

# HiLine

## Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement

HiLine District Office  
Great Falls, Montana

June 2015

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Proposed Resource Management Plan  
and  
Final Environmental Impact Statement**

1. Responsible Agencies

Bureau of Land Management (Lead Agency)  
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (Cooperating Agency)  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Cooperating Agency)  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Cooperating Agency)  
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Cooperating Agency)  
Blaine County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)  
Phillips County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)  
Valley County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)  
Montana Cooperative State Grazing Districts (Cooperating Agency)  
    Badlands  
    Buggy Creek  
    North Blaine  
    North Phillips  
    North Valley  
    South Phillips  
    Wayne Creek  
    Willow Creek

2. Draft ( )           Final (X)

3. Type of Action: Administrative (X)           Legislative ( )

4. Abstract: This Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement describes and analyzes five alternatives for managing public lands and federal minerals managed by the Bureau of Land Management HiLine District in Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Phillips, Toole, and Valley Counties in northern Montana. The HiLine District includes about 2.4 million acres of BLM land and 3.8 million acres of federal mineral estate. The five alternatives are: Alternative A (current management or the “no action” alternative), Alternatives B, C, D, and Alternative E (the preferred alternative). The alternatives address the following eleven planning issues: renewable and nonrenewable energy, land ownership adjustment, healthy ecosystems and multiple use, cultural and paleontological resources, motorized travel, access, wildlife habitat, special designations, fire, social and economic conditions, and wilderness characteristics.

5. Protests on the Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement must be received within 30 days from publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the Environmental Protection Agency. The close of the protest period will be announced in a news release and on the HiLine RMP website at <http://blm.gov/8qkd>.

6. For further information, contact:

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# Acronyms

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	FEAST	Forest Economic Analysis Spreadsheet Tool
AH	All Habitat for Sage-Grouse	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
AIM	Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring	FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
AMD	Acid Mine Drainage	FLREA	Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act
AML	Abandoned Mine Land	FMP	Fire Management Plan
AMP	Allotment Management Plan	FMU	Fire Management Unit
ANS	Aquatic Nuisance Species	FORVIS	Forest Vegetation Information System
APD	Application for Permit to Drill	FRCC	Fire Regime Condition Class
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	FY	Fiscal Year
AQRV	Air Quality Related Value	GH	General Habitat for Sage-Grouse
ARM	Administrative Rules of Montana	GHG	Greenhouse Gas
ARMP	Air Resource Management Plan	GHMA	General Habitat Management Area
ARTSD	Air Resource Technical Support Document	GPM	Gallons per Minute
ASQ	Allowable Sale Quantity	GRSG	Greater Sage-Grouse
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	GWP	Global Warming Potential
AUM	Animal Unit Month	HAF	Habitat Assessment Framework
BCA	Backcountry Conservation Area	HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutant
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	HFRA	Healthy Forests Restoration Act
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	HMP	Habitat Management Plan
BMP	Best Management Practice	HRT	Hydraulic Residence Time
BNGPA	Bowdoin Natural Gas Project Area	HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
BSU	Biologically Significant Unit	IMPROVE	Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments
BTU	British Thermal Unit	INPS	Invasive Non-Native Plant Species
CASTNet	Clean Air Status and Trends Network	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
CBM	Coalbed Methane	IPM	Integrated Pest Management
CBNG	Coalbed Natural Gas	JEDI	Jobs and Economic Development Impact
CCF	Hundred Cubic Feet	KGRA	Known Geothermal Resource Area
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	LMF	Landscape Monitoring Framework
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	LND	Lands Not Designated as Recreation Management Areas
CMR	Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge	LU	Land Utilization
COA	Condition of Approval	LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
COE	Corps of Engineers	MAAQs	Montana Ambient Air Quality Standards
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	MBF	Thousand Board Feet
CSP	Concentrating Solar Power	MBOGC	Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
CSU	Controlled Surface Use	MCF	Thousand Cubic Feet
EA	Environmental Assessment	MDEQ	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis	MEI	Maximally Exposed Individual
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	MFISH	Montana Fisheries Information System
EO	Executive Order	MFP	Management Framework Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	MFWP	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
ERC	Energy Release Component	MLA	Mineral Leasing Act
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area	MLE	Most Likely Exposure
ES&R	Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation	MLP	Master Leasing Plan
ESA	Endangered Species Act	MLRA	Major Land Resource Area
ESP	Electrical Submersible Pump		
FAMS	Facility Asset Management System		
FAR	Functioning at Risk		

