

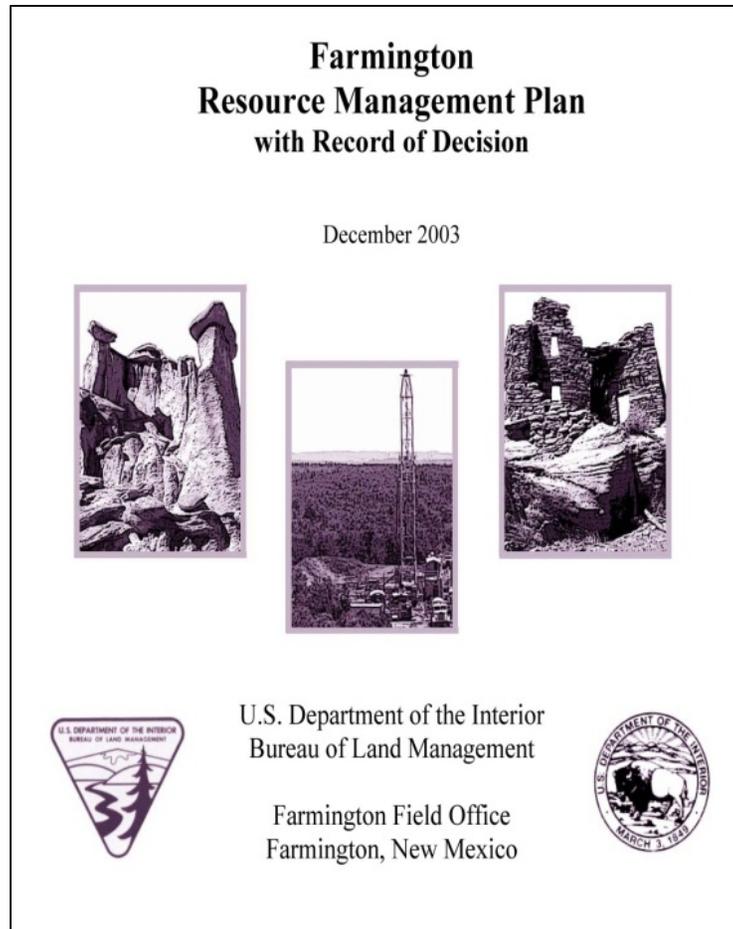
MANCOS SHALE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT (RMPA) AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
FARMINGTON FIELD OFFICE

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Lindsey Eoff – Project Manager

Why



- 2002 Reasonable Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFD) that estimated the amount of development of oil and gas resources in the FFO needs to be revised to account for additional development on the Mancos/Gallup formations
- Additional development may require new management to account for impacts that were not known or analyzed in the 2003 FFO RMP/EIS

Why



- Based on the revised RFD, the FFO will reconsider the management actions in the existing 2003 RMP for oil and gas development, lands and realty, vegetation management, and lands with wilderness characteristics
- Existing management actions may be updated, removed, or replaced to account for changes in technology, policy, and impacts related to additional development potential

Planning Issues

□ Mineral Development

- How should the BLM manage mineral development to address impacts on other resources given the change in projected oil and gas activity in the planning area?

□ Lands & Realty

- Given expected increased demand for rights-of-way to support growing oil and gas and other development, should any right-of-way corridors be designated in the planning area? If so, where should they be located?
- How should rights-of-way be managed in the planning area in order to protect other resources?
- What BLM-administered lands in the planning area are appropriate for disposal?

□ Vegetation Management

- How should the BLM maintain or restore healthy landscapes to address the anticipated increase in oil and gas development?
- How should the BLM maintain or restore wildlife habitat to address the anticipated increase in oil and gas development?
- How should the BLM maintain or restore special status species habitat to address the anticipated increase in oil and gas development?

□ Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

- Do lands with wilderness characteristics exist in the planning area? If so, should they be managed to protect those characteristics?
- What management actions should apply to protect lands being managed for wilderness characteristics?

