

# Oklahoma, Kansas, & Texas Joint Environmental Impact Statement / BLM Resource Management Plan and BIA Integrated Resource Management Plan

October 2015

BLM Oklahoma Field Office  
BIA Eastern Oklahoma Region  
BIA Southern Plains Region



# What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- A detailed report identifying effects on the human environment resulting from decisions and actions of the Federal government.
- A requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- The purpose of NEPA is to help make informed decisions while concurrently protecting the environment.



# What is a BLM Resource Management Plan?

- The primary tool guiding BLM management activities in support of the dual mandate of multiple use and sustained yield.
- Establishes goals and objectives for resource management and the measures needed to achieve them.
- Identifies lands that are open and available for certain uses, including any restrictions, and lands that are closed to certain uses.
- Provides comprehensive management direction for and/or allocates use of resources.



# What is a BIA Integrated Resource Management Plan?

- A strategic plan for the comprehensive management of its land-based resources
- It provides a sound basis for the management of BIA-administered lands
- It ties the natural environment together with a tribe's social values.
- Integrated RMPs are often developed for individual tribes but can be developed for all BIA-administered lands



# Why Are BLM and BIA Conducting this joint effort?

- The RMP and Integrated RMP will enable BLM and BIA to better manage resource use decisions within the planning area.
- BLM and BIA work collectively on permitting of Indian & Tribal mineral development.
- Resources include:
  - Oil & Gas
  - Solid Minerals
  - Lands
- Resource Uses Include:
  - Recreation
  - Livestock grazing
  - Other uses



# Joint EIS/BLM RMP and BIA IRMP

## Purpose and Need

### BLM

- To revise outdated plans:
  - Kansas 1991 RMP
  - Oklahoma 1994 RMP
  - Texas 1996 RMP
  - OK RMP Amendments
    - 2004, 1996, 1994, 2014
  - TX RMP Amendment, 2000
- To support future leasing and permitting decisions
- To include/update resource uses and incorporate new data
- To allocate other resources not included in original RMPs

### BIA

- Leasing and development of Indian mineral interests will be strengthened when addressed in an EIS-level analysis
- BIA EO & SP would sign separate Records of Decision
- Strengthens future leasing by BIA or individual Tribes
- Through tiering, strengthens permitting by BLM for Indian and Tribal mineral development



# Joint EIS/BLM RMP and BIA IRMP Decision Area

## BLM

- 4,821,200 acres of BLM-administered federal mineral estate.

This includes:

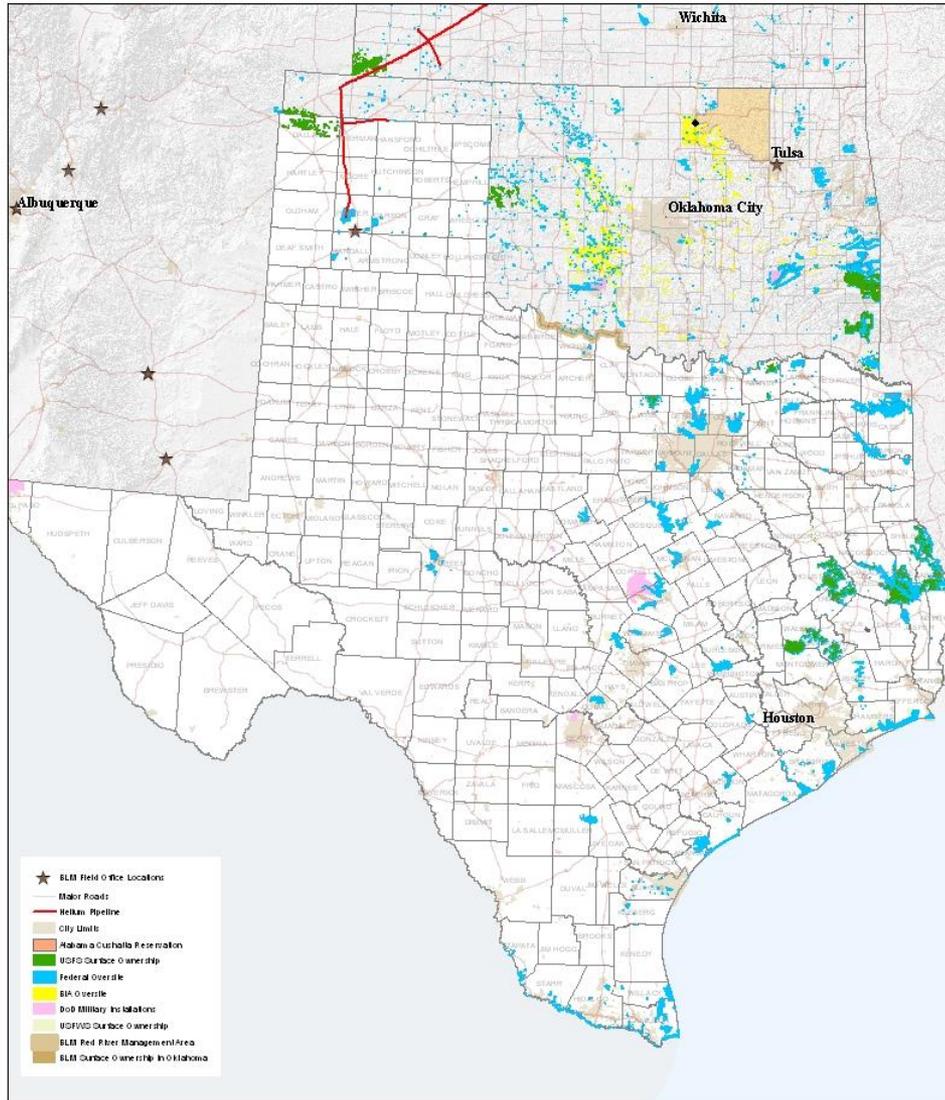
- 46,900 acres of BLM-administered surface lands (excluding unsurveyed RR lands)
- Other agencies' minerals that the BLM administers
- Split estate land (private land with federal mineral interests)
- Segregated Coal

