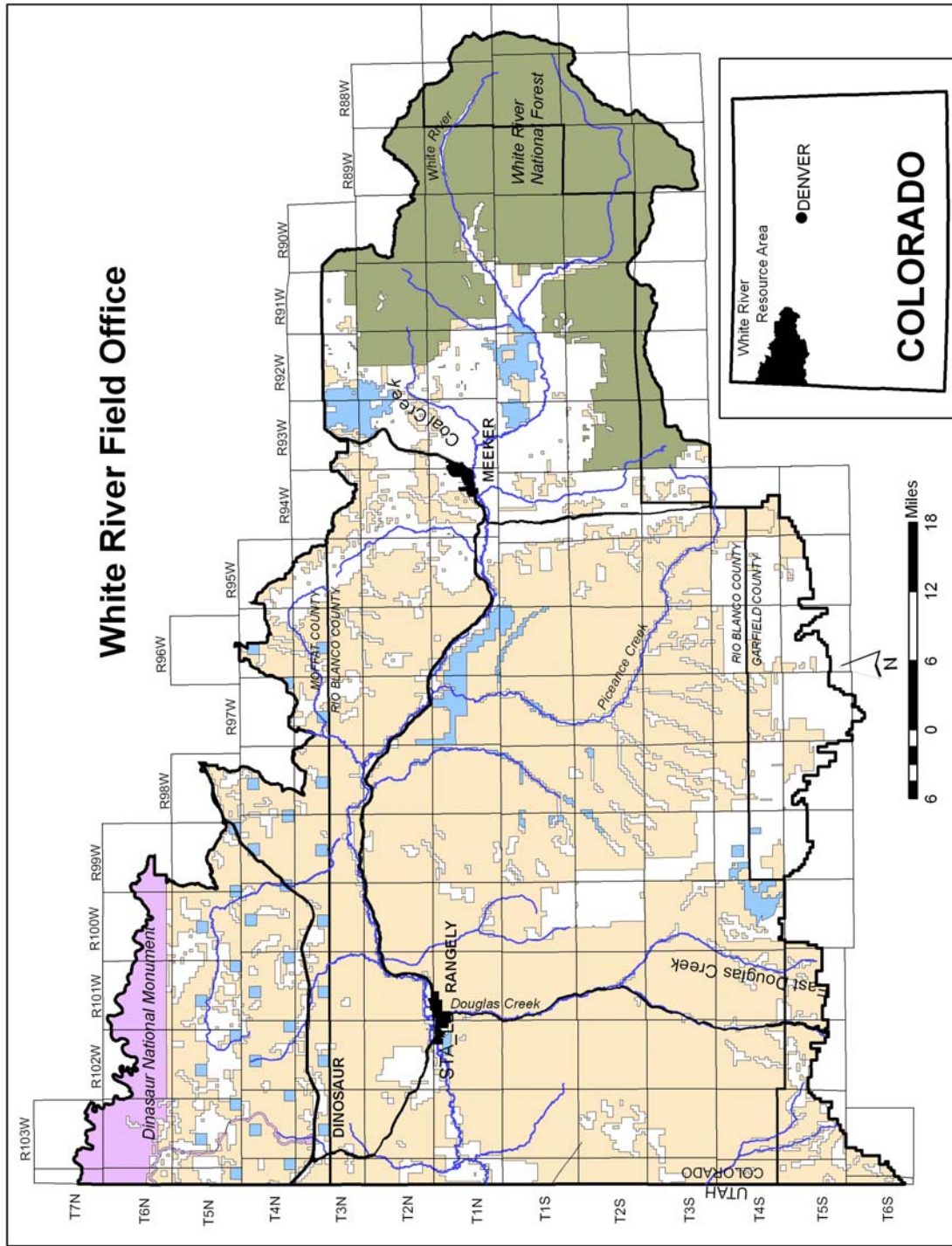
is vital to the process. Your comments help us identify the issues considered during preparation of the RMPA and EIS.



WHITE RIVER FIELD OFFICE OIL AND GAS RMP/A/EIS



White River Field Office





What is a Resource Management Plan (RMP)?

- A BLM planning document
- Presents systematic guidelines for making resource management decisions for a resource area
- Developed by an interdisciplinary team with public participation



White River Resource Area RMP Finalized in 1997

- Developed a Reasonable Foreseeable Development (RFD) scenario to determine likely future oil and gas development
- Determined appropriate multiple uses and allocated resources
- Developed strategies to manage and protect resources
- Established systems to monitor and evaluate the status of resources and the effectiveness of management practices over time



Why Amend the 1997 WRFO RMP?

- RMP Amendments are prepared when changing circumstances are outside the scope of the original RMP
- Significant growth in oil and gas activity is affecting the White River Field Office
- The RFD scenario on which the current RMP analysis was based did not foresee the currently projected level of oil and gas development



Why Amend the 1997 WRFO RMP?

- The 1997 RFD projected 1,100 wells
- Current estimates, based on technology, geologic characteristics and market considerations, show the potential for >10,000 wells over the next two decades



What kind of decisions will this RMPA/EIS address?

