

# Management of Newly Acquired Lands

Lands may come under BLM administration after this RMP is approved. This could occur through exchange, donation, purchase, revocation of withdrawals to other Federal agencies, or relinquishment of Recreation and Public Purposes Act leases. Discretionary acquisitions (such as exchanges) will be guided by approved RMP “lands acquisition criteria” based on resource values of high public interest. Newly acquired lands will be managed for the highest potential purpose for which they were acquired. For example, lands acquired within special management areas with specific Congressional mandates (i.e., wild and scenic rivers) will be managed in conformance with established guidelines for those areas. If lands with unique or fragile resource values are acquired, those values will be protected and managed on an interim basis until the next plan amendment or revision was completed.

Lands acquired without identified special values or management goals will be managed in the same manner as comparable BLM lands. This implies typical livestock grazing, recreation management or timber harvest opportunities, and related management practices, management of the mineral estate, standard operating procedures and pre-committed mitigation measures. Exchanges of lands resulting in net adjustments in the livestock grazing program will be reported to the public in periodic Rangeland Program Summary Updates or RMP evaluation or progress reports.

## Operations and Maintenance Actions

Maintenance of existing and newly constructed facilities or projects will occur over time; however, the level of maintenance could vary from year to year based on annual funding. Normally routine operation and maintenance actions are categorically excluded from NEPA analysis. Such activities could include, but are not limited to, routine maintenance of existing roads, ditches, culverts, water control structures, recreation facilities, pipelines, waterholes, fences, cattleguards, seedings, fish and wildlife structures, signs, and other similar facilities and projects. These types of actions are considered to be part of the implementation of this plan and should not require any further analysis to implement on the ground. Maintenance of existing facilities in WSAs will be considered on a case-by-case basis and may require additional NEPA analysis.

## Plan Implementation

### Introduction

The Resource Management Plan provides a long-term vision for how BLM administered lands in the plan area will function on the local, regional, and national landscape into the future. It establishes land allocations and allowable uses to meet specific goals and objectives for management of natural resources and land uses.

The RMP will be implemented over a roughly 10-20 year timeframe, as funding allows. Some of the land use plan decisions are effective upon approval of this document. However, many decisions will take a number of years to implement on the ground. Implementation monitoring will track progress of RMP decisions. Effectiveness monitoring will evaluate whether decisions or actions are achieving management goals. Adaptive management, as described below, will be used to make changes to those decisions which are not achieving management goals.