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Hello all,

Attached is the ASLM agenda for June 23, 2017, there are two additional attachments: IM-2017-036, *Considering Backcountry Conservation Management in Land Use Planning Efforts* and a related attachment to the memo.

Best,  
Glenda

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**BLM-ASLM Agenda**  
**June 23, 2017**  
*Internal Working Document*

**I. Executive Travel: June 25–July 1, 2017**

**BLM Acting Director, Michael Nedd:**

- Monday, June 26, through Thursday, June 29: Chris McAlear, AD for NCLS and Community Partnerships, will serve as Acting BLM Director
- Monday, June 26, through Wednesday, June 28: Attend Western Governors Association in Whitefish, MT
- Thursday, June 29: Visit BLM Montana's Missoula Field Office
- Friday, June 30: In office attend regularly scheduled meetings

**Acting Deputy Director for Operations, John Ruhs:**

- Monday, June 26: Annual leave
- Tuesday, June 27, through Thursday, June 29: Cheyenne for personnel-related matter
- Friday, June 30: In office attend regularly scheduled meetings

**Acting Deputy Director for Policy and Programs, Kathleen Benedetto:**

- Monday, June 26: Attend Outdoor Writers Association of America Conference, Ely, MN
- Tuesday, June 27, through Friday, June 30: In office attend regularly scheduled meetings

**II. Agenda Items**

- Energy and Mineral-related *Federal Register* Notices with ASLM/DOI
  - Hydraulic Fracturing Rule (with OMB)
  - Normally Pressured Lance (with Exec Sec)
  - Mount Hope (with ASLM)
  - If approved, above items can be highlighted next week, for *Energy Jobs Week*
- Sonoran Desert National Monument PRMPA/FEIS
  - FEIS published today (6/23)
  - PRMP should be published as soon as possible (sent to ASLM on Friday, June 9)
- BLM High-Level Priorities Document
- ELT Meeting: July 11–12, Denver, CO
- National Petroleum Reserve–Alaska: S.O. 3352, issued 5/31/17
- S.O. 3353, GSG Conservation and Cooperation with Western States, issued 6/7/17
  - Monday, June 26–GSG Task Force meeting/call
  - Thursday, July 13-14, GSG Working Group with State participation
- Backcountry Conservation Area (IM # 2017-036, see attached)
- Sabinoso Land Donation
- Time Sensitive
  - Burning Man Event–Notice Temporary Closure, publish by 6/24/17 (SIO-REGS)
- Priority Packages (see Sections III through V, below)
- Upcoming Legislative Hearings
  - Upcoming HNR / Oil and Gas–Katharine MacGregor
  - [Postponed] SENR / Red River Gradient Boundary Survey Act–Chris McAlear
- O & C Information

**III. Top-Priority Items with ASLM:** *(Items in blue font require the template for ROD's and other Decision Documents)*

1. Sonoran Desert National Monument PRMPA/FEIS re: Recreational Target Shooting BLMR001600
2. Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Mount Hope: BLMR001593
3. Sabinoso Land Donation: BLM0010930
4. Notice of Application for Withdrawal, Notice of Public Meeting, and Extension of Public Comment Period for Proposed Withdrawal in the Methow Valley; Washington: BLMR001550
5. BLM's Response to GAO -17-307, Oil and Gas Development: Improved Collection and Use of Data Could Enhance BLM's Ability to Assess and Mitigate Environmental Impacts: BLM0011041
6. Notice of Application for Withdrawal and Notification of Public Meetings; South Dakota and Wyoming Correction: BLMR001497
7. Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment to Reconsider the Record of Decision Approving Segments 8 and 9 for the Gateway West Transmission Line Project: BLMR001608
8. Alaska Native Claims Selection: BLMR001565

**IV. Items incoming to ASLM:** *(Items in blue font require the template for ROD's and other Decision Documents)*

- Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project: BLMR001401
- Notice of Availability Record of Decision for Gateway West Transmission Line Project, Idaho: BLMR001399
- Notice of Survey suspension Red River: BLMR001588
- SunZia Southwest Transmission Project: BLM0010420
- Notice of Intent for draft Record of Decision (ROD) Proposed Monument Management Plan, Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho: and associated ROD package

**V. Pending Packages in ASLM:**

1. **BLMR001608**-NOI to Prepare EA to Reconsider Gateway West Segments 8-9
2. **BLMR001583**-Automatic Adjustment of Minimum SRP Fee
3. **BLMR001600**-NOA Proposed RMP Amend/FEIS Sonoran Desert NM
4. **BLM0011041**-GAO-17-307: To Grijalva. BLM's response to GAO (Oil/Gas)
5. **BLMR001593**-NOI for SEIS – Mount Hope
6. **BLMR001550**-Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Notice of Meeting–Extension Methow Valley, WA
7. **BLMR001497**-Notice of Application for Withdrawal and Notice of Public Meeting –Correction
8. **BLM0010147**-Response to Sen Udall: Oil and Gas Dev near Chaco Culture NHP
9. **BLMR001565**-Alaska Native Claims Selection
10. **BLMR001397**- NOI Prepare Supplemental to Draft RMP for SNDO
11. **BLMR001198**- Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Public Lands New Mexico
12. **BLM00010609**-Response to Gyrnberg Petroleum Co. - Lease development
13. **NPS0023380**-Response to World Heritage Center
14. **BLMR001429**-Notice of Filing Plats of Survey; Utah

## **VI. Weekly Report:**

### **Week Ahead Announcements and Actions**

**On 22 June**, the BLM-UT Vernal Field Office will conduct a 30-day public comment period for an environmental assessment analyzing impacts of Newfield Production Co.'s proposal to develop 13 new oil wells in the east and northeast areas of the Greater Monument Butte Unit in Duchesne County, UT. The project occurs within the Pariette Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern, which also includes habitat for two Federally-listed plant species. The proposal includes developing four wells on existing pads and nine wells on newly constructed pads, about 11 miles of pipeline, and 1.5 miles of new road. The proposal includes measures to reduce impacts to wildlife, water quality, and to facilitate reclamation and weed control.

**From June 26 to 30**, BLM-CA State Director Jerry Perez plans to conduct courtesy visits with members and staff of the CA Congressional delegation in Washington, DC to discuss public land management issues, including oil and gas development, planning efforts, wildfire, renewable energy, and recreation. Point of Contact: Erica St. Michel.

**On June 26**, Kathy Benedetto and BLM Acting Eastern States Director Karen Mouritsen will attend the Outdoor Writer's Association of American (OWAA) annual meeting in Duluth, MN.

**On June 26-28**, Acting BLM Director Mike Nedd will attend the Western Governors Association (WGA) 2017 Annual Meeting in White Fish, MT. BLM Idaho State Director Tim Murphy will attend invasive species workshop at WGA on June 28.

**On June 26**, BLM-NM State Director Amy Lueders and Associate State Director Aden Seidlitz will participate in the Interagency Borderlands Committee meeting in Albuquerque to meet Brent Range, the Department's new Interagency Borderlands Coordinator. Attendees will include representatives from BLM law enforcement, the Solicitor's Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service.

**On June 27**, BLM-CA Central Coast Field Manager Ben Blom will meet with the non-profit Friends of the North Coast in Santa Cruz to discuss issues related to the California Coastal National Monument at Cotoni-Coast Dairies. The group is dedicated to honoring and preserving the natural and cultural legacy of Santa Cruz County's North Coast. It has expressed strong interest in planning and management issues related to the monument.

**On June 27**, BLM-AZ staff and managers will meet with young leaders from 19 African countries who are part of the Department of State program called the Mandela Fellowship. The group will talk about a variety of public land issues and challenges.

**On June 27 and 28**, BLM State Director Amy Lueders, Deputy State Director for Minerals Sheila Mallory, and Pecos District Manager Jim Stovall will attend the New Mexico EnergyPlex Conference in Hobbs. The conference is being held by the Economic Development Corp., of Lea County and will focus on southeastern New Mexico's energy resources as well as opportunities and challenges to continued energy sector growth. There will be sessions addressing oil and natural gas, as well as, sessions on the nuclear and renewable energy sectors.

### **Week Ahead Announcements and Actions**

**On June 28**, BLM's Colorado Grand Junction Field Office will release for public comment an amended environmental assessment (EA) for the Fram Whitewater oil and gas Master Development Plan. Fram is proposing to drill 108 oil and gas wells on 12 new well pads. The amended EA considers specific impacts to air quality and well stimulation. The company estimates the project could produce up to 8.7 million barrels of oil over 20 years. The project would create an estimated 65 new jobs.

**The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** will hold three public scoping meetings on the controversial Jordan Cove Liquefied Natural Gas facility and Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) June 27, 28, and 29 in Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Klamath Falls, respectively. FERC is the lead agency and BLM is a cooperating agency. The BLM would adopt FERC's EIS. The BLM analyzed the project's conformance with the current Resource Management Plans (RMPs) in April and May 2017. It is likely the project will require amendments to the Northwestern RMP, Coastal RMP and the Southwestern RMP. Environmental and pipeline safety activist criticize the project.

**On June 28**, BLM-ID District Manager Lara Douglas, Field Managers Tate Fisher, Tanya Thrift, and Michelle Ryerson, as well as Fire Management Officer Andrew Delmas and Public Affairs Specialist Michael Williamson will brief staffers representing Reps. Simpson and Labrador, as well as Senators Risch and Crapo. The agenda has not been finalized.