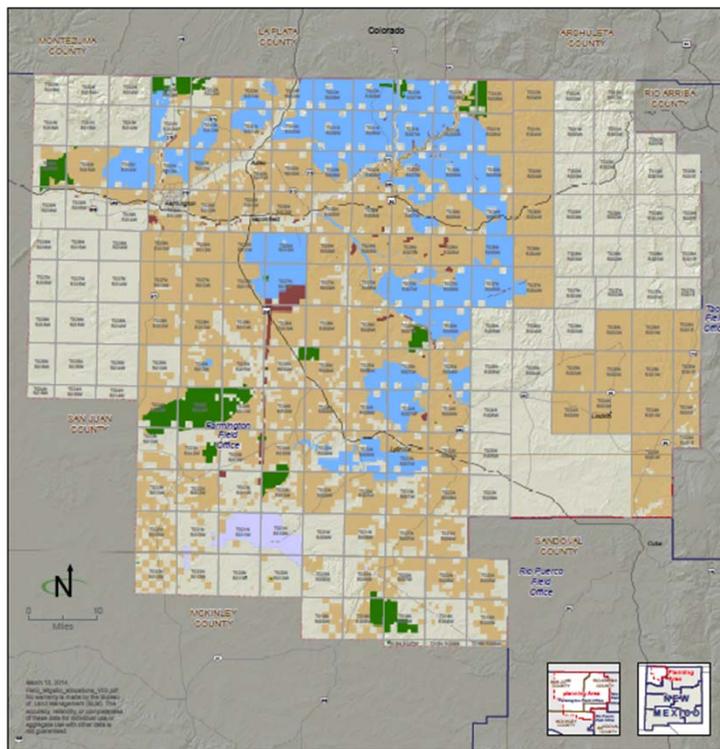
Issue #1: Mineral Development

- ❑ Consider allocation decisions for fluid minerals
- ❑ Consider conditions of approval to fluid mineral drilling permits in order to protect other resources
- ❑ Identify management actions necessary to facilitate oil and gas development in the planning area while protecting other resources



Issue #1: Mineral Development

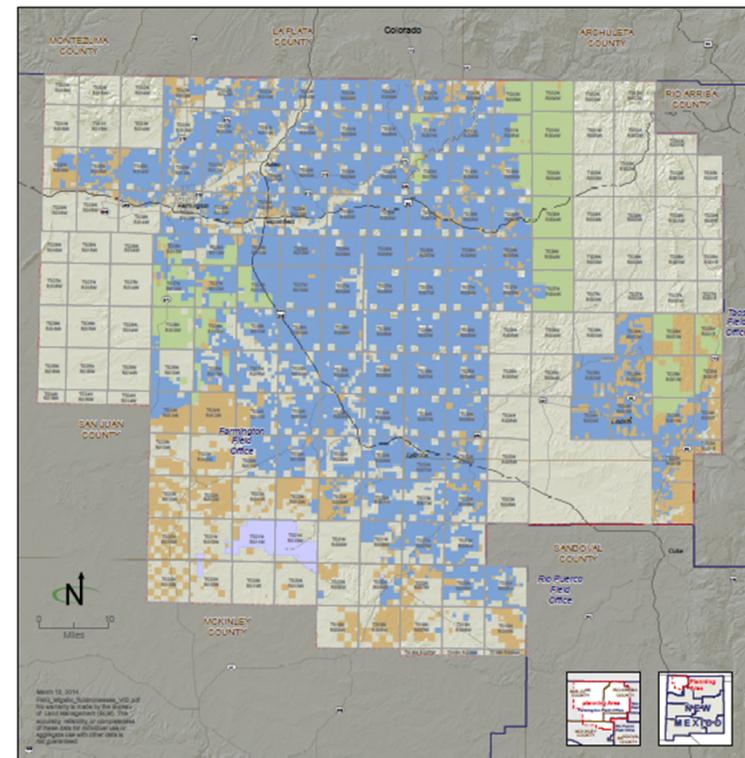
2003 Oil & Gas Leasing Allocations



- Closed
- NSO
- CSU
- Decision area: open to standard terms and conditions
- National Park Service
- Field office boundary
- Planning area

