



FACT SHEET: RMP Overview

What is the Grand Junction Proposed Resource Management Plan?

The Bureau of Land Management's Grand Junction Field Office released a Proposed Resource Management Plan that will replace the 1987 Resource Management Plan that guided agency decisions for the past two decades. The objective of the RMP is to establish management goals and actions to maintain, develop, and protect the resource values of public land administered by the BLM within the field office planning area. The revised RMP provides guidance for the BLM's management of public lands to ensure healthy ecosystems, promote multiple use, and develop natural resources for present and future generations.

What does the proposed plan do?

The Proposed RMP and associated Final Environmental Impact Statement provides a framework for agency decisions pertaining to the use, conservation and development of lands managed by the agency and federal mineral estate. In accordance with our mission of multiple use the plan takes into account current and foreseeable uses and demands from the public on their public lands, while also considering necessary measures to protect sensitive resources. The plan provides goals, objectives, actions, and restrictions for future management of public land. The plan also provides a framework for future site specific activities, permits, and projects by providing landscape level guidance and designations.

What is the Proposed Alternative?

The BLM prepared a Final EIS which includes identification of a Proposed RMP based on substantive comments received from the public and other governmental agencies on the Draft RMP/EIS. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative B in the Draft RMP/EIS) was revised as the result of evaluating comments received, and is now identified as the Proposed RMP (Alternative B). The Proposed RMP includes elements of all alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS also includes the other alternatives (Alternatives A, C, and D) analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS, and incorporates editorial changes, technical changes, and factual corrections as appropriate.

Does this plan authorize any certain action?

The RMP includes broad planning level decisions that provide guidance for management strategies across the field office instead of for specific activities. However, it is important to note that the document includes implementation actions analyzed along with the RMP in the associated EIS. Implementation actions are specific actions such as wildlife closure gates or designation of specific routes. The RMP itself does not authorize the creation or closure of any specific trail system but makes determinations on area travel designations (e.g., Open to Cross Country Travel, Restricted to Designated Routes, etc.) Individual route decisions in Travel Management planning is an implementation decision that will be signed after the Proposed RMP, Record of Decision is signed. It is important to note that Chapter 2 also includes an implementation action for the site specific route designations (CTTM-A21, Vol. 1 page 2-340) that is an appealable decision and is not part of the RMP protest process.

Does the Ridges and Canyons Master Leasing Plan authorize any specific development?

The Ridges and Canyons Master Leasing Plan (MLP) does not authorize any specific oil and gas development, specific wells or specific leasing of public lands for oil and gas development would occur

later through implementation level decisions such as Applications for Permit to Drill. The MLP provides guidance on future leasing decisions and possible constraints based upon known resource values and reasonably foreseeable development scenarios. The MLP also contains stipulations and conditions of approval that may be applied consistent with environmental analysis and existing lease rights.