

Comment sought on BLM management plan

Public comment is being sought through mid-November on a proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) by the Bureau of Land Management to administer thousands of acres within North Central Idaho.

The BLM has scheduled three open house meetings to gather input for this planning process. All meetings will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

- Riggins, Monday, Nov. 1, Heritage Center, 109 South Street (behind Crumps Chevron);

- Grangeville, Wednesday, Nov. 3, National Guard Armory, 105 Northeast 4th Street; and

- Lewiston, Thursday, Nov. 4, Lewiston Community Center, 1424 Main Street.

The proposed RMP is for 144,430 acres of public lands administered by the BLM Cottonwood Field Office. These lands are located in Adams, Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties on the southern portion of the panhandle of Idaho. When completed, this plan will describe broad, multiple-use guidance for managing public lands in the planning area.

The BLM will also prepare an environmental impact statement to assess environmental, social and economic effects of different management alternatives. A preliminary list of issue themes to be addressed in the plan includes vegetation management; fire

management; management of habitat for wildlife and special status species; management of transportation, public access, and recreational opportunities; land tenure adjustments; availability and management of public lands for commercial uses; management of areas with special values; and tribal treaty rights and trust responsibilities.

Deadline is Nov. 15 to submit comments or concerns. Send these as follows: e-mail to comments@cottonwoodrmp.com; by mail to Cottonwood RMP, c/o Tetra Tech, Inc., 4900 Pearl East Circle, Suite 300W, Boulder, CO 80301; by fax to (720) 406-9114 (Attn: Cottonwood RMP); or by com-

pleting the online comment form on the project web site at www.cottonwoodrmp.com.

For information or to be added to the official Cottonwood RMP mailing list, contact Ms. Carrie Christman, Assistant Field Manager, BLM, Cottonwood Field Office, at 962-3793, e-mail to information@cottonwoodrmp.com, or visit the project web site at www.cottonwoodrmp.com.

Wed Oct 27
Idaho County Free
Press

Cottonwood Resource Management Plan Community Economic Profile Workshop is set for Tuesday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Super 8 Motel Conference Room, Grangeville.

The **BLM Cottonwood Field Office** is in the process of updating their Resource Management Plan. They will soon be holding informational meetings to receive comments from the public. Lunch will be provided, and the workshop is free. For information call **Dr. Richard L. Gardner** at 859-8878.