**On June 29**, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources tentatively plans to hold a hearing on oil and gas development on public lands. The BLM witness has not been determined.

**On June 30**, the *Federal Register* will publish a Notice of Availability for the Alaska Standalone Pipeline draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. The proposed 733-mile natural gas pipeline would run from Prudhoe Bay on the Arctic Ocean to Point MacKenzie on Cook Inlet/Knik Arm. The project requires a right-of-way to cross 230 miles of Federally managed public lands. BLM-AK is a cooperating agency on the supplemental EIS and prepared an analysis of subsistence impacts in accordance with Section 810 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Federal agency. The comment period for the draft statement will run 45 days. Public meetings and Section 810 subsistence hearings are scheduled.

**During the Fourth of July holiday period that begins July 1**, BLM-CA will work closely with California's Kern County Sheriff's Office and the Forest Service to address an anticipated surge in visitation at the BLM Keysville Special Recreation Management Area. Keysville, an age-old mining area with a historic fort as well as other structures, offers white-water rafting, fishing, recreational gold panning, and a network of more than 70 miles of trails for mountain biking, horseback riding, and off-highway vehicle use. The increase in visitors, expected to be primarily from Southern California, will boost the local economy. By partnering with the Sheriff's Department and the Forest Service, the BLM will help ensure a safe and fun holiday for visiting friends and families from around the State.

**On July 3**, BLM-AK will review and provide comments for the Donlin Gold preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the lead agency for the project. Donlin Gold, LLC., applied for permits for an open pit, hardrock gold mine about 10 miles north of Crooked Creek, 277 miles west of Anchorage and 145 miles northeast of Bethel, in southwest Alaska. The project also involves transportation infrastructure and a pipeline.

### **30 - 60 Day Look-Ahead**

**In late June or early July**, BLM plans to issue the Boardman to Hemingway Environmental (EIS) Record of Decision (ROD). The decision will be issued simultaneously with the approval to issue a right-of-way grant for construction of a new 500 kilovolt, single-circuit electric transmission line that will span from a proposed substation near Boardman, OR, to the Hemingway Substation near Melba, ID.

**On July 10**, four individuals charged with various crimes during the 2014 Gold Butte cattle impoundment are scheduled to be re-tried following the declaration of a mistrial on April 24, 2017.

**On July 10**, BLM Natural Resource Specialist Bob Wick will participate on an interagency panel to discuss wildlife management issues in wilderness at the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) annual conference in Vail, CO.

**On July 11**, BLM-OR Upper Willamette Field Office Manager Bill O'Sullivan and fire staff will participate in the 2017 Eastern Lane Forest Protection Association Summer Tour in Springfield, OR. During the tour, participants will discuss protection across public and private industry forest lands.

**On July 13**, the BLM-AK's Glennallen Field Office will begin issuing permits for the 2017 to 2018 Unit 13 Federal subsistence moose and caribou hunting seasons. The BLM issues nearly 3,500 Federal subsistence permits annually and provides permitting opportunities to rural residents in Delta Junction, Cantwell, Slana, and Glennallen.

**From July 17 to 19**, BLM-CA Bakersfield Field Office resources staff will conduct bat surveys in the southern Sierra to help determine how to best manage abandoned mine land projects. Information on the presence or absence of sensitive bat species could change the timing and design of future mine closures.

**On July 18**, Acting BLM Director Mike Nedd will attend Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch Otter's Annual Trail Ride

**From July 14 to August 25**, BLM-AK plans a temporary shutdown of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. Alyeska Pipeline Services Company plans safety and integrity protection system (also known as "SIPPS") downloads requiring short-term shutdowns for the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System this summer. The BLM Alaska Branch of Pipeline Monitoring will observe the shutdowns.

**On July 19**, BLM-NM will hold an auction of Federally-owned crude helium. Under the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013, the BLM must offer for auction and sale annually a portion of the helium reserves stored underground at the Cliffside Gas Field, near Amarillo, TX. The BLM anticipates auctioning 500 MMcf in a total of 30 lots for delivery in FY 2018. Following the auction, the BLM will offer an allocated sale in which helium is offered to refiners, and a non-allocated sale in which the helium is offered to non-refiners.

**On July 22**, the BLM-OR/WA Lakeview Resource Area will hold an open house focused on the management of wild horses in the Beatty Butte Herd Management Area near Adel, OR, and its ongoing work with a private, non-profit partner that is developing a multi-pronged approach to managing the animals. For the first time, an external partner will work with BLM staff to bait trap horses, administer PZP to mares, and gentle horses considered good candidates for adoption.

**From July 24 to 30**, BLM-CA Bakersfield Field Office resources staff will participate in the Fresno American Indian Health Project's Gathering of Native Americans (GONA), a 5-day program serving

native youth in California. Participants are principally from Fresno and Tulare counties. The Fresno American Indian Health Project has sponsored this program since 2012, and Bakersfield Field Office staff has participated every year since it began. Thousands of these programs have taken place during the last 20-plus years across the United States.

**On July 26**, acting BLM Deputy Director for Operations John Ruhs will attend the Nevada Sheriff's Association meeting and provide a general BLM presentation.

**Through July**, the U.S. Army will be working on a munitions cleanup in public access areas at CA's Fort Ord National Monument. The cleanup encompasses about 800 acres of BLM-managed lands and Army-managed lands in the northern portion of the Monument. The first phase of cleanup is cutting vegetation, which will require road and trail closures. Phase two of the cleanup will include prescribed burning.

**On August 3**, BLM-NV Las Vegas Field Office will hold the spring land sale under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) in Las Vegas. The BLM proposes to offer 81.25 acres in 17 parcels for competitive sale. In accordance with SNPLMA, funds generated by this proposed sale will be used for projects such as the development of parks, trails, and natural areas, capital improvements on Federal lands, acquisition of environmentally sensitive land, and Lake Tahoe restoration projects.

#### **V. Major Federal Register Notices and Approval Packages:**

##### **BLM *Federal Register* Notices as of June 22, 2017, 2:00 p.m. ET**

- **Notices in blue text were received by the Division of Regulatory Affairs during the past week.**
- **Notices in green text are managed by the Div. of Lands and Realty. Please contact Brenda Wilhight with questions about these notices.**
- **Notices in red text are energy- and mineral-related notices.**

<b>Alaska State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Proposed Supplementary Rules for Public Lands Managed by the Eastern Interior Field Office at the Fairbanks District Office Administrative Site, Fairbanks, Alaska	5/2/17	6/12/17 Sent to WO-610. (DTS 1591)
Alaska Native Claims Selection – Village of Tuluksak	4/12/17	6/14/17 Sent to ASLM. (DTS 1565)

<b>Arizona State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Availability of the Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment/Final Environmental Impact Statement for Recreational Target Shooting in the Sonoran Desert National Monument, AZ	5/16/17	6/9/17 in ASLM. (DTS 1600)

Notice of Availability of the Draft Ray Land Exchange/Plan Amendment Supplemental EIS, Arizona	3/28/17	6/15/17 Back in WO-100. (DTS 1526)
Notice of Realty Action: Proposed Noncompetitive Sale and Conveyance of Mineral Interests of Public Land in Maricopa and Pinal Counties, Arizona	7/14/16	8/18/16 Sent back to AZSO for edits. (DTS 1222)
Proposed Noncompetitive (Direct) Sale and Conveyance of Mineral Interests of Public Land in Gila County, AZ	6/19/15	9/12/16 Sent to Solicitor (Lands). (DTS 791)
Notice of Availability of the Sonoran Valley Parkway Project Final Environmental Impact Statement, Maricopa County, Arizona	4/10/15	4/22/2016 On hold with AZSO. (DTS 700)

<b>California State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Land Use Plan Amendment for the OMYA Direct Land Sale Project, California	5/23/17	5/23/17 Sent to WO-210. (DTS 1616)
Notice of Reopening of Public Comment Period and Schedule of Public Scoping Meetings for the Proposed Withdrawal of California Desert Conservation Area Lands; California	4/5/17	5/23/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1544)
Notice of Intent to Amend the Resource Management Plan for the Ukiah Field Office, California and Prepare an Associated Environmental Assessment for the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument	4/4/17	5/12/17 On hold, per CASO request. (DTS 1542)
Filing of Plats of Survey: California	3/15/17	6/15/17 Sent Exec Sec. (DTS 1500)
Filing of Plats of Survey: California	2/23/17	6/15/17 Returned to Exec Sec. (DTS 1463)
Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Decision for Proposed Land Exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, California	2/10/17	6/5/17 Returned to WO-100. (DTS 1449)
Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Fort Ord National Monument, California	1/18/17	6/21/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1413)
Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Comment; Klamath National Forest, California	10/17/16	6/9/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1299)
Notice of Intent to Prepare a DRAFT Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed United States Gypsum Company Expansion/Modernization Project, Imperial County, California.	7/12/16	6/1/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1217)



