



Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area

Re-Introduction to the Draft RMP

Advisory Council Meeting 4/3/2013





Reminder of Why We Are Doing This Plan

- Required by law!
 - Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
 - Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009
- Ensure long-term conservation and protection of the values of the D-E NCA
- Ensure consistent management across the D-E NCA
- Major changes since a plan was done for this area (late 1980s):
 - Increased (and more varied) recreation demand, demographic changes, technological advances
 - Research advances in many fields
 - Increased demand for educational opportunities



Public Involvement Since the NCA's Designation

Public Scoping

- 2 scoping open houses
- 2 travel management open houses
- 5 wild and scenic river stakeholder meetings
- 3 socio-economic workshops
- 6 recreation/wilderness discussion forums

Cooperating Agencies and Advisory Council

- 8 cooperating agencies (8 meetings)
- 24 advisory council meetings
- 3 advisory council field trips

Tribal Consultation

- consultations with 3 Ute tribal governments



What's in the Draft RMP (Big Picture)

- Decisions that apply to BLM lands within the boundary of the D-E NCA
- Allocation-level decisions that will guide subsequent decisions for the next ~20 years
- Some implementation-level decisions (specifically regarding travel management)
- Analysis of our decisions
- Supporting Information



Structure of the Draft RMP

Executive Summary: Short summary of much of the document

Chapter 1: Describes purpose of and need for the plan, the planning area, planning process, etc.

Chapters 2, 3, and 4 are similarly structured by resource, resource use, etc (see table)

- **Chapter 2** is our draft decisions
- **Chapter 3** is the current condition of resources
- **Chapter 4** projects what would happen if we implemented our draft decisions



Structure of the Draft RMP

Chapter 5: Describes how we consulted and coordinated with the public and other agencies

Chapter 6: References

Chapter 7: Glossary

Appendices of Interest

- **Appendices A:** Describes our planning system for biological resources
- **Appendix C:** Describes the methods for our model of interaction between domestic sheep and desert bighorn sheep
- **Appendix L:** Recreation Setting Descriptions



Structure of the Draft RMP

Appendices of interest

- **Appendix M:** Areas of Critical Environmental Concern evaluation report
- **Appendix N:** Travel Management Plan
- **Appendix O:** Wild and Scenic River Suitability Report

Maps

- Will be included in Appendix R of print version
- Also available online and on disk versions of the document



Preferred Alternative = Alternative E

- Alternative E has been identified in this draft RMP as the BLM's preferred alternative
- Based on public input and new information obtained public review, the BLM can/will make changes before releasing a proposed RMP
- Alternative E was developed differently than the preferred alternative in the Grand Junction Field Office Draft RMP



Travel Management

Goals of our travel management plan:

- Develop a route system that (at a minimum) provides access for visitors, livestock grazing permittees, right-of-way holders, and private property holders
- Supports goals and objectives for the resources identified as purposes of the D-E NCA in the Omnibus Act

Differences between alternatives are largely based on our management objectives for recreation, and our expectations for resource protection and restoration



Travel Management Process

- Inventory - 1998 through 2010
- Public comment period - Nov 2010 to June 2011
 - Two open houses in November 2010
 - Received 73 unique letters
- Finalized inventory - Summer 2011
- Developed Alternative A, B, C, and D route systems – August and September 2011
- Advisory Council and cooperating agency review – Winter 2011/12
- Developed Alternative E route system – Summer 2012



RMP Process

