



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

DRAFT

Dillon Field Office

March 2004



DILLON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Volume I



The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the stewardship of our public lands. It is committed to manage, protect, and improve these lands in a manner to serve the needs of the American people for all times. Management is based on the principles of multiple use and sustained yield of our nation's resources within a framework of environmental responsibility and scientific technology. These resources include recreation; rangelands; timber; minerals; watershed; fish and wildlife; wilderness; air; and scenic, scientific, and cultural values.

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Dillon Field Office
1005 Selway Drive
Dillon, Montana 59725
<http://www.mt.blm.gov/dfp>

1610.RMP (050)

March 2004

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMP/EIS). The Draft RMP/EIS considers and analyzes four alternatives that address future management of approximately 900,000 acres of federal surface and 1.3 million acres of federal mineral estate in southwest Montana administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Dillon Field Office, with Alternative B identified as the agency's preferred alternative. While a preferred alternative has been identified, a final decision has not been made. The final decision, which will be documented in a Record of Decision, will be made only after consideration of the comments received on the Draft RMP/EIS and after a Proposed RMP/Final EIS has been released. Additional copies of the document may be obtained by contacting the Dillon Field Office or from the website at www.mt.blm.gov/dfp/rmp.

Your review and comments are needed at this time to ensure that your concerns are adequately addressed in the planning process. The public review period for the Draft RMP/EIS is 90 calendar days and will begin with publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Additional information on public meeting dates and times to discuss the plan and provide comment will be released via the RMP *Update* Newsletter and news media after publication of the EPA notice. Written comments should be sent to the Dillon RMP Team, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana 59751, or via email to MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov. All comments will be fully considered and evaluated in the preparation of the Proposed RMP and Final EIS, and all substantive comments will be addressed.

Comments will be most useful if they are specific, mention particular pages where appropriate, and address one or more of the following:

- Inaccuracies or discrepancies in information
- Identify new information that would have a bearing on the analysis
- Identify new impacts, alternatives, or mitigation measures
- Make suggestions for improving management direction

Comments, including name and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Dillon Field Office during regular business hours between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the Final EIS. You may request confidentiality if you are commenting as an individual, but you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. Anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

We appreciate your help in this planning effort and look forward to your continued interest and participation. For additional information or clarification regarding this document or the planning process, please contact Renee Johnson, RMP Project Manager, at (406) 683-8016.

Sincerely,

Tim Bozorth
Dillon Field Manager