<b>Colorado State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey; Colorado	4/20/17	6/15/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1574)
Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey; Colorado	2/28/17	6/15/17 Returned to Exec Sec. (DTS 1469)
Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules for Travel Management on Public Lands in Montrose, Delta, San Miguel and Ouray Counties, Colorado	12/23/16	6/14/17 Sent to COSO for edits. (DTS 1387)
Notice of Intent to Collect Fees on Public Lands in Chaffee County, Colorado (Cache Creek Placer Area)	11/3/16	11/10/16 On hold with Solicitors (Lands). (DTS 1325)
Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Guffey Gorge in Park County, Colorado	11/7/16	5/15/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1330)
Notice of Intent to Collect Fees on Public Land in Park County, Colorado (Guffey Gorge Day-Use Area)	11/3/16	3/31/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1314)
Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Bull Mountain Unit Master Development Plan, Gunnison County, CO	8/5/16	5/12/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1241)
Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument in Montezuma and Dolores Counties, CO	4/18/16	11/17/16 Returned to COSO for edits. (DTS 1128)

<b>Eastern States Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Realty Action; Application for Conveyance of Federally Owned Mineral Interests in Walton County, FL	6/20/17	6/21/17 In WO-350. (DTS 1645)
Notice of Filing of Plat Survey; Eastern States	6/20/17	6/22/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1641)
Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale ALES-55199, Alabama	12/22/16	3/16/17 Returned to ESO with Solicitor comments. (DTS 1383)
Notice of Availability of the Proposed Resource Management Plan and Associated Final Environmental Impact Statement for Southeastern States District	5/25/16	2/14/17 ESO is making edits. (DTS 1169)

<b>Idaho State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Public Meeting, Twin Falls District Resource Advisory Council, Idaho (9/27/17)	6/19/17	6/20/17 Sent to WO-640. (DTS 1639)
Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purposes Act Classification, Idaho	5/22/17	6/22/17 Sent to WO-300. (DTS 1609)

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment to Reconsider the Record of Decision Approving Segments 8 and 9 for the Gateway West Transmission Line Project, ID	5/22/17	6/20/17 Sent to ASLM. (DTS 1608)
Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rule Revision for the Upper Snake Field Office, Idaho	5/22/17	6/2/17 Sent to Solicitors (Lands). (DTS 1606)
Notice of Temporary Closure on Public Lands in Shoshone County, Idaho	4/10/17	5/9/17 on hold, per IDSO request. (DTS 1559)
Final Idaho Statewide Supplementary Rules	3/7/17	6/22/17 In WO-630. (DTS 1486)
Filing of Plats of Survey: Idaho	3/7/17	6/14/17 Back in Exec Sec. (DTS 1485)
Notice of Intent to Prepare Two Great-Basin-Wide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements to Support Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement	1/11/17	4/4/17 On hold in WO-100. (DTS 1407)
Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Gateway West Transmission Line Project and Approved Land Use Plan Amendments in Idaho	1/9/17	3/3/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1399)

<b>Montana State Office</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Leases NDM 98547 and NDM 104389, North Dakota	6/15/17	6/15/17 in WO-310 (DTS 1636)
Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Leases NDM 94704, NDM 94705 and NDM 94706, North Dakota	6/14/17	6/14/17 in WO-310. (DTS 1634)
Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale, North Dakota (Falkirk)	6/12/17	6/21/17 in WO-610 (DTS 1632)
Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey, South Dakota	6/7/17	6/13/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1630)
Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease NDM 94112, North Dakota	5/25/17	6/21/17 in WO-100. (DTS 1622)
Initial Classification and Extension of the Proposed Classification and Segregation for State In Lieu Selection, Montana	5/25/17	6/13/17 in WO-610. (DTS 1621)
Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Leases NDM 106959 and NDM 106960, North Dakota	5/23/17	6/19/17 in WO-610. (DTS 1615)
Notice of Intent to Amend the Miles City Field Office 2015 Resource Management Plan and to Prepare an Associated Environmental Assessment, Montana	5/22/17	6/21/17 in WO-610. (DTS 1611)

Notice of Availability of the EA for BNI Coal Ltd.'s Coal Lease-by-Application NDM-102083, Oliver County, ND, Notice of Public Hearing, and Request for Comment on EA	5/8/17	6/13/17 in WO-100. (DTS 1596)
Notice of Application for Withdrawal and Notification of Public Meetings; South Dakota and Wyoming; Correction	3/13/17	6/6/17 Back in ASLM after MTSO edits. (DTS 1497)
Legal Description of Limestone Hills Training Area Withdrawal, Montana	3/9/17	4/21/17 Sent to Solicitors (Lands). (DTS 1493).
Notice of Application for Withdrawal and Notification of Public Meeting; Montana - Correction	12/30/16	3/15/17 In Exec. Sec. (DTS 1391)
Notice of Availability of the Draft Resource Management Plan Revision and Associated Environmental Impact Statement for the Lewistown Field Office and a portion of the Butte Field Office, Montana.	6/23/16	3/9/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1197)

<b>Nevada State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Mount Hope Project, Eureka County, Nevada	5/5/17	6/8/17 Sent to ASLM. (DTS 1593)
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Greater Phoenix Project, Lander County, Nevada	4/14/17	6/16/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1569)
Notice of Temporary Closure and Temporary Restrictions of Specific Uses on Public Lands for the Burning Man Event (Permitted Event), Pershing County, NV	4/10/17	6/20/17 In Exec. Sec. (DTS 1560)
Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplement to the Draft Resource Management Plan and Associated Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Nevada District Planning Area, comprising the Las Vegas and Pahrump Field Offices and Gold Butte National Monument	1/6/17	6/19/17 In ASLM. (DTS 1397)

<b>New Mexico State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Public Land Order; Transfer of Administrative Jurisdiction, Secretary of the Army, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico and Fort Bliss, Texas	6/20/17	6/21/17 In WO-350. (DTS 1644)
Notice of Application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest: Harris County, Texas	5/18/17	6/16/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1603)

Notice of Closure, Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument	5/25/17	6/19/17 In WO-610. (DTS 1624)
Notice of Availability of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the BLM Carlsbad Field Office, New Mexico	4/4/17	6/13/17 In WO-610. (DTS 1545)
Notice of Extension of the Category 5 Royalty Rate Reduction Qualification for Oklahoma Federal Coal Within a Designated Area of Nine Oklahoma Counties (OKNM 96155)	4/4/17	6/19/17 In Exec Sec. (DTS 1538)
Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey: New Mexico	3/8/17	6/14/17 In Exec Sec. (DTS 1491)
Notice of Crude Helium Auction and Sale for Fiscal Year 2018 Delivery	2/21/17	6/14/17 Published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, June 20, 2017. (DTS 1460)
Notice of Realty Action: Proposed Recreation and Public Purpose Act Classification for Conveyance of Public Lands in Sante Fe County, New Mexico	2/9/17	5/22/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1445)
Notice of Application for Recordable Disclaimer of Interest: New Mexico	12/22/16	6/14/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1380)
Notice of Application for Extension of Public Land Order No. 7296, and Opportunity for Public Meeting, Sacramento Peak Observatory, New Mexico	11/29/16	3/8/17 In ASLM. (DTS 1360)
Notice of Availability of the Rio Puerco Proposed RMP and Final EIS for the Rio Puerco Field Office, New Mexico	3/11/15	10/12/16 NMSO is revising the communication plan. (DTS 665)
Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Public Lands in New Mexico	6/23/16	5/22/17 In ASLM. (DTS 1198)

<b>Oregon State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Notice of Public Meeting for the Northwest Oregon Resource Advisory Council	6/6/17	6/19/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1629)
Final Supplementary Rules for the Table Rocks Area of Critical Environmental Concern in Jackson County, Oregon	6/5/17	6/12/17 Returned to ORSO with WO-630 edits. (DTS 1625)
Notice of Application for Withdrawal, Notice of Public Meeting, and Extension of Public Comment Period for Proposed Withdrawal in the Methow Valley; Washington	4/7/17	5/26/17 Sent to ASLM. (DTS 1550)
Notice of Closure on Public Lands of Yellowstone Bridge in Linn County, OR	3/31/17	6/13/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1597)
Filing of Plats of Survey: Oregon/Washington	3/29/17	4/7/17 Sent to ASLM. (DTS 1529)

Filing of Plats of Survey: Oregon/Washington	2/24/17	5/12/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1467)
Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project and Approved Land-use Plan Amendments, Oregon	1/9/17	6/5/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1401)
Notice of Intent to Establish Recreation Fees on Public Lands in Clackamas County	12/6/16	6/15/17 Sent to WO-200. (DTS 1365)
Final Supplementary Rules for Public Lands at Bastendorff Beach and the Associated Headlands in Coos County, Oregon	11/1/16	6/16/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1337)
Notice of Temporary Emergency Road Closure for Public Lands in the Neal Creek Area of Linn County, Oregon	3/31/16	5/2/16 Returned to ORSO for revisions. (DTS 1103)
Notice of Proposed Supplementary Rules on Public Lands in Oregon	2/24/15	03/16/2017 Returned to ORSO with WO-250 edits. (DTS 644)
Notice of Temporary Closure on Public Lands in Douglas County, OR (White Castle)	8/22/13	11/19/2013 On hold. (DTS 74)

