



## White River RMP Oil and Gas Amendment

### FACT SHEET: RMP Amendment vs. RMP Revision

#### What are RMP Amendments and Revisions?

A Resource Management Plan is the over-arching land use plan that guides specific BLM decisions on the ground.

RMPs are typically in place for two decades, but they are not static documents. During their approximate 20-year span, they can be amended as needed in specific areas, such as oil and gas development in this case. Complete revisions of RMPs are conducted about every 20 years.

The difference between amending and revising a land use plan is significant, and important to understand as you review and comment on this document:

- An **Amendment** looks at a single, specific aspect or issue in a Field Office RMP. The scope of an amendment is narrow.
- A **Revision** completely revises the document, taking a fresh look at all the decisions in an RMP. The scope of a revision is broad.

The White River Field Office is *amending* its 1997 Resource Management Plan to address an increase in oil and gas activity.

Several other Field Offices in Western Colorado are completely *revising* their RMPs, such as the Colorado River Valley, Grand Junction and Kremmling field offices. They are revising RMPs that we completed in the 1980s.

#### What is the status of the White River RMP?

The 1997 White River RMP has been amended seven times, for issues such as oil shale, wild horse management, and designation of energy corridors.

This current planning effort is an additional RMP Amendment specifically analyzing an increase in oil and gas activity within the Field Office. It will amend the current 1997 RMP specific to oil and gas development.

None of the alternatives in this amendment considers new special designations or changes to which areas are open or closed to oil and gas leasing because these allocation decisions in the 1997 RMP are still valid. These decisions would be outside the scope of this specific RMP Amendment.

In addition to this Oil and Gas Amendment, two additional planning efforts that could amend the 1997 WRFO RMP are underway: The Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-grouse Environmental Impact Statement and the Oil Shale and Tar Sands Programmatic EIS.