## BIA

- 853,000 acres of BIA-administered Tribal and allotted surface lands
- 2,646,400 acres of BIA-administered Tribal and allotted subsurface minerals estate



# Texas



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## Federal Ownership, Indian Ownership & Helium Pipeline

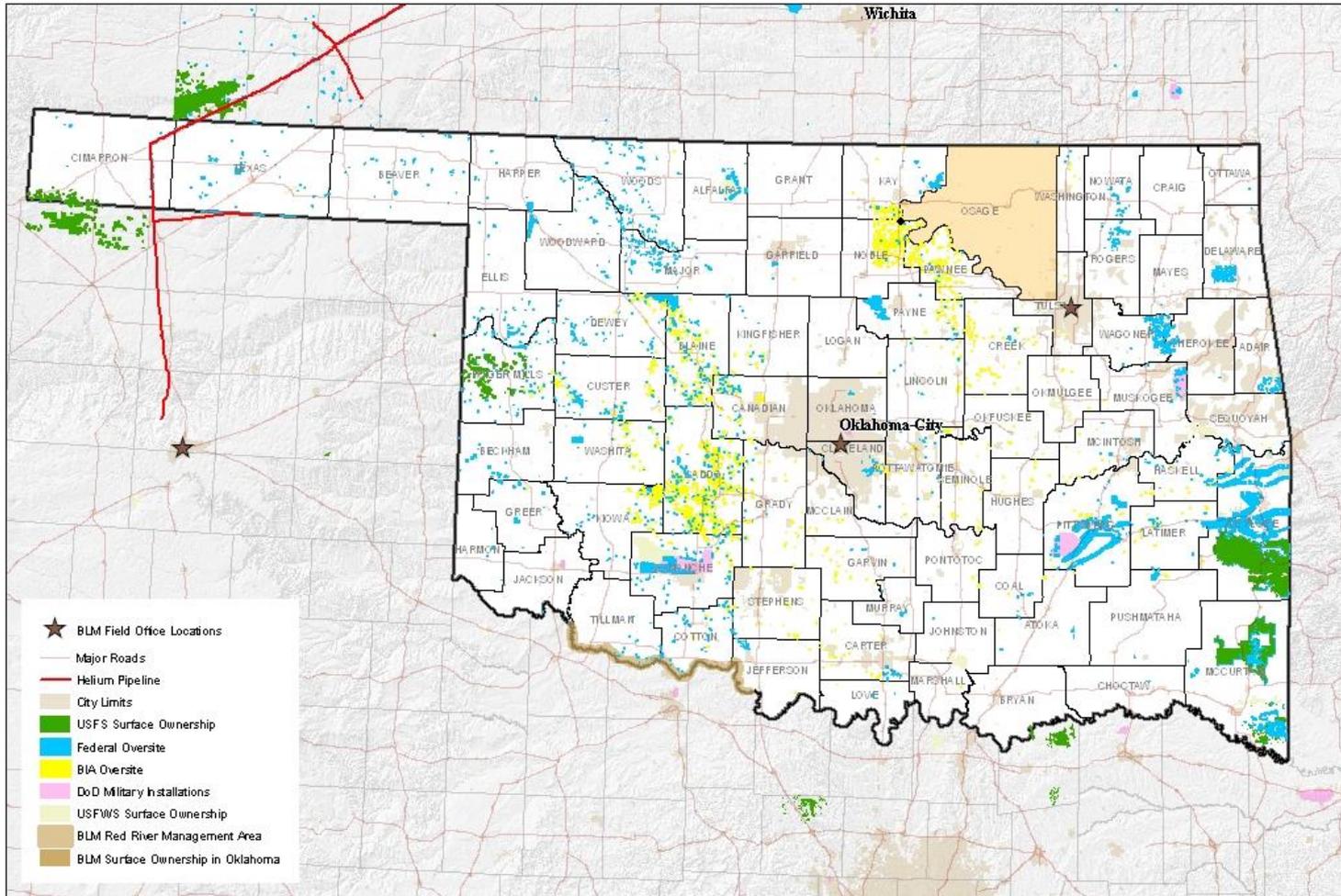
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 Tulsa Field Office  
 7905 E 33rd Street, 101  
 Tulsa, OK 74145