<b>Utah State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Interim Final Supplementary Rule to Prohibit Target Shooting on 2,004 acres of Public Lands in the Eastern Lake Mountains, Utah County, Utah	4/7/17	6/16/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1554)
Notice of Availability for the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Cedar City Field Office Planning Area, Utah	3/28/17	6/19/17 In WO-610. (DTS 1527)
Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Greater Chapita Wells Natural Gas Infill Project, Uintah County, Utah	3/22/17	6/19/17 In WO-100. (DTS 1514)
Notice of Availability of the Draft Monument Management Plan Amendment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Livestock Grazing for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument	3/1/17	5/17/17 Sent to Solicitors (Lands). (DTS 1471)
Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Public Lands in Moab Field Office, Utah	2/17/17	5/31/17 In Exec Sec. (DTS 1456)
Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey, Utah	1/31/17	3/9/17 In ASLM. (DTS 1429)

<b>Wyoming State Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Filing of Plats of Survey, Wyoming	4/24/17	6/14/17 Back in Exec Sec. (DTS 1581)
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Normally Pressured Lance Natural Gas Development Project	4/24/17	6/21/17 Sent to Exec Sec. (DTS 1580)
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Alkali Creek Reservoir Project, Big Horn County, Wyoming	3/14/17	6/16/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1498)
Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Meeting on a Federal Coal Lease-by-Application in the Decertified Powder River Federal Coal Production Region, WY	3/10/17	6/19/17 Sent back to Exec Sec. (DTS 1495)
Notice of Realty Action: Proposed Non-Competitive Lease of Public Land in Johnson County, WY	2/10/17	4/21/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1447)
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to Address Livestock Grazing in the Granite Mountain Open Common Allotment	11/29/16	3/24/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1358)
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Leavitt Reservoir Expansion Project, Big Horn County, Wyoming	10/7/16	6/16/17 Sent to WO-100. (DTS 1293)

<b>Washington Office</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Date Rcvd.</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation; Postponement of Certain Compliance Dates	6/6/17	Published in the Federal Register on 6/15/17 (DTS 1628)
Automatic Adjustment of Minimum Special Recreation Permit Fees and Assigned Site Fees	4/24/17	5/19/17 in ASLM (DTS 1583)
60 Day Notice: Renewal of Approved Information Collection; OMB Control No. 1004-0103	4/4/17	Will publish in the Federal Register on 6/23/17. (DTS 1537)
Gold Butte National Monument Advisory Committee Establishment; Call for Nominations, Nevada	1/13/17	4/4/17 in WO-640 (DTS 1409) – On hold.
Bears Ears National Monument Advisory Committee Establishment; Call for Nominations, Utah	1/12/17	4/4/17 in WO-640 (DTS 1408) – On hold.

**VI. Congressional Activities:****BLM Congressional / Legislative Report****June 21, 2017****Hearings**

**FY 2018 Budget Hearings / DOI:** On June 22, Secretary Zinke is scheduled to testify before the House Natural Resources Committee on the President's FY 2018 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior.

**Oversight Hearing / Oil & Gas:** On June 29, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources tentatively plans to hold a hearing on oil and gas development on public lands. Katharine MacGregor, Acting Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals will be the Department's witness.

**Legislative Hearing / Public Lands Bills:** On June 29, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining tentatively plans to hold a hearing on various public land bills, including the following four of interest to the BLM:

- S. 32, California Desert Protection and Recreation Act (Sen. Feinstein, D-CA)
- S. 436, San Juan County Settlement Implementation Act (Sen. Heinrich, D-NM)
- S. 357, Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act (Sen. Feinstein, D-CA)
- S. 90, Red River Gradient Boundary Survey Act (Sen. Cornyn, R-TX)

Chris McAlear, Assistant Director for National Conservation System and Community Partnerships will be the BLM witness.

**Markup**

**Markup / Public Lands Bills:** On June 22 and 27, the House Natural Resources Committee plans to markup the following nine public lands bills of interest to the BLM:

- H.R. 2939, Water Rights Protection Act (Rep. Tipton, R-CO-3)
- H.R. 2936, Resilient Federal Forests Act (Rep. Westerman, R-AR-4)
- H.R. 289, Guides and Outfitters Act, (Rep. La Malfa, R-CA-1)
- H.R. 1107, Pershing County Economic Development and Conservation Act (Rep. Amodei, R-NV-2)
- H.R. 1306, Western Oregon Tribal Fairness Act (Rep. DeFazio, D-OR-4)
- H.R. 1404, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Land Conveyance Act (Rep. Grijalva, D-AZ-3)
- H.R. 1399, American Soda Ash Competitiveness Act (Rep. Cook, R-CA-8)
- H.R. 1913, Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act (Rep. Panetta, D-CA-20)
- H.R. 2425, Public Lands Telecommunications Act (Rep. Huffman, D-CA-2)

**BLM State Director Courtesy Visits**

**Courtesy Visits / California Congressional Delegation:** The week of June 26, BLM-CA State Director Jerry Perez plans to conduct visits with members and staff of the California congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. to discuss public land management issues in California, including: oil and gas development, management planning efforts, wildfire, renewable energy, and recreation.

**VII. Weekly Audit Report:**

<b>DTS#</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>WO100 Review</b>	<b>ASLM Review</b>	<b>Due PFM</b>	<b>Due GAO, OIG, Congress</b>
11041	Final Audit Report Oil and Gas Development: Improved Collection and Use of Data Could Enhance BLM's Ability to Assess and Mitigate Environmental Impacts (GAO 17 307)  Link to the Report: <a href="http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO_17_307">http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO_17_307</a>	The response is awaiting ASLM approval.	5/18 5/23 (complete)	5/24 6/13	6/14	7/10/2017
N/A	Final Audit Report Oil, Gas, and Coal Royalties: Raising Federal Rates Could Decrease Production on Federal Lands but Increase Federal Revenue (GAO 17 540)  Link to the Report: <a href="http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO_17_540">http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO_17_540</a>	GAO did not make any recommendations. Therefore, no action is required.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**VIII. Packages in WO-100:**

<b>Line #</b>	<b>Sig Level</b>	<b>DCN</b>	<b>Doc. Type</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Synopsis</b>	<b>Addressee</b>	<b>Received Date</b>
1		BLM0011089	CC SO	South Fork Band of Te Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone response to tribal consultation on Rossi Mine expansion	Tribe writes to Elko DM Jill Silvey requesting consultation at all future meetings on the project.	BLM NV ELDO	
2		BLM0011020	BP	IM on Lands Suitable for Disposal		BLM WO 210 PLAN DIVISION	
3	A/S	BLM0010716	CC ES	Constituent Robert Anderson re: Small Miner Program		Neimeyer, Sarah; Comstock, Barbara	04/21/2017
4	A/S	BLM0011000	CC ES	BLM RAC meetings/review	BLM is tasked with drafting a response for ASLM final signature.	Allard, Wayne; Zinke, Ryan	05/09/2017



Line #	Sig Level	DCN	Doc. Type	Subject	Synopsis	Addressee	Received Date
5	A/S	BLM0010139	GAO/OIG CLOSURE	Request to Close Recommendations 4 and 5 in GAO 15 520 Renewable Energy: BLM Has Limited Assurance that Wind and Solar Projects are Adequately Bonded	Request to Close Recommendations 4 and 5 in GAO 15 520 Renewable Energy: BLM Has Limited Assurance that Wind and Solar Projects are Adequately Bonded	Schneider, Janice M.	
6	A/S	BLM0010345	CP	Keystone XL Pipeline Communication Plan and Press Release		BLM WO 350 LAND TENURE STAFF	
7	A/S	BLM0009514	LTR	Buffalo Horn Land Exchange Congressional Notification Letters	Congressional notification letters to the Committees to fulfill requirements of the Consolidated Appropriations Act pertaining to land exchanges where the Federal land value is over \$500,000.	BLM CO SD	
8	A/S	BLML000123	PLO	BOR Withdrawal for the Brantley/Carlsbad Project (Avalon Reservoir)		Schneider, Janice M.	
9	A/S	BLMR001399	FRN	Notice of Availability Record of Decision for Gateway West Transmission Line Project, Idaho	Sent to OFR on 1/19/17 Withdrawn on 1/23/17 The combined notice announces the BLM Decision to grant rights of way on public lands in Idaho for two segments of the Gateway West electric transmission line project, and publishes the BLM Director's response to the Idaho Governor's appeal of the BLM Idaho State Director's determination regarding the Governor's review of the consistency between the land use plan amendments associated with the right of way grant and state and local laws		01/09/2017
10	D	BLMR001630	FRN	Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey, South Dakota	This survey was executed at the request of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and was necessary to determine Individual and Tribal Trust lands.		06/07/2017

