

C-2 PRESS RELEASE-SCOPING PERIOD BEGINS

News Release



United States Department of the Interior
99 23rd Ave., West

Bureau of Land Management

North Dakota Field Office
Dickinson, ND 58601
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PROPOSED NORTH DAKOTA RMP and EIS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING PERIOD BEGINS

Dickinson— The Bureau of Land Management’s North Dakota Field Office is preparing a new land use plan to guide future management of the 58,500 acres of public lands and 4.1 million acres of federal minerals under its jurisdiction.

The Resource Management Plan (RMP) with an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will cover an area that includes portions of 40 of the 53 counties within North Dakota. The plan will fulfill the needs and obligations set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, all other acts, laws and regulations associated with land management planning, and BLM management policies.

Public meetings to comment on the BLM’s resource management plan will be held in order to ensure local community participation and input. Formal scoping will last 60 days; however, collaboration with the public will continue throughout the process. Public scoping meeting locations will be rotated among the towns of Dickinson (Aug. 6), Bowman (Aug. 7), Williston

(Aug. 21), Jamestown (Sept. 18), Minot (Sept. 19), Rugby (Sept. 20), Beulah (Oct. 1), and Bismarck (Oct. 2). Additionally, public meetings are planned for Ft. Yates and New town; however, no dates have been selected. The BLM invites the public to participate early and provide public input to help shape how the BLM manages public lands in North Dakota.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the North Dakota Field Office.

Comments on issues and planning criteria may be submitted in writing to Bureau of Land Management, RMP Manager, North Dakota Field Office, 99 23rd Ave. West, Dickinson, N.D. 58601; fax-701-227-7789.

Respondent's comments, including their names and street addresses, will be available for public review at the North Dakota Office during regular business hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EIS. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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 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.