Source: BLM GIS 2014

Existing Oil and Gas Leases



- BLM-administered leases
- Other federal or tribal leases
- Unleased areas within the decision area
- National Park Service
- Field office boundary
- Planning area

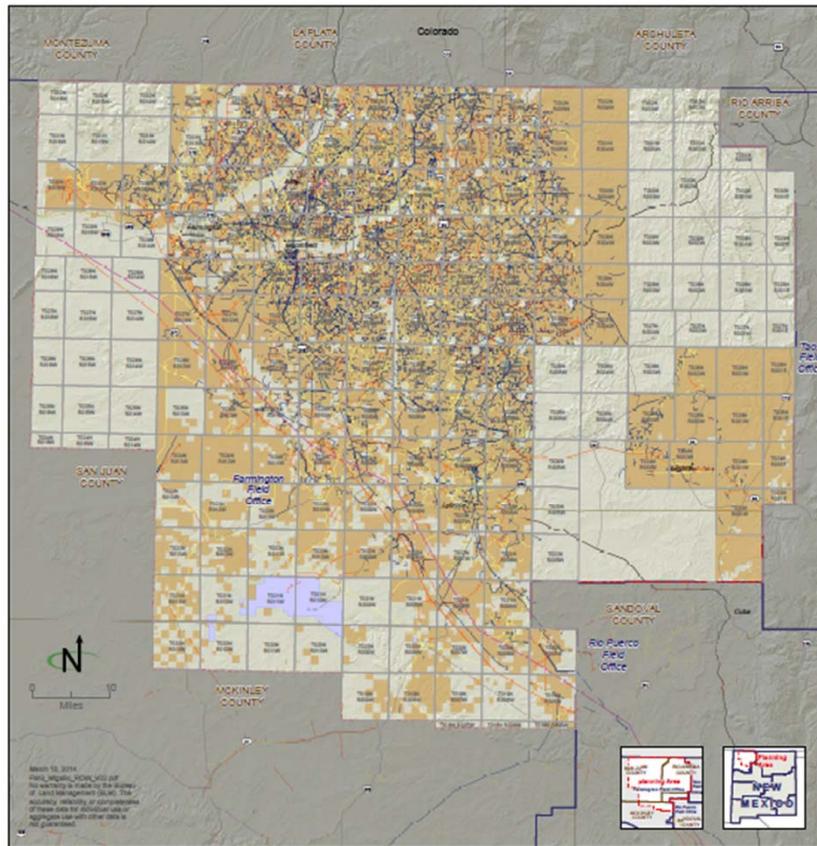
Source: BLM GIS 2014

Issue #2: Lands and Realty



- Consider utility corridors
- Identify areas where right-of-way development should be prohibited or restricted in order to protect other resources
- Identify lands appropriate for land tenure transactions

Issue #2: Lands and Realty



Source: BLM GIS 2014

- Potential future oil and gas development in the planning area is expected to result in the need for additional rights-of-way for roads, power lines, and pipelines to support new infrastructure.
- Rapidly changing telecommunications technology may result in expansion of telephone and fiber optic systems and wireless communication sites in the planning area to provide optimum grids and infrastructure coverage in many areas previously inaccessible to these types of technology.