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# Oklahoma



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Tulsa, OK 74145

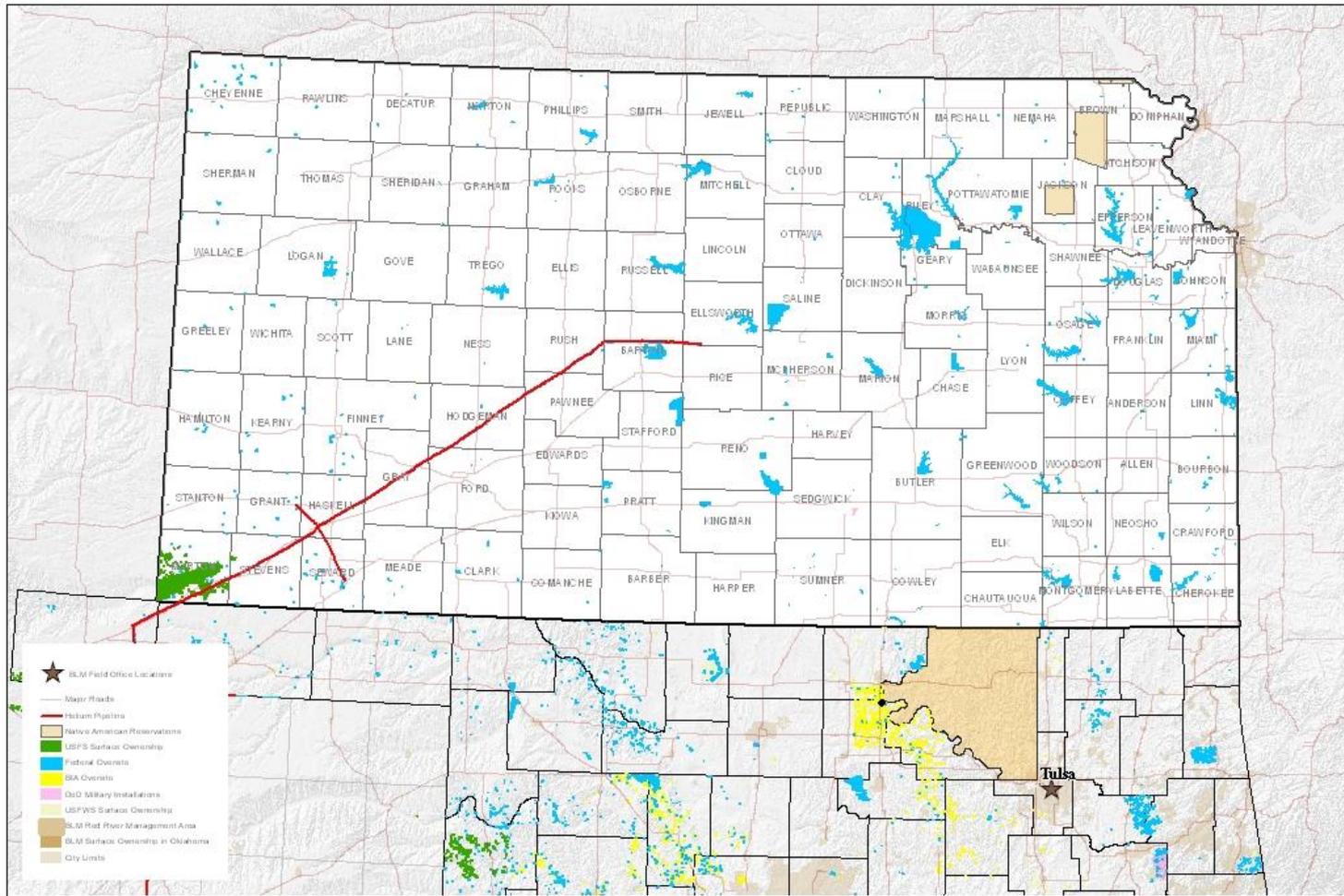
NR 83  
USA Continents  
Aka N. Equal Area  
Conic



