



## FACT SHEET

# BLM-MONTANA/DAKOTAS

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## South Dakota Resource Management Plan (RMP) Revision

### FACT SHEET: Recreation and Travel Management

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BLM-administered public lands within the South Dakota Field Office (approximately 274,000 acres) offer a diverse array of recreational activities and experiences for a variety of user groups and interests from across the country and around the world. Visitation to these lands for recreational opportunities continues to grow each year.

An estimated 100,000 people visited these public lands last year, with the most area-wide recreational use occurring during the big game hunting season. Because access to these lands for both recreational and commercial use is equally important, the draft RMP also addresses the issue of Travel Management. Based on public scoping comments and our experience in working with our cooperating agencies, this plan considers a range of alternatives to address different experiences, uses and opportunities on BLM-administered public lands.

## Recreation Management Areas

The Draft RMP/EIS identifies recreation management area designations that are based on recreation demand and issues, recreation setting characteristics and compatibility with other resource uses and resource protection within a range of alternatives.

The RMP identifies the following types of recreation management areas:

- Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs). These areas would be given management priority to provide quality recreation opportunities and visitor experiences. Recreation and Visitor Services management is recognized as the predominant land use planning focus.
- Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs). These areas would require specific management consideration to address recreation use, demand or Recreation and Visitor Services program investments.

All remaining lands would be managed as public lands not designated as Recreation Management Areas, and managed to meet basic Recreation and Visitor Services and resource stewardship needs.

## Travel Management

The objective in travel management is to manage travel and off-highway vehicle (OHV) use in a balanced manner to provide sustainable local economic benefits in a way which minimizes or mitigates user conflict, safety concerns and resource impacts. The BLM would take into consideration the unique attributes and values of the various travel management planning areas during route-specific travel planning within five years of the Record of Decision.

In addition to travel management planning, the RMP identifies a range of alternatives for area OHV designations: Open, Limited or Closed areas. Currently, motorized travel on BLM-administered lands in the planning area is limited to existing roads and trails. Specific Travel Management Area planning would address designated routes.

Table 1: Summary of South Dakota Draft RMP/EIS Recreation Management Areas and Travel Management acreage by alternative.

<b>South Dakota Draft RMP/EIS Recreation Management Areas and Travel Management</b>				
	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Special Recreation Management Area	No Designations	2 Areas 11,652 acres	1 Area 5,078 acres	2 Areas 11,652 acres
Extensive Recreation Management Areas	No Designations	259,936 acres	265,019 acres	259,936 acres
Travel Management	271,588 acres Limited to designated roads and trails (designation to occur through specific Travel Management Area planning and decisions)			