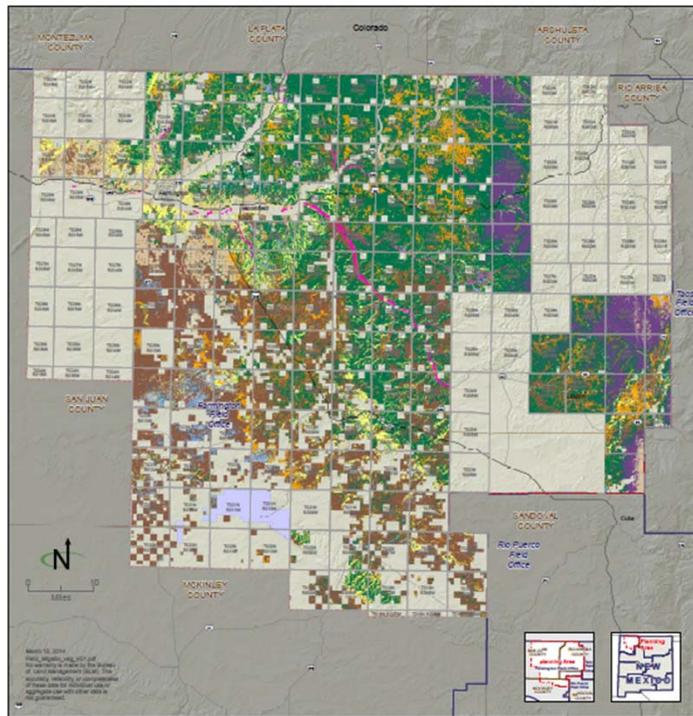
Issue #3: Vegetation Resources

- Consider management for vegetation communities
- Include new information, decisions, and guidance based on the Healthy Lands Initiative (which encourages landscape-level vegetation planning and treatments), the BLM Integrated Vegetation Management Manual 1740-2, the Colorado Plateau Rapid Ecoregional Assessment, and other current literature



Issue #3: Vegetation Resources

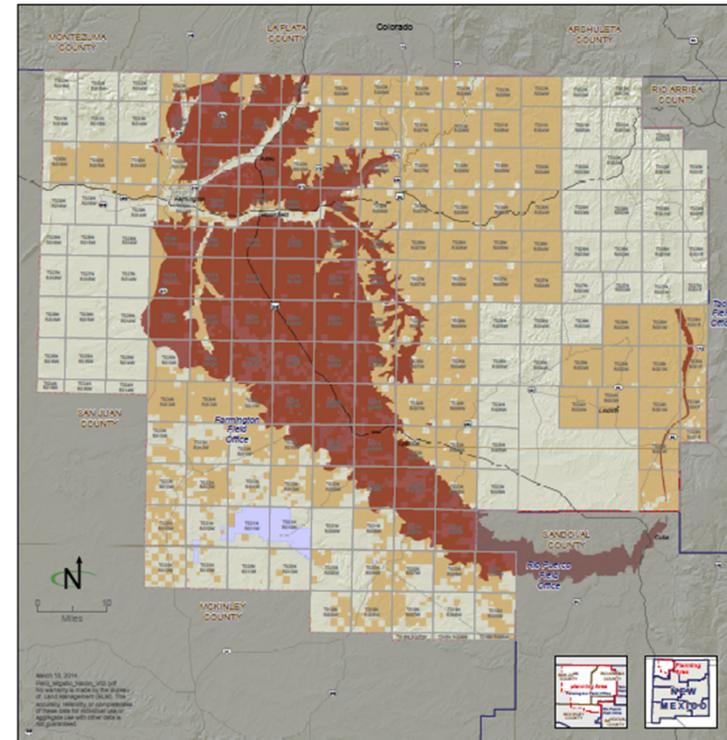
Vegetation Communities



- Rocky Mountain Two-needle Pinyon-Juniper Woodland
- Great Basin and Intermountain Dry Shrubland Grassland
- Great Basin Intermountain Tall Sagebrush Shrubland and Steppe
- Southern Rocky Mountain Lower Montane Forest
- Intermountain Basin Cliff, Scree and Rock Vegetation
- Cool Semi-Desert Alkali-Saline Wetland
- Other vegetation
- Riparian area
- National Park Service
- Field office boundary
- Planning area

Source: BLM GIS 2014, NVC GIS 2014, SWReGAP GIS 2004

Nacimiento Formation



- Nacimiento Formation
- Decision area
- National Park Service
- Field office boundary
- Planning area

Source: BLM GIS 2014, Green, Anderson, and Jones, 1994, Geologic Map of New Mexico, USGS and New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources.