Line #	Sig Level	DCN	Doc. Type	Subject	Synopsis	Addressee	Received Date
11	D	BLM0011284	RPTCONG	Report to Congress detailing efforts to strategically incorporate public and private fire fighting assests into fighting wildland fire		McCollum, Betty; Murkowski, Lisa; Udall, Tom; Calvert, Ken	
12	D	BLM0011304	BP	BLM FA Diversity/Inclusion Training Session (May 9 10, 2017) brief to DAS Budget		Ferriter, Olivia	
13	D	BLM0011265	MEM	Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Financial Assistance Actions for Review		BLM WO 855 ACQ/FINANC E	
14	D	BLM0010958	CC WO	NOIs to prepare EIS for Alkali Creek Reservoir and Leavitt Reservoir Expansion Projects		Barrasso, MD, John	05/10/2017
15	D	BLM0010294	BP	ACCCNRS Meeting Briefing		Nedd, Michael D	
16	D	BLM0011033	CC ES	Recommend Kirk Daehling for Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council		Tipton, Scott; Zinke, Ryan	05/16/2017
17	D	BLM0009441	AWD	Re: VALOR Group Awards TRES RIOS FIELD OFFICE, COLORADO (3)	Valor Group Awards Team members are Derrick Baldwin, David Sanders, Robert Garrigues	BLM WO 700	
18	D	BLM0009442	AWD	Re: VALOR GROUP AWARDS IDAHO BRUNEAU FIRE CREW (8)	Group Awards Names are: Jason Martindale, Jack Richelieu, Damian Martinez, Blaine Jewett, Zachary Cada, Garrett Hall, Ray Bilbao, David Butler	BLM WO 700	
19	D	BLM0010822	CC ES	Concerns about Secretary's Order 3349		Pica, Erich; Sharpless, Andrew; Karpinski, Gene; Van Noppen, Trip; Brune, Michael;	05/01/2017
20	D	BLMR001622	FRN	Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease NDM 94112, North Dakota	This notice informs the public that, as allowed under the MLA, Emerald Oil, Inc. filed a petition to have an expired oil and gas lease in North Dakota reinstated. Lessee paid up on rental fees going back to when the lease expired and will now pay higher		05/25/2017

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					rental and royalty rates, plus the cost of publishing this Federal Register notice.		
21	D	BLMR001596	FRN	Notice of Availability of the EA for BNI Coal Ltd.'s Coal Lease by Application NDM 102083, Oliver County, ND, Notice of Public Hearing, and Request for Comment on EA	This notice announces that an Environmental Assessment for BNI Coal, Ltd.'s Federal Coal Lease by Application is available for public review and comment; and that it will hold a public hearing on the EA, Fair Market Value, and Maximum Economic Recovery of the coal resources contained in the proposed lease tract. The lease tract is 160 acres in size and underlies private surface near Center, Montana.		05/08/2017
22	D	BLMR001447	FRN	Notice of Realty Action: Proposed Non Competitive Lease of Public Land in Johnson County, WY	This proposed non competitive lease would resolve an inadvertent trespass to a family that placed their mobile home and other structures partially on BLM lands. The lease would authorize the existing year round occupancy and, with the applicable removal and restoration stipulations, would be the final resolution to the trespass.		02/10/2017
23	D	BLMR001449	FRN	Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Decision for Proposed Land Exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Calif	The BLM is announcing the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision approving a land exchange with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. The exchange includes roughly 4,000 acres.		02/10/2017
24	D	BLM0010215	CC ES	Energy opportunities at Fort Knox		Paul, Rand; Zinke, Ryan	03/10/2017
25	D	BLMR001380	FRN	Notice of Application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest: New Mexico	The BLM received an application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest (Disclaimer) from Eric Oppenheimer/The Simmons Firm . This notice is intended to		12/22/2016

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					inform the public of the pending application, give notice of the BLM's intention to grant the requested Disclaimer of Interest, and provide a public comment period for the Disclaimer of Interest.		
26	D	BLMR001337	FRN	Final Supplementary Rules for Public Lands at Bastendorff Beach and the Associated Headlands in Coos County, Oregon	These final rules will enable the BLM to continue necessary law enforcement action to protect public health and safety and curtail illegal activity at Bastendorff Beach in Coos County. The interim final supplementary rules, established April 1, 2016, changed the current 14 day stay limit to a 24 hour stay limit, and required campers to move at least 25 air miles from a previously occupied site after 24 hours of camping. Finalizing the new camping limits will help the BLM minimize damage		11/14/2016
27	D	BLMR001526	FRN	Notice of Availability of the Draft Ray Land Exchange/Plan Amendment Supplemental EIS, Arizona	This Draft Supplemental EIS documents additional analysis of potential environmental impacts of a proposed land exchange between the BLM and ASARCO (mining company) of approximately 10,976 acres of public lands and federally owned mineral estate in Arizona for acquisition by ASARCO in exchange for approximately 7,304 acres of private land in Arizona identified by the BLM as desirable for public ownership.		03/28/2017

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28	D	BLMR001569	FRN	Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Greater Phoenix Project, Lander County, Nevada	The Proposed Action to be evaluated in the EIS includes the continued operation of the existing Phoenix Mine, which produces gold and copper. It would extend mine life from 2040 to 2063 and expand the Plan of Operations boundary by 10,611 acres ? from 8,228 acres to 18,839 acres. Four existing ROWs would require amendments to existing FLPMA grants to relocate power lines, fiber optic lines, natural gas pipelines, and a road.		04/14/2017
29	D	BLMR001413	FRN	Notice of Final Supplementary Rules for Fort Ord National Monument, California	The new rules allow off leash dog walking, provide BLM rangers the authority to assist with pet enforcement in the national monument, and clarify who has the right of way among bikers, equestrians, and hikers.		01/18/2017
30	D	BLMR001498	FRN	Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Alkali Creek Reservoir Project, Big Horn County, Wyoming	The Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO) proposes to construct a reservoir near Hyattville, Wyoming. The BLM intends to prepare an EIS to support the decision making for the proposed Alkali Creek Reservoir Project and conduct a public scoping period to seek input on the preliminary issues identified regarding this proposal.		03/14/2017
31	D	BLMR001197	FRN	Notice of Availability of the Draft Resource Management Plan Revision and Associated Environmental Impact Statement for the Lewistown Field Office and a portion of the Butte Field Office, Montana.	Notice announces the start of the public comment period for the resource management plan and its associated EIS for public lands and resources located in Central Montana that are managed by the Lewistown Field Office and a portion of the Butte Field Office in		06/23/2016

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					northern Lewis and Clark County, Montana.		
32	D	BLMR001241	FRN	Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Bull Mountain Unit Master Development Plan, Gunnison County, Colorado	Will need new signature pages. The BLM is announcing the release of the Record of Decision for the Bull Mountain Unit Master Development Plan, providing direction for the development of approximately 19,670 acres of federal and private mineral estate near Paonia, CO. The plan provides a framework for developing up to 146 natural gas wells, four water disposal wells and construction of associated access roads and pipelines for leases operated by SG Interests I, Ltd.		08/05/2016
33	D	BLMR001293	FRN	Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Leavitt Reservoir Expansion Project, Big Horn County, Wyoming	The Cody Field Office, Cody, Wyoming, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Leavitt Reservoir Expansion Project. The Wyoming Water Development Commission proposes to enlarge the water storage capacity of Leavitt Reservoir to a total capacity of 6,604 acre feet for the purposes of multiple use that include late season irrigation, flood attenuation and recreation.		10/07/2016
34	D	BLMR001217	FRN	Notice of Intent to Prepare a DRAFT Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed United States Gypsum Company Expansion/Modernization Project, Imperial County, California.	The BLM is announcing the beginning of a public comment period on a new supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Supplemental EIS will analyze potential alternatives, update technical information from the 2008 EIS, and incorporate the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a partner agency.		07/12/2016



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35	D	BLMR001401	FRN	Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project and Approved Land use Plan Amendments, Oregon			01/09/2017
36	D	BLMR001407	FRN	Notice of Intent to Prepare Two Great Basin Wide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements to support wildlife habitat improvement	The notice will initiate a 60 day public scoping period to identify issues that will be analyzed in two programmatic environmental impact statements (EIS) the BLM will prepare to analyze the effects of fuel breaks and fuels reduction projects designed to conserve and improve wildlife habitat on BLM managed lands in the Great Basin (southern Idaho, eastern Oregon, Nevada, northeastern California, western Utah and eastern Washington).		01/11/2017
37	DC	BLM0011091	LTR	Outcome Based Grazing Authorizations	An interdisciplinary team of field, state office and headquarters personnel is developing a process for issuing a limited number of Outcome Based Grazing Authorizations (OBGA), designed to offer livestock operators greater flexibility to manage livestock grazing on certain designated allotments of BLM managed lands.	All State Directors (Except ESSO and AKSO),	
38	DD	BLMS000021	OTH	Constituent LaVanna Stevenson re: back pay		Mansour, Christopher; Cardin, Benjamin L	05/30/2017
39	DD	BLM0010881	CC ES	Tule Wind Energy Project		Pinto, Robert; Zinke, Ryan	04/30/2017
40	DD	BLM0010876	MEM	Request for Approval to Sponsor and Attend the 2017 Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Summer Meeting	The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies 2017 Summer Meeting is being held July 7 11, 2017 in Vail, Colorado.	Deputy Director,	
41	DD	BLM0010671	MEM	New Members for the Bureau of Land	The Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	Assistant Director,	

