

Colorado River Valley Field Office RMP Newsletter

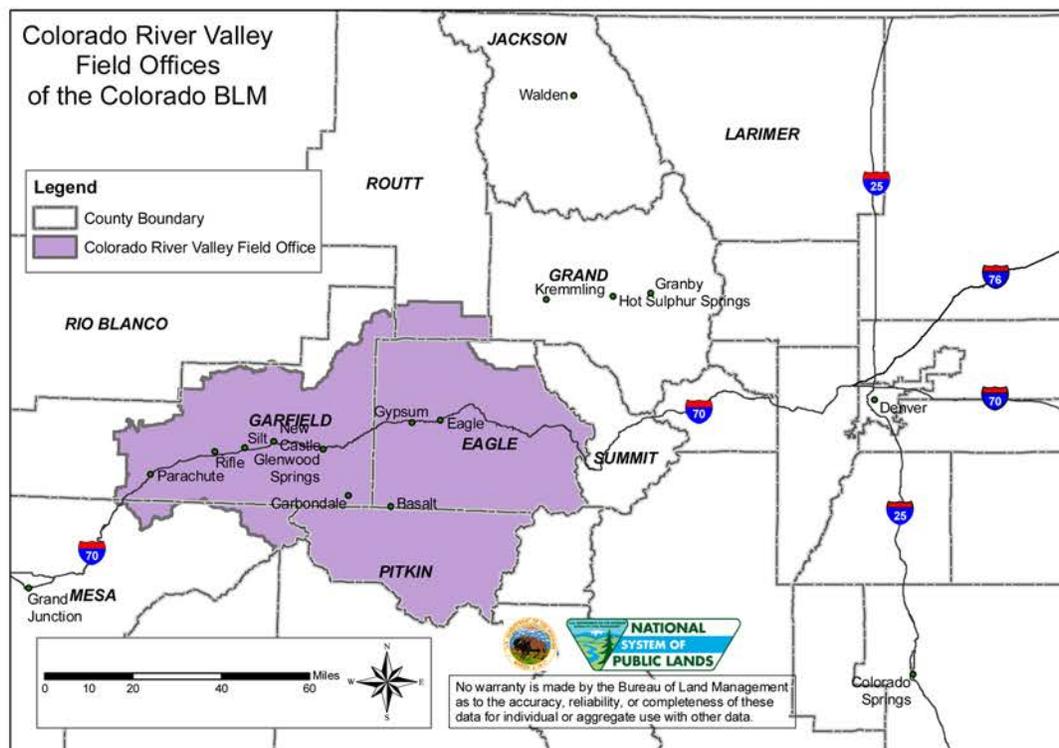
September 2011

US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado River Valley Field Office, Colorado

COLORADO RIVER VALLEY FIELD OFFICE DRAFT RMP/EIS AVAILABLE

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Colorado River Valley (formerly Glenwood Springs) Field Office for a 90-day public comment period.

PLANNING AREA



Project Planning Area

The Colorado River Valley Draft RMP/EIS is now a separate document from the Kremmling Draft RMP/EIS. The Colorado River Valley RMP/EIS addresses 504,910 acres of BLM lands and underlying federal mineral estate across five Colorado counties: Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Pitkin, and Routt, with a very small portion of the planning area in Rio Blanco County. There are 73,602 acres of the CRVFO planning area managed by the BLM that is covered under the separate Roan Plateau RMP Amendment. The Roan Plateau is not covered under the Colorado River Valley RMP/EIS, except for Wild and Scenic River decisions.

DRAFT EIS ALTERNATIVES

- **Alternative A (No Action Alternative)** would be the continuation of the current management situation. The emphasis would be on maintaining the existing land management direction for physical, biological, cultural, and historic resource values, along with recreational, social, and economic land uses. The BLM would implement the direction contained in laws, regulations, and BLM policies superseding provisions of the existing 1984 RMP and amendments.
- **Alternative B (preferred alternative)** would represent a strategic mix of conservation and resource use. Alternative B seeks to allocate limited resources among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resource values. Goals and objectives would focus on environmental, economic, and social outcomes achieved by strategically addressing demands across the landscape. Management direction would generally be broad to accommodate a variety of values and uses.



- **Alternative C (conservation emphasis)** would provide for high level of resource protection and restoration and sustaining or restoring the ecological integrity of habitats for all priority plant, wildlife, and fish species. This includes the habitats needed for conserving and recovering listed, proposed, or candidate threatened or endangered plant and animal species. Goals and objectives focus on environmental and social outcomes achieved by sustaining relatively unmodified physical landscapes and natural and cultural resource values for current and future generations.
- **Alternative D (resource use emphasis)** would encourage beneficial social and economic outcomes while protecting land health. Management direction would recognize and expand existing uses and accommodate new uses to the greatest extent possible. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, and livestock grazing) would emphasize maximizing resource production in an environmentally responsible manner, while maintaining the basic protection needed to sustain resources.

GET INVOLVED

To learn more about the Colorado River Valley Field Office Draft RMP/EIS, or obtain a copy of the plan, visit our website at <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/co/kfo-gsfo>, attend a public meeting, or contact John Russell, RMP Project Manager, at the Colorado River Valley Field Office, phone: (970) 876-9000, or e-mail: co_crvrmp@blm.gov.

DRAFT RMP/EIS OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date and Time	Location	Address
Oct. 6: 3 p.m.- 7 p.m.	Silt	BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office 2300 River Frontage Road Silt, Colorado
Oct. 11: 3 p.m.- 7 p.m.	Eagle	Eagle Public Library Large Meeting Room 600 Broadway Street Eagle, Colorado
Oct. 12: 3 p.m.-7 p.m.	Carbondale	Town Hall Community Room #2 511 Colorado Ave. Carbondale, Colorado

HOW TO COMMENT

The BLM encourages the public to provide information and comments pertaining to the Draft RMP/EIS. We are particularly interested in feedback concerning the elements of the draft alternatives, the adequacy and accuracy of the analysis of their respective management actions, and any new information that would help the BLM as it develops the plan. In developing the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, which is the next phase of the planning process, the decision maker may select various management actions from each of the alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS for the purpose of creating a management strategy that best meets the needs of the resources and values in this area under the BLM multiple use and sustained yield mandate.

Comments may be submitted on-line at <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/co/kfo-gsfo>, or by e-mail at co_crvrmp@blm.gov, or by U.S. mail to RMP Comments, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado River Valley Field Office, 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652. The BLM can best utilize your comments and resource information submissions if received by Dec. 15, 2011.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.



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