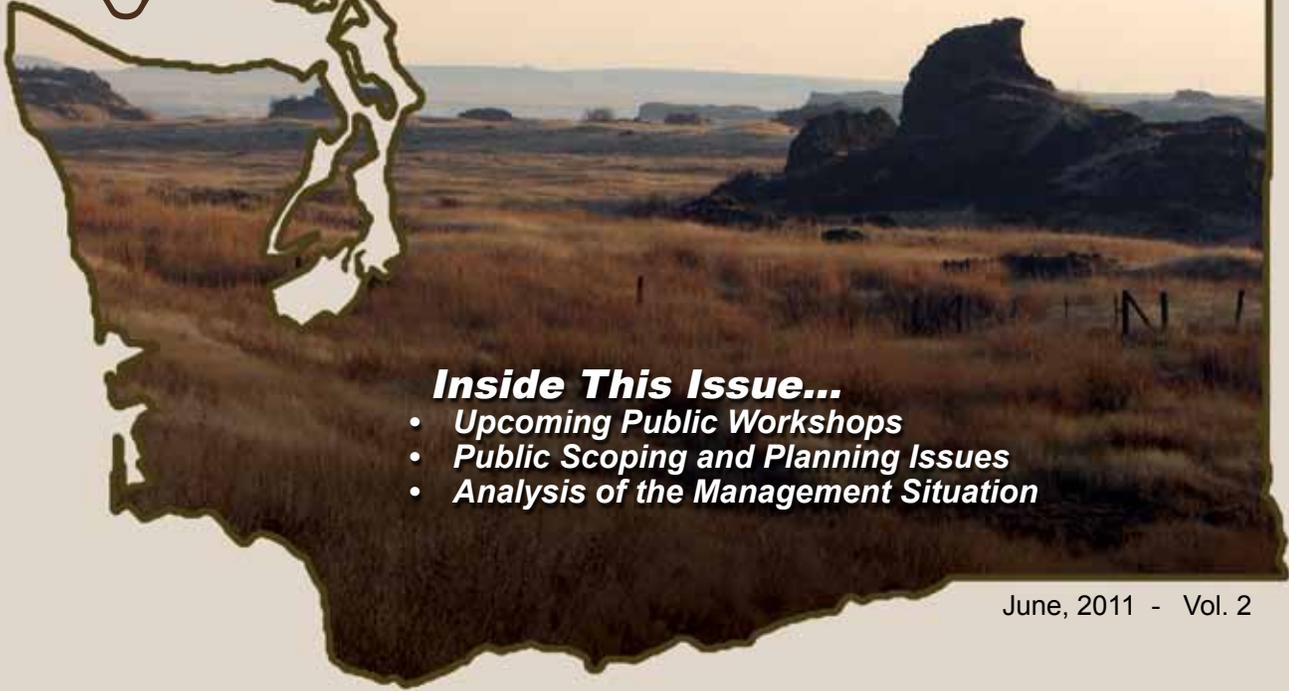




EASTERN WASHINGTON AND SAN JUAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN NEWS



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Upcoming Public Workshops

As announced in an earlier newsletter (EWSJ RMP Newsletter Vol 1 Issue 1, May 2010) and through a number of notices, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Spokane District is preparing a Resource Management Plan (RMP) and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for 445,000 acres of public lands in Eastern Washington and the San Juan Archipelago in Washington State (see map on next page).

We are currently developing alternatives for the RMP/EIS and would like to hear your suggestions during eight upcoming public workshops. The workshops are identified below by the communities where we will conduct them, along with the dates, times, and addresses. We have also listed the counties, some of the key sites, and a few of the topics that we will focus on during each workshop. The map on the following page depicts the geographic focus areas for each workshop.

