



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Land Use Plans/Major Projects

BLM Colorado State Office
September 2016

Northwest District

Colorado River Valley Field Office

Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): The planning area covers 73,602 acres in the Colorado River Valley and White River field offices. On Jan. 25, 2013, the BLM announced it would begin a supplemental EIS for the Roan Plateau RMP Amendment to address concerns raised in the June 2012 District Court decision. The BLM received nearly 24,000 comment submissions. The BLM's Proposed RMP Amendment would enact the recent settlement agreement. **Current Status:** The 30-day protest period ended Aug. 1 2016. No protests were received. **Proposed RMP/Final EIS Completed:** July 2016. **Estimated Record of Decision (ROD) Release Date:** Fall 2016. **Website:** www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/land_use_planning/rmp/roan_plateau.html

White River National Forest Previously Issued Leases EIS (Thompson Divide): The Colorado River Valley Field Office is preparing an EIS regarding previously issued oil and gas leases in the White River National Forest. The BLM is conducting this EIS to address deficiencies in the existing environmental analyses for these leases. Preliminary alternatives include a range of management actions including voiding the leases, modifying the leases or reaffirming the existing leases. **Current Status:** The 30-day availability period for the Final EIS ended Sept. 4, 2016. **Final EIS Completed:** August 2016. **Estimated ROD Release Date:** Fall 2016. **Website:** www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/crvfo/existing_leases_on.html

Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area (NCA)

Dominguez-Escalante NCA RMP: Congress established the NCA as a unit within the National Landscape Conservation System in April 2009. The NCA encompasses 209,610 acres and is jointly administered by the BLM's Grand Junction and Uncompahgre field offices. **Current Status:** Proposed RMP/Final EIS published June 30, 2016. The 30-day protest period ended July 31, 2016. **Estimated ROD Release Date:** Early 2017. **Website:** www.blm.gov/co/st/en/nca/denca/denca_rmp.html

Southwest District

Gunnison Sage-Grouse Amendment: BLM Colorado is developing an RMP amendment covering 11 RMPs across Colorado and Utah. The amendment and associated EIS will analyze a range of alternative management strategies and conservation measures for long-term Gunnison Sage-Grouse habitat management consistent with national BLM policy. **Current Status:** The Draft RMP Amendment/EIS published Aug. 12, 2016. The public comment period is extended until early 2017. **Estimated Proposed RMP Completion**

Date: Summer/fall 2017 **Website:** www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/wildlife/sage-grouse/GUSG.html

Uncompahgre Field Office

Uncompahgre RMP Revision: The resource area covers approximately 675,800 acres of BLM surface and 2.2 million acres of subsurface mineral estate. In December 2009, the BLM released draft Wild and Scenic River eligibility determinations for public comment. **Current Status:** The Draft RMP/EIS published in June 3, 2016. The North Fork Alternative and Analysis was included in the Draft. The public comment period closes November 1, 2016. **Estimated Proposed RMP Completion Date:** Late 2017. **Website:** www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/ufo/uncompahgre_rmp.html

Front Range District

Royal Gorge Field Office

Eastern Colorado RMP Revision: The RMP covering the Royal Gorge Field Office will address approximately 688,000 acres of BLM-managed public surface and approximately 2,915,000 acres of federal mineral estate. It will also combine two existing RMPs (North East and Royal Gorge). **Current Status:** The Notice of Intent published June 1, 2015. The scoping period ended July 31, 2015. **Estimated Draft RMP Completion Date:** Fiscal Year 2017. **Website:** <http://on.doi.gov/1HVULcA>

Browns Canyon National Monument: The Front Range District Office is in the initial planning stages for Browns Canyon National Monument, which was established by presidential proclamation in February 2015. The monument covers approximately 21,604 acres in central Colorado and is jointly administered by the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service. **Estimated Draft RMP Completion Date:** Fiscal Year 2019. **Website:** http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/browns_canyon_national.html

Inter-State Rights of Way

Energy Gateway South Transmission Line: Rocky Mountain Power proposes to construct a high-voltage, overhead transmission line that would extend up to approximately 425 miles from south-central Wyoming to central Utah, crossing northwestern Colorado. The transmission line would begin near Medicine Bow, in Carbon County, Wyoming, at the planned Aeolus Substation, extending south and west to the planned Clover Substation, near Mona, in Juab County, Utah. The project would also include two series compensation stations, about 200 acres in size, at two separate points between the planned Aeolus and Clover substations. When completed, the project will transmit about 1,500 megawatts of electricity generated from renewable and thermal sources at planned facilities in Wyoming. Authorization of this proposal may result in the amendment of U.S. Forest Service and BLM land and resource management plans. **Current Status:** The Final EIS published May 13, 2016. The protest period for the Final EIS land use plan amendments ended June 13, 2016. **Estimated Completion Date:** A ROD is expected in late 2016. **Website:** www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/documents/hdd/gateway_south.html.

TransWest Express Transmission Line: TransWest Express, LLC, filed an application for a right-of way to construct and operate a 600kV overhead direct current transmission line to cross public and private lands that would extend approximately 725 miles. The extra high-voltage line is designed to carry renewable power generated in Wyoming to the Desert Southwest. The project begins in south-central Wyoming, crosses northwestern Colorado, crosses Utah diagonally from northeast to southwest and ends south of Las Vegas at the Marketplace hub in the Eldorado Valley area (near Boulder City, Nevada). Western Area Power Administration plans to partially fund the project under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and will be the joint lead agency for the NEPA process. The project plans to provide 3,000 megawatts of capacity. **Current**

Status: Notice of Intent published Jan. 4, 2011. Draft EIS published July 3, 2013, and the Final EIS published April 30, 2015. **Estimated Completion Date:** The ROD is expected in late 2016. **Website:** <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/info/NEPA/documents/hdd/transwest.html>