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				Management Preservation Board	Preservation Board (Board) recommends and requests approval of two candidates to replace members whose terms will expire on May 31, 2017.		
42	DD	BLM0011104	CC ES	Off road big game retrieval for disabled individuals		Daines, Steve; Chambers, Micah	05/23/2017
43	DM	BLMR001629	FRN	Notice of Public Meeting for the Northwest Oregon Resource Advisory Council	The Northwest Oregon RAC will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, July 26, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Members will consider and make recommendations on the reallocation of Secure Rural Schools Title II funds. Other topics will include general updates, a review of subcommittee and field trip opportunities, and a presentation by the Association of Oregon Counties on the Oregon and California Railroad Revested Lands (O&C) Act and access related issues.		06/06/2017
44	DR	EST 00001665	GOV	Request for Meeting Greater sage grouse		Hickenlooper, John W.; Zinke, Ryan; Mead, Matt	04/19/2017
45	DS	BLM0011290	MEM	Meeting waiver request for Lincoln County Land Act ART meetings	PLEASE EXPEDITE	SIO DS	
46	DS	BLM0011195	SNPLMA	SNPLMA meeting waiver	PLEASE EXPEDITE!	MacGregor, Katharine	
47	DSD	BLMR001445	FRN	Notice of Realty Action; Proposed Recreation and Public Purpose Act Classification for Conveyance of Public Lands in Santa Fe County, New Mexico	The proposed action conveys approx 470 acres of BLM land through the Recreation and Public Purpose Act (R&PP) to the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. The proposed R&PP conveyance is for the construction of a multi use shooting range facility in the Sanfe Fe, New Mexico area.		02/09/2017



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48	DSD	BLMR001603	FRN	Notice of Application for a Recordable Disclaimer of Interest: Harris County, Texas	The BLM intends to issue a recordable disclaimer of interest to RKE 2 Real Estate, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, the record title owner of certain lands located in Harris County, Texas, to remove a cloud from the title.		05/18/2017
49	FM	BLM0010268	LTR	106 Consultation 2 CX's 2 Maps Monticello FO		BLM UT 930 RESOURCES	
50	FM	BLMR001597	FRN	Notice of Closure on Public Lands of Yellowstone Bridge in Linn County, OR	The temporary closure is necessary to ensure public safety due to findings of bridge instability. The closure for up to two years is necessary to develop an engineering remediation plan and secure funding. Closing of the bridge will not restrict access to public lands as alternate routes are available.		05/11/2017
51	S	BLM0011032	CC ES	Steps to ensure conservation of greater sage grouse		Bennet, Michael F.; Wyden, Ron; Zinke, Ryan	05/16/2017
52	S	BLM0011137	CC ES	Sage Grouse Task Force coordination between DOI and states		Hickenlooper, John W.; Zinke, Ryan; Mead, Matt	05/28/2017
53	S	BLM0010971	CC ES	Badger Two Medicine area	Note that the 4/28 letter references the 4/13 letter that was not received by OES until now. Please draft single response to both letters, which are both contained in the incoming pdf.	Barnes, Harry; Zinke, Ryan	05/02/2017
54	S	BLM0010970	CC ES	Proposed mineral withdrawal, wild horses, and SNPLMA		Sandoval, Brian; Zinke, Ryan	05/09/2017
55	S	BLM0011134	CC ES	Black Ridge Wilderness within McInnis Canyons National Recreation Area		Tipton, Scott; Zinke, Ryan	05/31/2017

Line #	Sig Level	DCN	Doc. Type	Subject	Synopsis	Addressee	Received Date
56	S	BLM0011007	CC ES	Suspension of meetings and activities of committees and advisory boards/RACs	NOTE: Oregon Coastal and Southwest RACs have completed Secure Rural Schools business for the FY17. BLM is submitting a meeting waiver for Northwest Oregon RAC to complete SRS business prior to August 3, 2017.	Udall, Tom; Cantwell, Maria; Bennet, Michael F.; Merkley, Jeff; Heinrich, Martin; Wyden, Ron; Murray, Patty; Feinstein, Dianne; Zinke, Ryan	05/11/2017
57	S	BLM0010690	CC ES	Livestock grazing management guidance for approved RMP amendments		Mead, Matt; Zinke, Ryan	04/24/2017
58	S	BLM0010420	CC ES	SunZia Southwest Transmission Project		Martinez, Susana; Zinke, Ryan; Mattis, James	03/30/2017
59	S	BLM0010488	CC ES	Request for DOI acquisition of land near Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area		Titus, Dina; Zinke, Ryan	04/05/2017
60	S	BLM0011073	CC ES	Caldwell Canyon Mine in Idaho		Crapo, Michael D.; Risch, James F.; Zinke, Ryan	05/23/2017
61	S	BLM0009754	RPTCONG	FY 2016 Annual Report to Congress on Helium Stewardship Act of 2013	The Helium Stewardship Act of 2013 (P. L. 113 40) Requires an Annual Financial Report to Congress on Helium from the Secretary of the Interior.	BLM WO 300	
62	S	BLMC000011	Other	Annual Helium Report of 2015		BLM NM SD	
63	SD	BLM0010459	CC SO	Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance request to be part of Bears Ears Monument Advisory Committee		Groene, Scott	
64	SD	BLM0010431	CC ES	Constituent Noel Cousins re: Mining claim in Inyo County, CA		Flake, Jeff; Neimeyer, Sarah	04/03/2017
65	SD	BLM0011275	CC WO	Timely processing of Riverside Reservoir leases	**Please Note: This letter was received (BLM 9501) and closed per the previous BLM Administration. The record is now re created and a response is needed.	Buck, Ken	12/01/2016

Line #	Sig Level	DCN	Doc. Type	Subject	Synopsis	Addressee	Received Date
66	SD	BLM0010581	CC SO	Congressman Newhouse Gary Maughan	BLM/BOR land trade	Newhouse, Dan	
67	SD	BLM0010609	CC ES	BLM preventing Grynberg Petroleum Company from developing leases	*Potential active litigation with this company and BLM (Wyoming) Case No. 16 cv 289 J  Please provide a very basic draft response	Domenech, Doug; Grynberg, Jack J.; Zinke, Ryan	04/17/2017
68	SD	BLMR001588	FRN	Notice of Filing of Plat of Survey; Oklahoma, Suspended	The suit challenges the accuracy of cadastral surveys that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared for Oklahoma Indian allottees in 2008 and 2009 along the Red River, which forms part of the border between Texas and Oklahoma.  It is urgent that this notice move forward as these surveys are currently involved in litigation, and the court and other parties have been informed that the notice will publish as soon as possible. The notice should be published prior to a decision coming		04/26/2017
69	SD	BLMR001554	RUL	Lake Mountain Target Shooting Supplementary Rule	PLEASE EXPEDITE!! This interim final supplementary rule is necessary to implement and allow enforcement of the 2,004 acre long term target shooting closure on public lands in the Lake Mountains in the West Desert District, Salt Lake Field Office.		04/07/2017
70	SD	BLM0010421	CC ES	Constituent Ron Nuckles re: effect of hiring freeze on job offer from BLM	*Identical response will be sent to Sen Kaine	Goodlatte, Bob; DOI,; Kaine, Tim	03/30/2017

<i>Line #</i>	<i>Sig Level</i>	<i>DCN</i>	<i>Doc. Type</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Synopsis</i>	<i>Addressee</i>	<i>Received Date</i>
71	SD	BLMR001514	FRN STATE	Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Greater Chapita Wells Natural Gas Infill Project, Uintah County, Utah	This notice will initiate a 45 day public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS analyzes EOG Resources Inc's (EOG) proposal to further develop their valid existing leases in the existing Greater Chapita Wells area, approx 25 miles south of Vernal UT.		03/22/2017
72	SD	BLMR001358	FRN	Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to Address Livestock Grazing in the Granite Mountain Open Common Allotment	The Notice of Intent starts the public notification of the Bureau of Land Management, Lander, Wyoming Field Office's analyzing the issuance of a permit for livestock grazing on approximately 80,000 acres of public land in Fremont County in West Central Wyoming.		11/29/2016

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MANAGEMENT (/)**



## CONSIDERING BACKCOUNTRY CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT IN LAND USE PLANNING EFFORTS

**IM 2017-036**

Instruction Memorandum

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240-0036  
[http://www.blm.gov \(/\)](http://www.blm.gov (/))

January 19, 2017

In Reply Refer To:

1610, 1110, 1120, 8320, (210, 230, 250) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 01/19/2017

Instruction Memorandum No. 2017-036

Expires: 09/30/2020

To: All Washington Office and Field Office Officials

From: Assistant Director, Resources and Planning

Subject: Considering Backcountry Conservation Management in Land Use Planning Efforts

**Program Area:** Land Use Planning; Recreation and Visitor Services; Fish and Wildlife Conservation

**Purpose:** Based on public proposals in multiple land use planning efforts and consistent with multiple use and sustained yield, the BLM recognizes the value of protecting certain backcountry areas in order to preserve generally intact, undeveloped public lands that contain priority habitats for recreationally-important fish and wildlife species and that provide high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities afforded by those species. This Instruction Memorandum (IM) summarizes the criteria and process for considering management of these habitats and recreational opportunities through the application of land use planning components, including establishing backcountry conservation areas (BCAs), during the land use planning process.

**Policy/Action:** During a land use plan (LUP) revision or amendment effort, BLM offices may consider management for backcountry conservation those public lands that generally meet the criteria described in *Attachment 1 - "Backcountry Conservation Management Criteria and Guidance."* BLM offices may consider both internal and external proposals for backcountry conservation. The criteria and guidance presented in Attachment 1 supplement existing guidance for designation of special recreation management areas (SRMAs), and should be used to determine areas appropriate for backcountry conservation. Circumstances unique to a specific planning area may be taken into consideration when applying the criteria.

