



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Royal Gorge Field Office
3028 East Main Street
Cañon City, Colorado 81212



In Reply Refer To:
1793-OTR (COFO20)

JUL 15 2010

Dear Reader,

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed *Over the River*TM Art Project. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared this Draft EIS in consultation with cooperating agencies and with consideration of public comments received during this planning effort. The Draft EIS is intended to analyze the Artists' proposal, define a range of reasonable alternatives, disclose the project's potential environmental impacts and identify potential mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. The analyses of environmental consequences from implementing each of the alternatives are also included in this document. The BLM developed the Draft EIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations.

We invite you to comment on the content of this Draft EIS. The 45-day public comment period will begin the day the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Draft EIS Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. Consistent with CEQ regulations, this Draft EIS does not identify a preferred alternative. Comments received on the Draft EIS will be fully evaluated and considered in the development of the preferred alternative which will be identified in the Final EIS. Through your participation in this effort, the BLM can refine our analysis, decide whether to authorize, and under what terms and conditions, the proposed *Over the River*TM Art Project on public lands.

Public meetings will be held at a time and date to be determined and will be announced at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, and/or mailings. The purpose of these meetings is to give the public an opportunity to discuss and comment on the Draft EIS.

You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/planning/otr.html>
- **E-mail:** co_otr_comments@blm.gov
- **Fax:** (719) 269-8599
- **Mail:** BLM Royal Gorge Field Office
Over the River Comments
3028 E. Main St.
Cañon City, CO 81212

Please write "OTR Comments" in the subject line of comments that are e-mailed or faxed.

Comments are most useful when they address one or more of the following:

- Errors in the analysis;
- New scientific information that would have a bearing on the analysis;
- Misinformation that could affect the outcome of the analysis;
- Requests for clarification; and

- A substantive new alternative whose mix of allocations differs from those under any of the existing alternatives.

Comments must include your complete name and address. This information is requested in the event we need clarification of comments that are not legible or we have questions about your comments. Incomplete comments or comments from unidentified sources will not be considered or included as part of the official comment record.

Public comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for review and will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment; please be advised 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. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please retain this copy of the Draft EIS for future reference, as you may wish to refer to it when you review the final document. To have your name added to the *Over the River*TM Art Project mailing list or to view and download the Draft EIS in portable document format (PDF), go to the project website: <http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/planning/otr.html>. A review copy of the Draft EIS is also available during regular business hours at the following locations:

- BLM Royal Gorge Field Office, 3028 E. Main, Cañon City, Colorado 81212
- Cañon City Public Library, 516 Macon Ave., Cañon City, Colorado 81212
- Salida Regional Library, 405 "E" Street, Salida, Colorado 81211
- Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area Office, 307 West Sackett Ave., Salida, Colorado 81211
- Denver Public Library, 10 W. Fourteenth Ave. Parkway, Denver, Colorado 80204

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Keith E. Berger
Field Manager
Royal Gorge Field Office

Enclosure(s)

1 – *Over the River*TM DEIS

cc:
Director