

# WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit this website for more information about the planning process: [http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st\\_george/planning2/nca\\_resource\\_management.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st_george/planning2/nca_resource_management.html)

Find out more about the National Conservation Areas by visiting this website: [http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st\\_george/blm\\_special\\_areas/national\\_landscape.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st_george/blm_special_areas/national_landscape.html)

To speak with the BLM-Utah Planning Coordinator, contact Keith Rigtrup at (435) 865-3063 or [krigtrup@blm.gov](mailto:krigtrup@blm.gov)

# OUTREACH

A BLM-UT ST. GEORGE FIELD OFFICE PLANNING NEWSLETTER

JULY 2015



**NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS**

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
UNITED STATES POSTAGE  
AND FEES PAID  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Permit No. G-76

345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790

## BREAKING NEWS | Draft RMPs Released for Review

**Draft Resource Management Plans (RMPs) for Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area and Red Cliffs National Conservation Area and a Draft Amendment to the St. George Field Office Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) released for a 90 day public comment period.**

The 63,478 acre Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area (NCA) and the 44,859 acre Red Cliffs NCA are located within the administrative boundaries of the St. George Field Office in Washington County, Utah. Congress established the two NCAs when, on March 30, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11, OPLMA); Title I, Subtitle O concerns federal

lands in Washington County, Utah. The two NCAs were created to “conserve, protect, and enhance...the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources” of the public lands (OPLMA Sections 1974 and 1975).

Through OPLMA, the St. George Field Office was directed to develop comprehensive management plans for the two NCAs and also take actions on other public lands in Washington County that require the St. George Field Office Record of Decision (ROD) and RMP (approved in 1999, amended in 2001) be amended. The three planning efforts were initiated concurrently in 2010, thereby facilitating the preparation of a single EIS to disclose the environmental

consequences of implementing the two new land use plans and an amendment to the current St. George Field Office RMP.





## OPEN HOUSES

Each public open house will have various stations with maps and graphic displays that provide information about the draft NCA RMPs and draft amendment. Staff and management from the St. George Field Office will be available at the open houses to answer questions and assist you in submitting your comments.

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| September 1, 2015<br>6 p.m. to 8 p.m. | Dixie Center<br>1835 Convention Center Dr.<br>St. George, Utah 84790 |
| September 2, 2015<br>6 p.m. to 8 p.m. | Hurricane City Office<br>147 North 870 West<br>Hurricane, Utah 84737 |
| September 3, 2015<br>6 p.m. to 8 p.m. | Red Lion Hotel<br>161 West 600 South<br>Salt Lake City, Utah 84101   |



## Review Documents

How do I get copies of the Draft NCA RMPs and Draft RMP Amendment/DEIS?

- 1 View or download the Adobe Acrobat (PDF) documents on the BLM-Utah website [www.blm.gov/sgfo](http://www.blm.gov/sgfo).
- 2 Obtain a copy of the PDF documents on compact disk (CD) from the following locations, during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays: Public Lands Information Center, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790, or BLM-Utah State Office Public Room, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.
- 3 Review a hard copy in the Public Lands Information Center and in the BLM-Utah State Office Public Room at the locations shown above.
- 4 Review a hard copy at the Washington County Public Library, 88 West 100 South, St. George, Utah 84770 and the Main Library, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.
- 5 Obtain a copy of the PDF documents on a CD at a public open house in September.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”  
—Margaret Mead

## SPEAK UP! Submitting Comments

**Q:** What is the best way to submit comments on the draft NCA RMPs and draft amendment?

**A:** The best and easiest way to submit your comments is through the RMP planning email address [utsggrp@blm.gov](mailto:utsggrp@blm.gov).

**Q:** What are some other ways to submit my comments?

**A:** Mail—Mail your comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Attention: St. George RMP Planning Team, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah 84790.

Fax—Fax your comments to (435) 688-3252, Attention: St. George RMP Planning Team.

Open House—Attend an open house in September and submit your comments.

**Q:** How do I make my comments more effective?

**A:** Effective comments refer to specific details of the draft NCA RMPs or draft amendment. They address substantive issues, such as the accuracy of BLM’s information sources; or provide new information; or suggest reasonable alternative courses of action.

**Q:** What is the deadline for submitting comments?

**A:** The comment period began on July 17, 2015 with the publication of a Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* and ends on October 15, 2015.

All comments will be considered during BLM’s decision-making process, but only substantive comments will be addressed in the Proposed NCA RMPs and Proposed RMP Amendment/Final EIS. We need comments that not only state a preference for certain management actions, but also include the reason for that preference. Tell us what you think of specific aspects of the alternatives—and why.

**Important Notice:** Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information, be advised your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publically available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## NEXT STEPS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

Public Comment Period  
July 17, 2015 - October 15, 2015

1

Prepare Proposed NCA RMPs and  
Proposed RMP Amendment/FEIS  
Fall 2015 - Spring 2016

2

Release Proposed NCA RMPs and  
Proposed RMP Amendment/FEIS  
Summer - Fall 2016

3

30-day Protest Period  
and  
Governor’s Consistency Review  
(Minimum of 60 days)

4

Prepare and Sign  
Three Records of Decision

5

Plan Implementation,  
Monitoring, Evaluation

6