- A new RFD will be prepared for this RMPA/EIS
- The EIS will analyze potential impacts of the revised RFD



What kind of decisions will this RMPA/EIS address?

The RMPA/EIS will:

- Establish guidance, objectives, and management actions for oil and gas exploration and development
- Focus on mitigation measures or conditions under which increased development may take place
- Encompass resources within the entire White River Field Office
- Look at the appropriate balance of resource uses in the face of increased oil and gas development



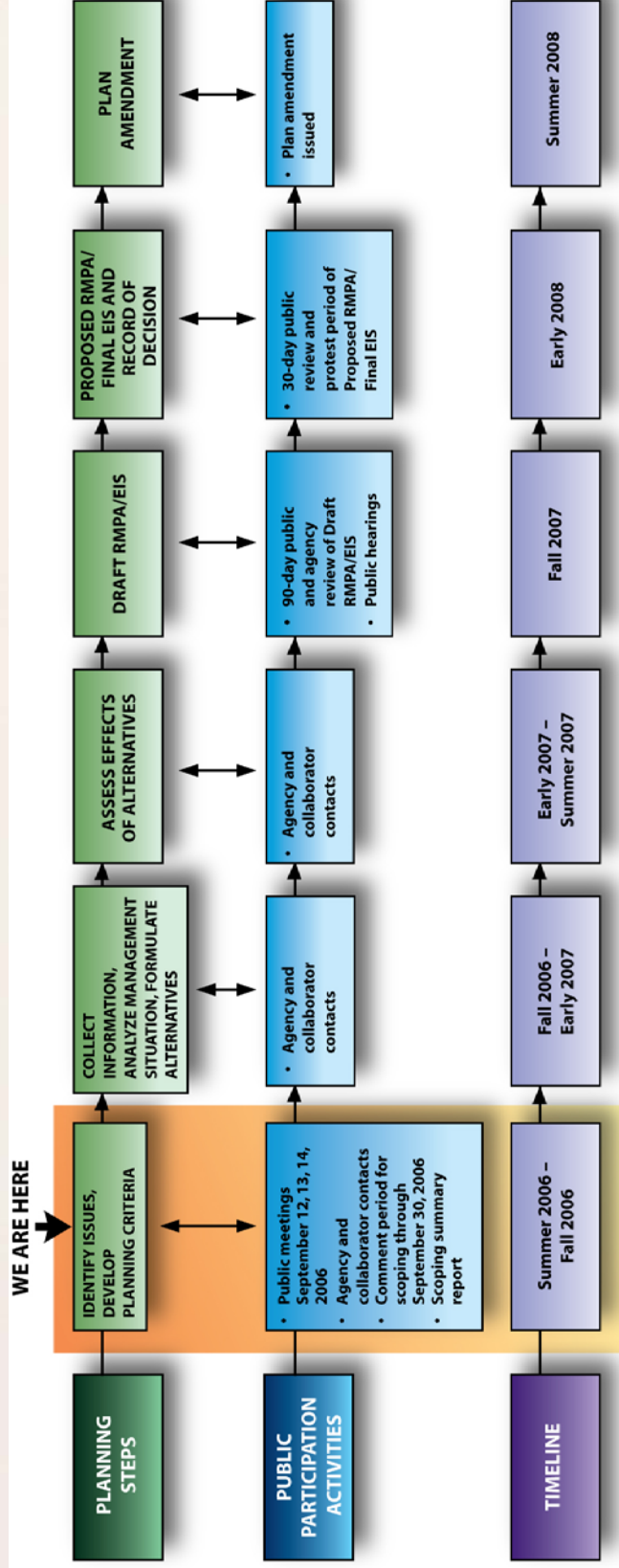
What kind of decisions will this RMPA/EIS address?

The RMPA/EIS will not:

- Revise all management decisions in the 1997 White River Field Office RMP
- Amend land use plan decisions that are not directly related to potential increase in oil and gas development
- Amend existing oil and gas leases



Planning and NEPA Process





Public Participation Opportunities

- Scoping period (ends September 30)
- Scoping meetings
 - September 12 – Meeker
 - September 13 – Rangely
 - September 14 – Rifle
- 90-day public review on Draft RMP Amendment/EIS
- Public meetings on Draft RMP Amendment/EIS
- 30-day public review and protest period on Proposed RMPA/EIS



Issues in the Planning Area

The White River Field Office has identified these initial issues to consider and address during development of the RMPA/EIS:

- Air quality
- Water Quality
- Social and economic values
- Biological diversity
- Mineral resources



Issues in the Planning Area (cont'd)

- Land tenure adjustments
- Relationship with adjacent lands including other agency and community plans
- Visual resources
- Native American tribal consultation
- Cultural resources
- Forest and woodland management
- Recreation use
- Livestock grazing
- Utility corridors, rights-of-way, and withdrawals



SUBMIT COMMENTS TO:

BLM White River Field Office

Attention: Jane Peterson

Oil and Gas RMPA/EIS Comments

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