

# NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N. Fancher • Spokane Valley, WA 99212 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane>

For Release: April 30, 2010

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## BLM to Revise Resource Management Plan

Spokane, WA— The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Spokane District is seeking public input as it begins revising its Resource Management Plan (RMP).

The new RMP will provide overall management direction for the next two decades for approximately 445,000 acres of BLM-administered public lands in Eastern Washington and in the San Juan Archipelago. One of the primary reasons that BLM is revising the RMP is that, through a number of land exchanges, the lands managed by BLM in Washington have dramatically changed, and total acres have increased by more than 100,000 since the previous plan was completed in 1987. Another reason is that the demands and types of uses on of BLM-administered public lands have changed, as have the conditions of the resources they contain. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be developed during the planning process.

In this first opportunity for public comment called “scoping,” the BLM is asking the public to help identify issues to be addressed in the plan revisions, as well as offer potential solutions. The BLM will use the information it receives during scoping as it prepares the Draft RMP and an associated Draft EIS.

The BLM is hosting six open house meetings to share information. The public is invited to stop by any of the meetings listed below to discuss the RMP with BLM specialists or to provide written comments.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Address</u>
<b>Davenport</b>	May 17 (6-8 p.m.)	Davenport Memorial Hall, 511 Park Street
<b>Wenatchee</b>	May 26 (6-8 p.m.)	Chelan PUD, 327 N. Wenatchee Ave
<b>Tonasket</b>	May 27 (6-8 p.m.)	Tonasket High School, School Commons, 35 Hwy 20
<b>Pasco</b>	June 1 (6-8 p.m.)	TRAC Center, 6600 Burden Blvd, Rm. 4
<b>Friday Harbor</b>	June 5 (12-4 p.m.)	Mullis Senior Center, 589 Nash Street
<b>Ellensburg</b>	June 12 (12-3 p.m.)	Quality Inn, 1700 Canyon Rd

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During this initial scoping period, the BLM is also seeking suggestions regarding land use issues which should be addressed in the plan. In addition, the public may comment on the preliminary planning criteria, which will help guide the planning process.

The BLM will accept public comments through June 25, 2010. For further information or to have your name added to a mailing list, visit the project website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/ewsjrmp>, send an e-mail to [OR\\_Spokane\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:OR_Spokane_RMP@blm.gov), or contact Scott Pavey, at (509) 536-1200.

-BLM-

About the BLM: The BLM manages more land – 253 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

