



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

News Release

BLM Colorado Royal Gorge Field Office

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Bureau of Land Management to Evaluate Aggregate Mine Proposal in Fremont County

CAÑON CITY, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Royal Gorge Field Office is seeking public scoping comments on a proposal to increase mineral reserves for the existing ten-acre Iron Mountain aggregate mine, located approximately 14 miles southwest of Cañon City in Fremont County, Colorado. The proposal was submitted by Rocky Mountain Excavating LLC for their mine operation located on BLM managed lands.

“This proposed expansion would help ensure the availability of aggregate material to meet local demands into the future,” said **Royal Gorge Field Manager Keith Berger**. “We look forward to hearing the public’s input on the proposal.”

The proposal would extend the current operations by an additional 30 acres of BLM managed lands. The proposal includes similar production levels and access and would help sustain local aggregate material supplies for road management and landscaping in Fremont County.

In Fiscal Year 2019, non-energy minerals on the BLM lands in Colorado generated approximately \$307 million in economic output and supported 1,040 jobs.

Public scoping is a process to help determine the issues and alternatives that should be addressed when BLM initiates analysis of the proposal. Helpful input includes specific scientific references, different ways to develop components of the proposed mining area that should be considered, and best management practices that may relate to this type of activity. Scoping comments should be received by December 17, 2021, and must be submitted through the BLM ePlanning site at <https://go.usa.gov/xeWbG> or mailed to “Iron Mountain,” 3028 E Main Street, Cañon City, CO 81212.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or any other personal identifying information in your comments, please be advised that your entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request the BLM to withhold personal identifying information from public view, the BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so.

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The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 11 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency’s mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America’s public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$111 billion in economic output across the country in fiscal year 2020—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 498,000 jobs.