



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



Dear Concerned Citizen:

Thank you for your contribution to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) grazing regulatory initiative, aimed at improving the management and long-term health of America's public rangelands. Your comments and concerns have helped the BLM prepare a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) related to the *Proposed Revisions to Grazing Regulations for Public Lands*. The final EIS analyzes the environmental effects of the regulation revisions and management alternatives and includes responses to the comments received on the draft EIS.

These regulation changes will contribute to improving the BLM's working relationships with permittees and lessees; protecting the health of the rangelands; and increasing our agency's administrative effectiveness and efficiency. These revisions, as detailed in the EIS, recognize that grazing is a proud heritage of the West. As trustees of that legacy, Western rural communities continue to rely on public and private rangelands to support local economies, sustain working landscapes, and protect open spaces. Since passage of the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, many improvements in the management and practice of livestock grazing have taken place, and these regulation revisions will advance public rangeland stewardship even further.

Since the beginning of this process in March of 2003, we have met with a variety of groups and individuals to discuss the future of BLM-managed rangelands. The more than 18,000 comments we received on the draft document have helped us to develop a well-rounded, forward-looking approach that seeks to ensure healthy and productive rangelands across the West. I encourage you to share this final Environmental Impact Statement with other concerned citizens as well as to view it on our national Website (www.blm.gov).

Thank you for your valuable time and interest in the management and future of public land grazing. I hope you will continue to be involved in the stewardship of America's public lands.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Clarke
Director

