

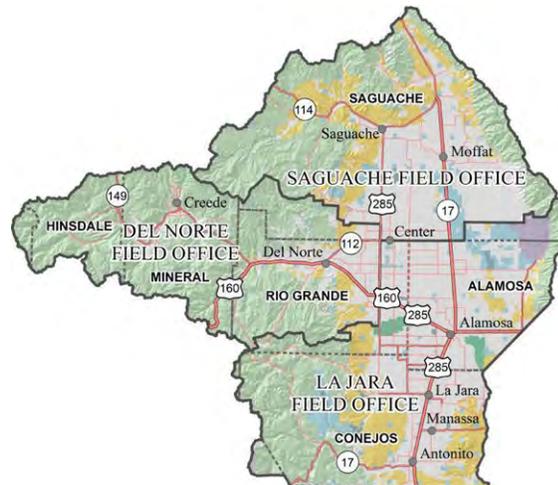
# Geothermal Leasing Environmental Assessment and Resource Management Plan Amendment

June 2010

San Luis Valley Public Lands Center

Monte Vista, CO

[San Luis Valley Public Lands Center](#) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider which lands to make available for geothermal leasing, and under what conditions. The EA will include an amendment to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) [San Luis Resource Area Resource Management Plan \(SLRA-RMP\) of September, 1991](#) and will address the protection of sensitive species and important cultural resources. The BLM is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues to analyze in the EA.



## Background

The [Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement \(PEIS\) for Geothermal Leasing in the Western United States](#) analyzed geothermal potential, leasing alternatives, and leasing stipulations for the subsurface mineral estate administered by BLM in Colorado, including the SLRA-RMP. The Record of Decision for the PEIS amended 14 RMPs in Colorado, but did not include the SLRA-RMP. The BLM proposes to amend the SLRA-RMP using this environmental analysis. [Click here](#) to learn more about RMPs. Decisions made in this project will apply to all BLM managed lands, U.S. Forest Service lands, and [split-estate lands](#) covered within the analysis area. The map above shows BLM-managed lands as yellow, U.S. Forest Service lands as green, and private lands as grey.

## Public Meetings on July 7th and 8th

The BLM will be holding two public meetings to present information on the project and to solicit public input. The public input will help to define areas to be open or closed to geothermal leasing and to help define the scope of the environmental analysis in the EA. Everyone is welcome. Written comments will be accepted at the meetings and comment forms will be available. Comments may also be submitted by email to [slvplc\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:slvplc_comments@blm.gov) or by mail to Joe Vieira, San Luis Valley Public Lands Center, 1803 West Hwy 160, Monte Vista, CO 81144. The meetings will start with an open house format from 6:30 p.m., with a presentation at 7 p.m., a question and answer period at 7:30 p.m., and followed by a continued open house until 9 p.m..

Meeting dates and locations are as follows:

### Wednesday July 7

Saguache Community Center  
525 7th St  
Saguache, CO

### Thursday July 8

Room 130, [Porter Hall, Adams State College](#)  
(2nd building north of Main Street, parking lot out front)  
208 Edgemont Boulevard  
Alamosa, CO

## Project Schedule

Public Scoping: June - August 2010

EA and RMP Amendment: March 2011

*A project website will be established soon to serve as an ongoing source of information throughout this project.*



## **Dear Readers**

This is the first in a series of newsletters from the San Luis Valley Public Lands Center about their *Geothermal Leasing Environmental Assessment and Resource Management Plan Amendment*. This newsletter provides an introduction to the project, notice of upcoming public meetings, and instructions on how to submit comments.

## **In This Issue:**

**Introduction**

**Project Background**

**Announcement of Scoping Meetings**

**How to Submit Comments**

If you did not also receive this newsletter by e-mail, please submit your e-mail address to [slvplc\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:slvplc_comments@blm.gov) to be added to the electronic mailing list.

## **For Further Information:**

San Luis Valley Public Lands Center  
1803 West Hwy 169  
Monte Vista, CO 81144  
Phone: 719-852-5941  
Fax: 719-852-5941

Project Manager: Joseph Vieira  
Phone: 719-852-6213

Printed on Recycled Paper



\*Acting as contracted agent for the Bureau of Land Management

US Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
c/o EMPSI\*  
182 Howard Street, Suite 110  
San Francisco, CA 94105-1611