A discussion of how the criteria have been met should be included in the NEPA analysis accompanying the revision or amendment.

Consistent with 43 C.F.R. § 1610.1-2, LUP revisions or amendments that consider management for backcountry conservation must include the following plan components for each alternative, also discussed in Attachment 1:

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●**Goal(s):** For each geographic area, define a goal or goals that describe(s) the desired outcome for the priority habitat that supports recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species. In addition, describe a goal(s) for the recreation opportunities associated with those species.

●**Fish/Wildlife Objective(s):** For each geographic area under consideration, define specific, measurable, outcome-focused objectives that describe the desired habitat conditions for the recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species. In developing these objectives, BLM should consider and, to the extent appropriate, incorporate the corresponding fish and wildlife objectives of the relevant state agencies.

●**Recreation Objective(s):** Within those portions of each geographic area under consideration that can be compatibly managed for wildlife-dependent recreation, develop specific, measurable, outcome-focused objectives that define the recreation opportunities (i.e., activities, experiences and benefits derived from those experiences). The objective(s) should focus on protecting and enhancing high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities. Since some portions of the habitat within the backcountry area may be sensitive to human disturbance (e.g., calving or fawning habitat or cultural sites), it may not be appropriate to manage all portions of an area for enhanced recreation opportunities using the BCA designation.

●**Designations:** Within those portions of each geographic area under consideration that can be compatibly-managed for wildlife dependent recreation and consistent with the related recreation and fish/wildlife objectives, use the Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) designation process to designate as Backcountry Conservation Areas (BCA) those areas that will be managed to maintain or enhance high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities.

●**Resource use determinations:** Identify the resource use determinations, subject to valid existing rights, that support the goal(s), objective(s), and designation(s) of the areas under consideration for backcountry conservation. These may include, for example, stipulations on fluid and solid mineral leasing, right-of-way avoidance areas, off-highway vehicle area designations, livestock grazing decisions, and/or limitations on Special Recreation Permits (SRPs).

●**Land tenure decisions:** Identify land tenure decisions (retention, acquisition, exchange) that support the backcountry conservation goal(s), objective(s), and designation(s).

●**Monitoring and evaluation standards:** Identify indicators and intervals for monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the fish/wildlife and recreation objectives are being met.

For each geographic area being considered for backcountry conservation in a LUP revision or amendment, BLM offices must document the LUP components set forth above in chapter 2 when describing the proposed action and range of alternatives of the LUP.

LUP revision and amendment efforts that are already in progress as of the effective date of this IM and have already developed their preliminary range of alternatives may address backcountry conservation using an alternative approach to the one presented in this IM, ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and regulations. However, all LUP revision and amendment efforts that have not yet completed their public scoping efforts as of the effective date of this IM should conform to this IM in order to ensure consistency across BLM LUP efforts.

**Timeframe:** This guidance is effective immediately.

**Budget Impact:** During LUP revision and amendment efforts, BLM staff already consider areas for the protection of fish, wildlife, and recreational opportunities, with input provided by cooperating agencies and the public. However, consideration of backcountry conservation in the development of land use plans may add some complexity to the planning process and therefore may minimally affect planning budgets.

**Manual/Handbook Sections Affected:** This guidance supplements existing guidance found in the BLM's Land Use Planning Handbook, H-1610-1, Appendix C Sections I.E (Fish and Wildlife) and II.C (Recreation and Visitor Services). It also supplements guidance found in the BLM's Planning for Recreation and Visitor Services Manual (MS-8320-1) and Recreation and Visitor Services Handbook (H-8320-1).

**Coordination:** This IM was developed by the Division of Decision Support, Planning and NEPA (WO-210); the Division of Fish and Wildlife Conservation (WO-230); and the Division of Recreation and Visitor Services (WO-250).

**Contact:** Please direct questions to one or more of the following Washington Office specialists:

- **Planning:** Please direct questions regarding this policy to Leah Baker, Division Chief, Decision Support, Planning & NEPA (WO-210), at 202-912-7282 ([lbaker@blm.gov](mailto:lbaker@blm.gov) (<https://mail.google.com/mail/?view=cm&fs=1&tf=1&to=lbaker@blm.gov>)), or Fariba Hamedani, Planning and Environmental Analyst (WO-212), at 202-912-7047 ([fhamedani@blm.gov](mailto:fhamedani@blm.gov) (<https://mail.google.com/mail/?view=cm&fs=1&tf=1&to=fhamedani@blm.gov>)).

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- **Recreation:** Please direct questions regarding SRMA designations and other recreation related topics to Dorothy Morgan, Outdoor Recreation Planner (WO-250) at 202-912-7412 ([dmorgan@blm.gov](mailto:dmorgan@blm.gov) (<https://mail.google.com/mail/?view=cm&fs=1&tf=1&to=dmorgan@blm.gov>)).
- **Fish & Wildlife:** Please direct questions regarding planning for fish and wildlife habitat to Stephanie Carman, National Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Program Lead (WO-230) at 202-912-7169 ([scarman@blm.gov](mailto:scarman@blm.gov) (<https://mail.google.com/mail/?view=cm&fs=1&tf=1&to=scarman@blm.gov>)).

Signed by:

Authenticated by:

Kristin Bail

Robert M. Williams


Assistant Director

Division of IT Policy and Planning, WO-870

Resources &amp; Planning

1 Attachment

1 - (Backcountry Conservation Management Criteria and Guidance) (6 pp)

[VIEW ALL POLICIES](#)[Return to the Policies \(/media/blm-policy/Instruction%20Memorandum\)](#) [IM2017-036\\_att1.pdf \(/download/file/fid/8586\)](#)

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## **Attachment 1—Backcountry Conservation Management: Criteria and Guidance**

**Purpose:** The purpose of backcountry conservation management is to:

- 1) protect, conserve, restore, and enhance larger areas of generally intact and undeveloped BLM-managed lands that contain functional, unfragmented habitats and migration/movement corridors for recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species, and
- 2) provide for high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation associated with those species, such as hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife watching in the portion of the area under consideration where management of wildlife and recreation can both be enhanced.

**Identification Criteria:** Areas that meet the criteria of “generally intact and undeveloped” and “habitat for recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species” may be considered in the land use planning process for backcountry conservation management. Taken together, these criteria will provide a setting for functional wildlife habitat that supports high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation where appropriate.

***1. Generally Intact and Undeveloped:*** An area meets the “generally intact and undeveloped” criteria if it contains ***both*** of the following:

- Few, if any, development features that reduce the effectiveness of an area for wildlife or diminish the recreation experience. Such features include major rights-of-way features (such as large above-ground transmission lines or pipelines), pump jacks, wind turbines, and associated infrastructure, but do not include abandoned homesteads and agricultural or wildlife improvements such as fencing, corrals, and water structures. The presence of a small number of isolated features such as fire towers, remote cabins, weather stations, wildlife improvements, corrals, or small transmission lines does not necessarily negate the classification of an area as generally intact and undeveloped.
- Generally low density of roads. The presence of primitive roads, motorized trails, or non-motorized trails does not generally prevent the classification of an area as generally intact and undeveloped.

***2. Habitat for Recreationally-Important Fish and/or Wildlife Species:*** An area meets the “habitat for recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife habitat” criteria if it contains ***either or both*** of the following:

- Documented habitat and/or migration/movement corridors for recreationally-important species of fish and/or wildlife, such as: sportfish-bearing streams; sportfish spawning and rearing habitat; big game winter range, summer range, parturition (e.g. calving, fawning, lambing) areas, migration corridors and associated stopover areas; and migratory bird habitats.
- Recreationally-important wildlife habitat that has the potential to provide the public with high-quality wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities, such as hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife viewing.

**Consideration of Potential Areas for Backcountry Conservation:** In considering, documenting and evaluating potential backcountry conservation management opportunities during land use planning:

- Consider and document the distribution and quality of priority habitat and migration/movement corridors for recreationally-important fish and wildlife species within the planning unit, utilizing current land health assessments and any available information from state fish and wildlife agencies, other federal agencies, non-federal partners, or other relevant sources.
- Consider existing development features within an area and the existing impact of those developments on fish and wildlife habitat quality, and wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities.
- Consider current land use practices and the overall condition of the lands.
- Consider the location, condition, and status of access associated with existing roads, primitive roads, and trails. Publicly, and sometimes administratively, inaccessible lands may be prime candidates for protecting priority habitat and migration/movement corridors for recreationally- important fish and wildlife species and should be considered through the planning process.
- Consider input from the state game and fish agencies, other federal, state, and tribal agencies, the public, or other relevant parties on areas important for dispersed, wildlife-dependent recreation.
- Evaluate the status, trends, threats, and opportunities for management of recreationally-important fish and wildlife populations and habitat, in collaboration with state fish and wildlife agencies.
- Consider and document the desired recreation activities, experiences, and benefits that depend on abundant fish and wildlife populations, such as hunting, fishing, trapping, wildlife viewing, and photography. Consider in this context state wildlife planning efforts.
- Identify current and desired Recreation Setting Characteristics.
- Consider and document, in collaboration with the state wildlife agencies, whether the lands can be effectively managed to protect or restore recreationally-important fish and wildlife habitat and migration/movement corridors.
- Identify the most effective boundaries for the desired goal and measurable objectives.

