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BLM releases two draft land use plans for northwestern Colorado

The Bureau of Land Management today released for public review two Draft Resource Management Plan Revisions for more than 900,000 acres of BLM lands in northwestern Colorado.

These land use plans will provide the management direction for the next two decades covering all aspects of BLM land and mineral management within the Colorado River Valley Field Office and Kremmling Field Office boundaries, including recreation, travel management, energy development, resource protection, wildlife habitat, urban interface, special designations, grazing, and realty actions.

The draft plans each analyze four alternatives detailing a wide range of possible management direction. Public comments on the draft plans will be used as BLM develops the final plans for these Field Offices, which are scheduled to be released in 2012.

“We’ve worked hard with our partners to craft a wide range of alternatives for public review and comment,” said Steve Bennett, Field Manager for the Colorado River Valley Field Office. “We welcome all thoughts and comments, but specific comments will be particularly useful in helping us refine the draft into its final form.”

“We only revise these resource management plans about every 20 years, so we really want to hear from the public and get feedback on these alternatives,” said Dave Stout, Field Manager for the Kremmling Field Office.

Both plans and information about providing comments are available at:

http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/land_use_planning/rmp/kfo-gsfo.html

The draft plan for the **Colorado River Valley Field Office** covers 505,000 surface acres and 707,000 acres of subsurface mineral estate administered in Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Pitkin, and Routt counties, with a small amount of acreage in Rio Blanco County.

BLM will host three public open houses to provide information and an opportunity to comment on the Colorado River Valley draft. The public can stop by anytime between 3-7 p.m. at the following locations:

- Oct. 6 in Silt at the BLM Colorado River Valley Office, 2300 River Frontage Road

- Oct. 11 in Eagle at the Eagle Public Library, 600 Broadway St.
- Oct. 12 in Carbondale at Town Hall, 511 Colorado Ave.

BLM will accept public comment on the Colorado River Valley draft through Dec. 15, 2011.

The draft plan for the **Kremmling Field Office** covers 377,900 surface acres and 653,000 acres of subsurface mineral estate in Grand, Jackson, Routt, Summit, Larimer and Eagle counties.

BLM will be hosting several public open house meetings on the Kremmling draft plan in October, although specific locations, dates and times are not yet set. While Kremmling's draft plan is available on-line, printed copies are not anticipated to arrive until October. The public comment period for Kremmling's draft is open now and will close 90 days following the availability of printed paper copies. Updated information about this plan will be maintained on-line and through future news releases.

The two field offices have been working on these draft Resource Management Plans concurrently because they share a common border and many common issues. The alternatives for each field office are detailed in separate draft documents, and the final proposed plan for each office will be developed separately.

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