Yakima

When: July 25, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: Oxford Suites, 1701 E. Yakima Ave

Focus Area Counties: Yakima, Kittitas, SW Grant, NE Benton

Focus Area Sites: Rattlesnake Hills, Saddle Mtns, Yakima River Cyn, Cowiche Cyn, Liberty, Collockum

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Sensitive Plants, Sage Grouse, Bighorn Sheep, Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Visual Resources, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wind Energy, Rights-of-Way, Land Acquisition/Disposal, Livestock Grazing, Oil and Gas Leasing

Okanogan

When: July 27, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: County Fairgrounds Agriplex Annex, 175 Rodeo Tr

Focus Area County: Okanogan

Focus Area Sites: Palmer Mtn, Chopaka Lake, Similkameen River, Mineral Hill, Sinlahekin River, Mt. Hull/PNW Trail

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Bighorn Sheep, Grizzly Bear, Gray Wolf, Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Forestry/Fuels, Land Acquisition/Retention, Minerals, Livestock Grazing

Wenatchee

When: July 28, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: Chelan PUD, 327 N. Wenatchee Ave

Focus Area Counties: Chelan, Douglas, NW Grant

Focus Area Sites: Moses Coulee, Banks Lake, Douglas Creek

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Sage Grouse, Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Livestock Grazing

Friday Harbor

RESCHEDULED
August 27th, 1-4pm

When: ~~July 30, 2011 (1-4pm)~~

Where: Mullis Senior Center, 589 Nash St

Focus Area Counties: San Juan, Whatcom

Focus Area Sites: Watmough Bay, Patos Island and Light House, Turn Point Light House, Cattle Point, Iceberg Point, Point Colville

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Historic and Cultural Resources, Key Wildlife, Recreation

Goldendale

When: August 1, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: Klickitat PUD, 1313 S. Columbus Ave

Focus Area Counties: Klickitat

Focus Area Sites: Klickitat River, Rock Creek

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Forestry/Fuels, Access, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Land Acquisition/Retention, Livestock Grazing, Land Acquisition/Retention

Pasco

When: August 2, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: TRAC Center, 6600 Burden Blvd, Rm 4

Focus Area Counties: Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin

Focus Area Sites: Juniper Dunes, Horse Heaven Hills

Topics: Unique Plant Communities, Ferruginous Hawks, Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Wind Energy, Visual Resources, Land Acquisition/Retention, Livestock Grazing, Oil and Gas Leasing

Davenport

When: August 3, 2011 (6-9 pm)

Where: Davenport Memorial Hall, 511 Park St

Focus Area Counties: Lincoln, Spokane, Adams, Whitman, NE Grant

Focus Area Sites: Fishtrap Lake, Crab Creek, Escure Ranch (Rock Creek), Lakeview Ranch, Twin Lakes, Lake Creek, Wilson Creek

Topics: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Sage Grouse, Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Wild and Scenic River, Target Shooting, Livestock Grazing