Issue #4:

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

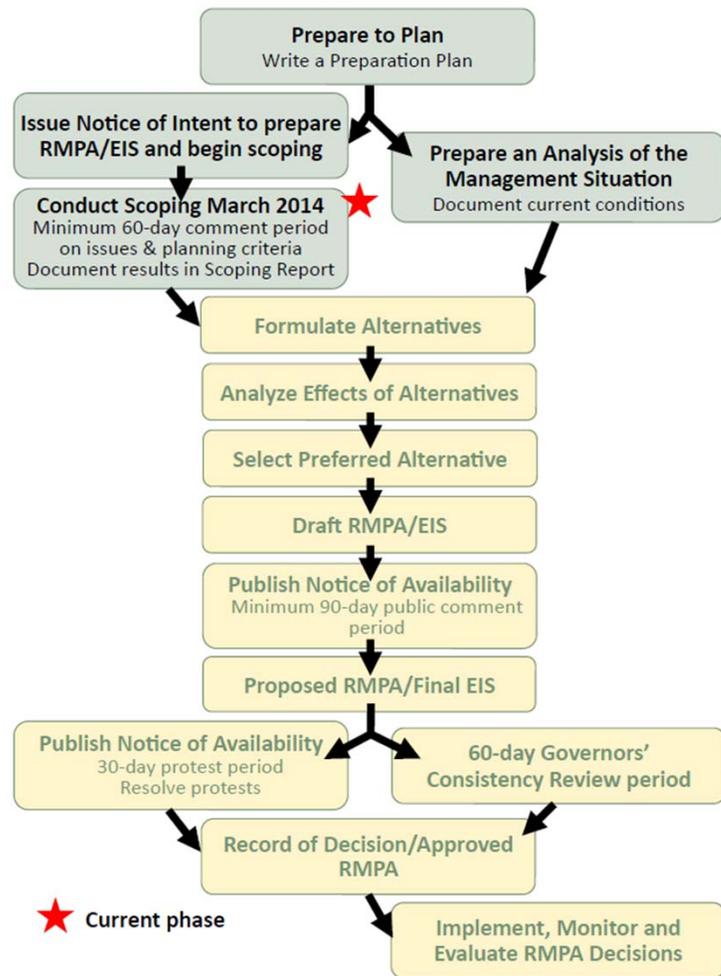
- Identify lands with wilderness characteristics in the decision area
- Consider management for those lands



Preliminary Planning Criteria

- **The RMPA/EIS will be in compliance with FLPMA and all other applicable laws, regulations, and policies.**
- Lands covered in the RMP will be public land and split estates managed by BLM. No decisions will be made relative to non-BLM administered lands.
- Broad-based public participation will be an integral part of the planning and EIS process.
- Decisions in the plan will strive to be compatible with the existing plans and policies of adjacent local, State, Federal, and Tribal agencies as long as the decisions are consistent with the purposes, policies, and programs of federal law, and regulations applicable to public lands.
- **The RMP will recognize valid existing rights.**
- The RMPA/EIS will incorporate management decisions brought forward from existing planning documents.
- **The planning team will work cooperatively and collaboratively with cooperating agencies, tribal governments, county and municipal governments, and all other interested groups, agencies, and individuals.**
- The planning process will involve American Indian Tribal governments and will provide strategies for the identification, delineation and protection of recognized traditional uses.
- All proposed management actions will be based upon current scientific information, research and technology, as well as existing inventory and monitoring information.
- The planning process will use the BLM Mitigation Guidelines to develop management options and alternatives and analyze their impacts, and as part of the planning criteria for developing the options and alternatives and for determining mitigation requirements.