Addressing Backcountry Conservation Management in the Land Use Planning Processes:

BLM offices may consider both internal and external proposals for backcountry conservation. External proposals should include the following information in order to assist with the management consideration process. The following information can be submitted to the BLM or shared through public meetings associated with the plan assessment and/or scoping phase of the land use planning process:

- A map or other geographic information clearly identifying the area to be evaluated.
- A narrative description of the habitat and/or migration/movement corridors for recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species within the geographic area, and an explanation of why the habitat should be considered for backcountry conservation, including the recreation activities for which the area should be managed. The proposal may also include evidence to support the nomination (for example, peer-reviewed scientific literature or technical reports).

*Planning Assessment:* Incorporate inventory and analysis of habitat and migration/movement corridors for recreationally-important fish and wildlife species, backcountry recreation opportunities, and undeveloped lands. Planning teams should work closely with state fish and wildlife agency representatives to fully consider state priorities for wildlife population management objectives, hunter/angler access needs, wildlife and habitat management recommendations, and research.

*Scoping and Identification of Planning Issues:* The step of scoping and identifying planning issues provides the public with an opportunity to propose areas for backcountry conservation management consideration.

*Formulation of Resource Management Alternatives:* Evaluate each area proposed for backcountry conservation management consideration in order to determine whether the area meets the identification criteria. When evaluating areas for a potential management for backcountry conservation, first consider what areas have the desired wildlife and fish habitat characteristics and then consider which areas will support the desired recreational activities. Once the BLM has identified which areas meet the identification criteria, consider the following plan components in one or more resource management alternative. For each geographic area being considered for backcountry conservation within one or more land use plan alternatives, identify the following (see Figure 1 for a conceptual depiction):

- *Goal(s):* For each geographic area, define a goal or goals that describe(s) the desired outcome for the habitat that supports recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species. In addition, describe a goal(s) for the recreational opportunities associated with those species. If multiple areas being considered for backcountry conservation within an alternative are geographically adjacent to one another and share the same habitat goal(s), then the geographic areas should be merged and have the same goal(s) identified. Within each alternative, if any other goals overlap with the backcountry conservation goal(s) for a geographic area, then the other goals should be compatible with the backcountry conservation goals for the geographic area.
- *Fish/Wildlife Objectives:* For each geographic area under consideration, define specific, measurable, outcome-focused objectives that describe the desired habitat conditions for the recreationally-important fish and/or wildlife species. The measurable objective(s) should ensure that the intact and undeveloped character of the land and habitat will be protected from fragmentation and development, and improved, where possible, to better protect backcountry resources. Within each alternative, if any other objectives overlap with the fish/wildlife objective, then the other objectives should be compatible.
- *Recreation Objective(s):* Within those portions of each geographic area under consideration that can be compatibly-managed for wildlife dependent recreation, develop specific, measurable, outcome-focused objectives that define the recreation opportunities (i.e. activities, experiences and benefits derived from those experiences). The objective(s) should focus on protecting and enhancing high-quality wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities. Since some portions of the habitat within the backcountry area may be sensitive to human disturbance (e.g., calving or fawning habitat or cultural sites), it may not be appropriate to manage all portions of an area for enhanced recreation opportunities

using the BCA designation.

- *Designations:* Within those portions of each the geographic area under consideration that can be compatibly-managed for wildlife dependent recreation and consistent with the related recreation and fish/wildlife objectives, use the Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) designation process (MS-8320-1) to designate as Backcountry Conservation Areas (BCA) those areas that will be managed to maintain or enhance high-quality, wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities.
- *Resource use determinations:* Identify the resource use determinations, subject to valid existing rights, that support the goal(s), objective(s), and designation(s) of the areas under consideration for backcountry conservation. These may include compatible uses, such as grazing and vegetation management, that do not negatively impact the backcountry conservation objectives. Examples of resource use determinations that could apply to achieve the goal(s) and objective(s) of the backcountry conservation (subject to applicable program policies, regulations, and valid existing rights) include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - OHV designations to provide adequate public access while protecting habitat.
  - Right-of-way avoidance or exclusion areas.
  - Resource use determinations for fluid mineral development, such as leasing, closures or major constraints such as No Surface Occupancy stipulations.
  - Resource use determinations for mineral materials and/or non-energy leasable minerals.
  - Recommendations for locatable mineral withdrawals.
  - Disturbance caps on surface-disturbing activities.
- *Land tenure decisions:* Identify land tenure decisions (retention, acquisition, exchange) that support the backcountry conservation goal(s), objective(s), and designation(s). Consider retaining in federal ownership those lands within the area under consideration for backcountry conservation management. Also consider allowing for acquisition of key parcels or easements adjacent to or within the areas under consideration for backcountry conservation management in order to support conservation and connectivity of important fish and/or wildlife habitats and/or improved public access.
- *Monitoring and evaluation standards:* Identify indicators and intervals for monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the fish/wildlife and recreation objectives are being met.

For each backcountry conservation management alternative being considered in a LUP revision or amendment, BLM offices should document relevant LUP components within the Fish and Wildlife Section and Recreation Sections of the LUP Chapter 2.

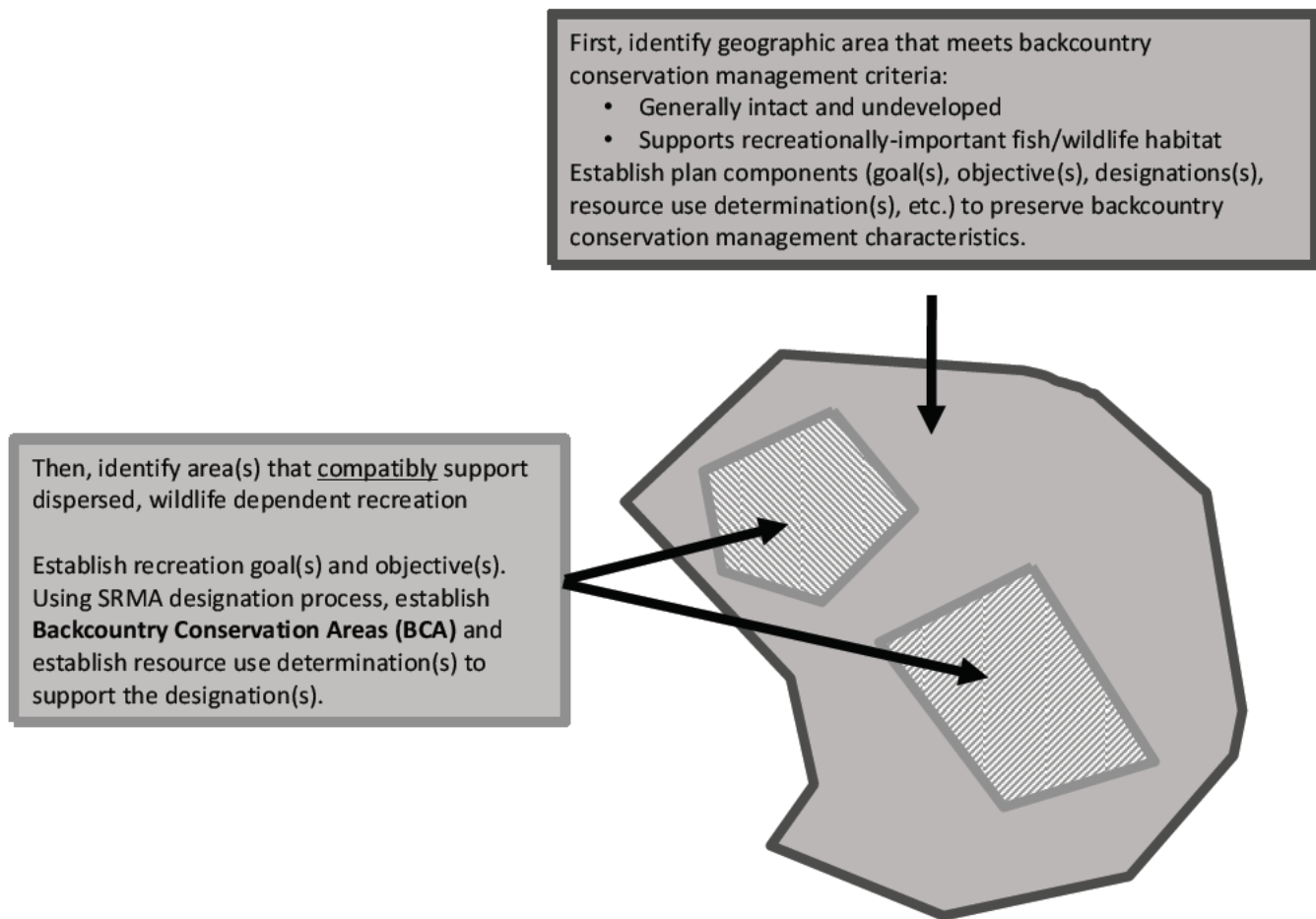


Figure 1: Conceptual depiction of Backcountry Conservation Management