Colville

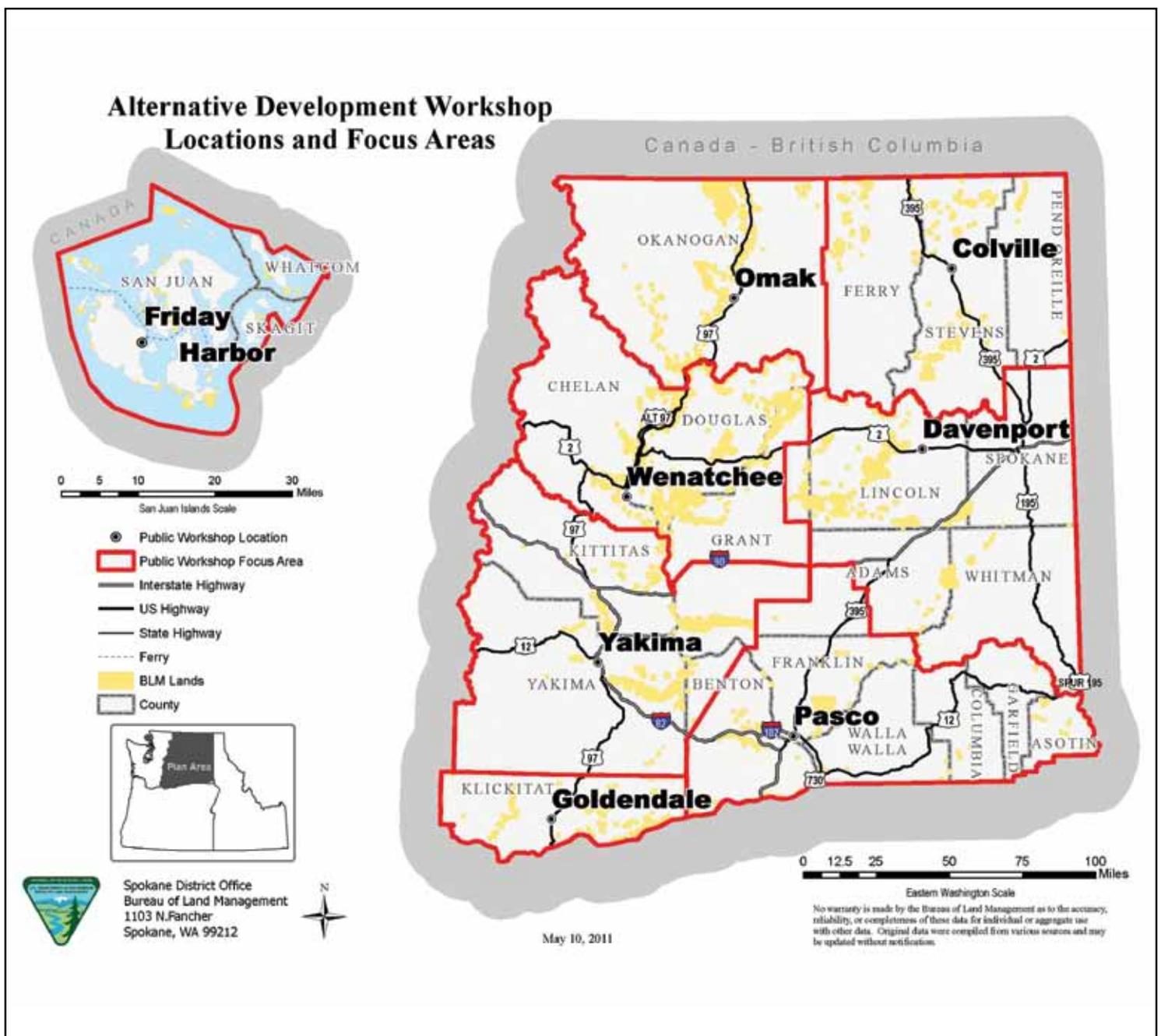
When: August 4, 2011 (6-9pm)

Where: Institute for Extended Learning, 985 S Elm St, Rm 149

Focus Area Counties: Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille

Focus Area Sites: Huckleberry Mtns, Pend Oreille River, Vulcan Mtn, PNW Trail, Lambert Creek

Topics: Travel Management/Access, Recreation, Forestry/Fuels, Land Acquisition/Retention



Public Scoping and Planning Issues

The formal public scoping period for this planning process began April 30 and ran through July 12, 2010. During this period the BLM held six open house meetings, at various locations throughout the planning area, and received 134 comment letters and emails. During this time, we also received comments from state agencies and recommendations from the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council. The BLM analyzed the information received and modified the planning issue statements. A summarized version of the resulting revised planning issue statements appear below. More details about the analysis and the planning issues are available in the Scoping Report which is available on the project website: (www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/ewsjrmp).

Revised Planning Issue Statements:

1. Shrub-steppe Habitat: How will shrub-steppe, and its associated riparian and wetland habitats be managed to maintain, improve, or restore healthy plant and wildlife communities?
2. Mixed Landownership Pattern: Given the mixed ownership pattern in the planning area, how should the BLM manage public lands, while considering uses on adjacent lands?
3. Limited Multiple-Use Public Lands Available: How should the BLM manage uses on public lands and protect sensitive resources given the limited amount of public lands in the planning area?
4. Changes since the Previous RMP Process: How should the BLM manage multiple uses and resources that have changed, or that occur on lands that were either not administered by the BLM or were not within the planning area when the current RMP was developed?
5. Energy Development: How should the BLM facilitate energy development while still allowing for multiple uses and appropriate protection of public lands and resources?

Analysis of the Management Situation

The BLM also recently completed an analysis of the management situation (AMS) which describes the current status of lands, resources, uses, and management direction for the planning area. The AMS is available on the project website: (www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/ewsjrmp).

For More Information

More information is available on the project website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/ewsjrmp

You can also contact the BLM Spokane District office.
 Phone: (509)-536-1200
 Email: OR_Spokane_RMP@blm.gov