MMBF Million Board Feet  
 MMCF Million Cubic Feet  
 MNHP Montana Natural Heritage Program  
 MOA Memorandum of Agreement  
 MOU Memorandum of Understanding  
 MPDES Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System  
 MTPY Metric Tons Per Year  
 MWRA Montana Wetland Riparian Association  
 MZ Management Zone  
 NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards  
 NADP National Acid Deposition Program  
 NAGPRA Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act  
 NAWMP North American Waterfowl Management Plan  
 NCSS National Cooperative Soil Survey  
 NEI National Emission Inventory  
 NEPA National Environmental Policy Act  
 NESHAP National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants  
 NF Nonfunctioning  
 NHPA National Historic Preservation Act  
 NIFC National Interagency Fire Center  
 NPS Nonpoint Source  
 NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 NREL National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
 NRHP National Register of Historic Places  
 NSHT National Scenic and Historic Trails  
 NSO No Surface Occupancy  
 NSPS New Source Performance Standards  
 NTL Notice to Lessee  
 NTT National Technical Team  
 OHV Off-Highway Vehicle  
 PAC Priority Area for Conservation  
 PC Progressive Cavity  
 PFC Proper Functioning Condition  
 PFYC Potential Fossil Yield Classification  
 PGM Photochemical Grid Modeling  
 PH Priority Habitat for Sage-Grouse  
 PHMA Priority Habitat Management Area  
 PILT Payment in Lieu of Taxes  
 PM Particulate Matter  
 PPB Parts per Billion  
 PPJV Prairie Pothole Joint Venture  
 PPM Parts per Million

PPQ Plant Protection and Quarantine  
 PSQ Probable Sale Quantity  
 PV Photovoltaic  
 QRA Qualified Resource Area  
 R&PP Recreation and Public Purposes  
 RAC Resource Advisory Council  
 RAWS Remote Automated Weather Station  
 RfC Reference Concentration  
 RDF Required Design Feature  
 REL Reference Exposure Level  
 RFD Reasonable Foreseeable Development  
 RIPS Range Improvement Project System  
 RMP Resource Management Plan  
 RMZ Recreation Management Zone  
 ROS Recreation Opportunity Spectrum  
 SFA Sagebrush Focal Area  
 SHPO State Historic Preservation Office  
 SLAMS State and Local Air Monitoring Stations  
 SMA Surface Management Agency  
 SMU Soil Map Unit  
 SMZ Streamside Management Zone  
 SRMA Special Recreation Management Area  
 SRP Special Recreation Permit  
 SVR Standard Visual Range  
 T&E Threatened and Endangered  
 TCP Traditional Cultural Property  
 TDS Total Dissolved Solids  
 THPO Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
 TLS Timing Limitation Stipulation  
 TMDL Total Maximum Daily Load  
 TRCP Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
 URF Unit Risk Factor  
 USDA United States Department of Agriculture  
 USDI United States Department of the Interior  
 USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
 USGS United States Geological Survey  
 UTM Universal Transverse Mercator  
 VOC Volatile Organic Compound  
 VRM Visual Resource Management  
 WAFWA Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
 WMU Wolf Management Unit  
 WQRP Water Quality Restoration Plan  
 WSA Wilderness Study Area  
 WUI Wildland Urban Interface