Planning Process and Timeline



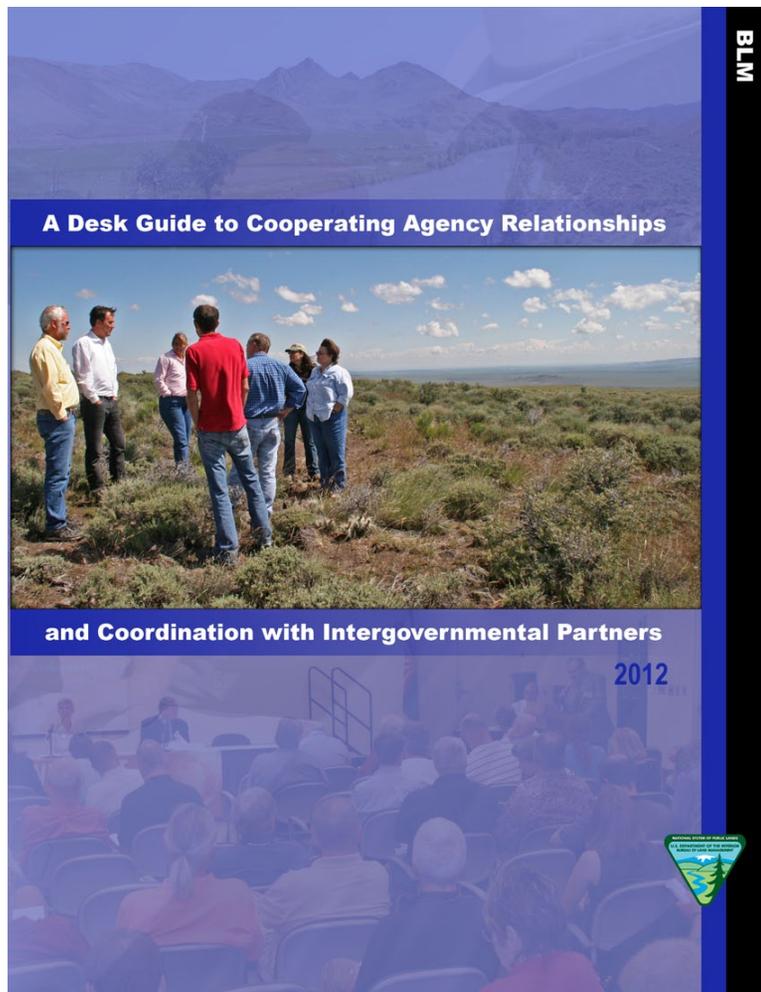
- Solicitation for a contract on the project in August 2013. Contract awarded to EMPSi in September 2013. Initial kickoff meeting with EMPSi in November 2013
- Notice of Intent published in the Federal Register February 25, 2014
 - ▣ Initiated a 60-day public scoping period
 - ▣ Scoping period was extended for an additional 30 days ending May 28, 2014
- Scoping meetings held March 19-21, 2014 in Farmington, Aztec, and Lybrook
- Tribal outreach meetings held for Nageezi, Huerfano, Couselor, and Ojo Encino Chapters and in Window Rock and Tuba City in April 2014
- Scoping Report expected June 2014
- Analysis of the Management Situation expected Summer 2014
- Alternatives Development Workshops scheduled for Fall 2014

Related Studies



- Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario (NM Tech; Summer 2014)
- Hydrologic Study (NM Tech; Summer 2014)
- Air Study (CARMMS; ongoing)
- Vegetation Study (Highlands University)
- Travel Inventory (EMPSi and FFO; Summer 2014)
- Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Inventory (EMPSi and FFO; Summer 2014)

Cooperating Agencies



- 59 federal, tribal, state, and local agencies were invited to join as Cooperating Agencies
- Currently developing MOUs with those parties who have accepted

Questions?

Farmington Mancos- Gallup Resource Management Plan Amendment

Bureau of Land
Management



Lindsey Eoff
Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
6251 College Blvd. Suite A
Farmington, NM 87402
(505) 564-7670

www.blm.gov/nm/mancos
BLM_NM_FFO_RMP@blm.gov