DJM 10/23/2013



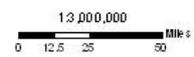
# Kansas



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Tulsa, OK 74145



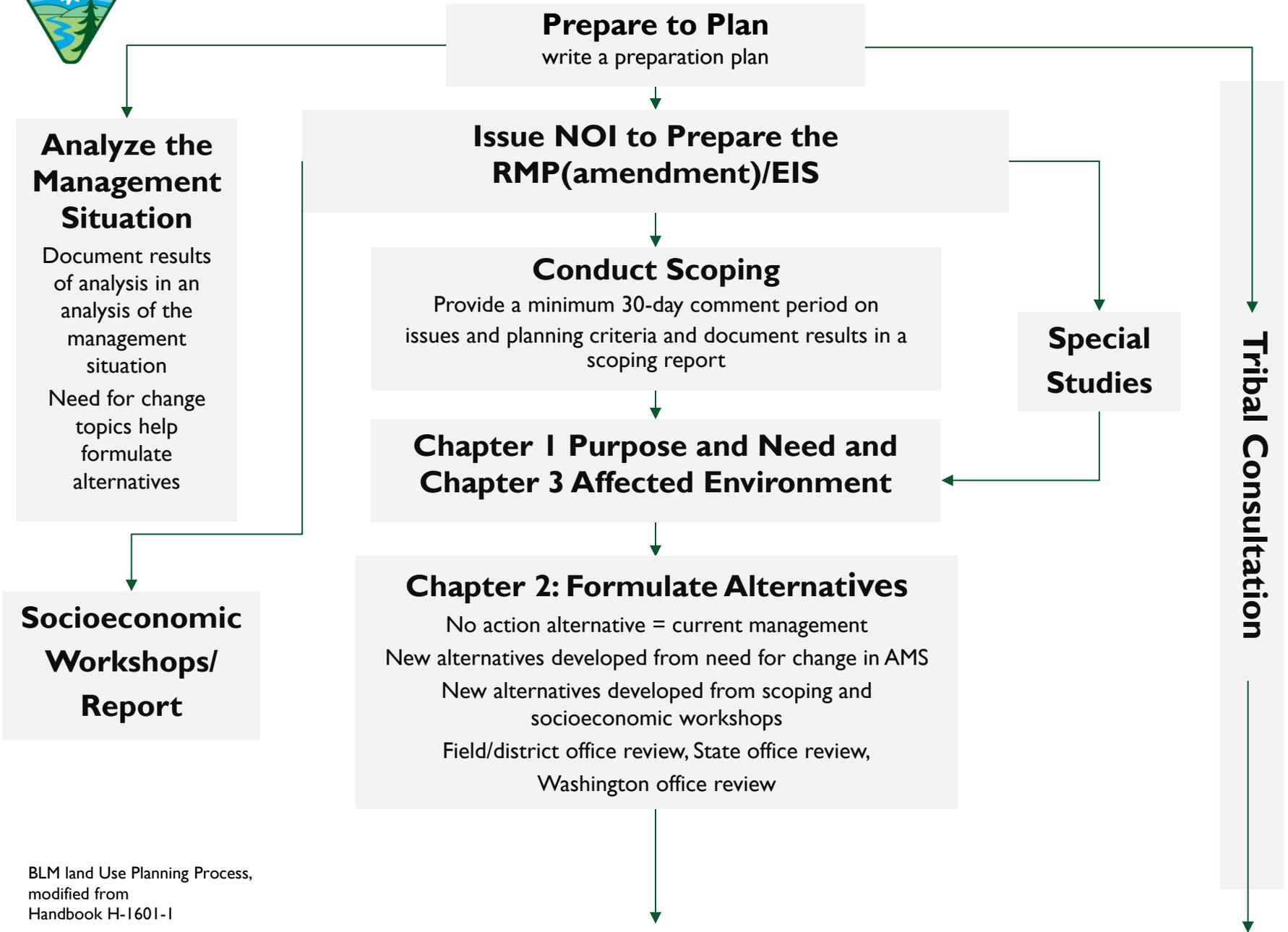
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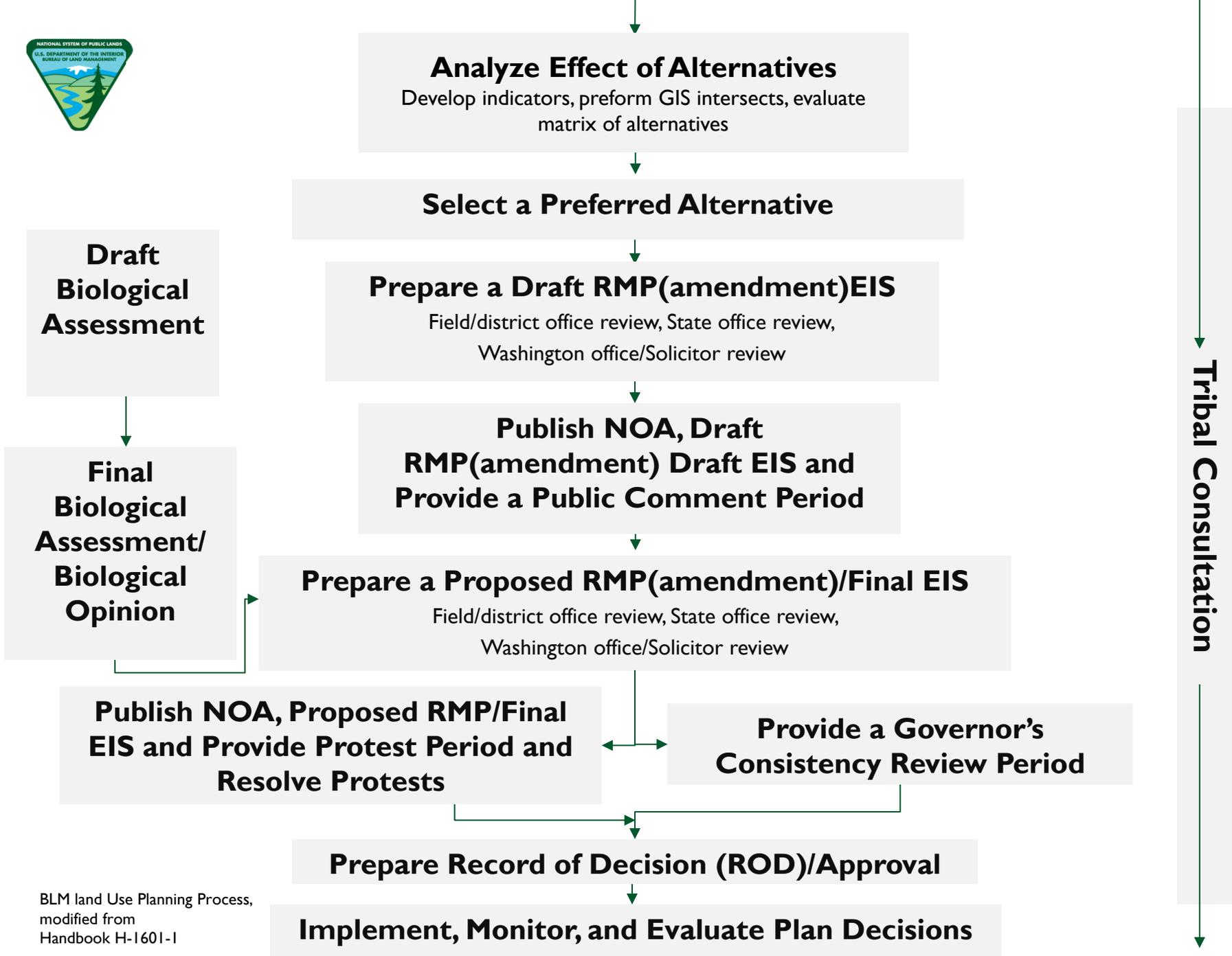


# What decisions will be made in the BLM RMP and BIA IRMP?

- Land use plan decisions are broad-scale multiple use decisions that will guide future management actions.
- They establish goals & objectives for resource management.
- Decisions identify lands and minerals that are open, open with restrictions or closed for certain uses.
- Provide comprehensive management direction for and allocate use of resources.
- Implementation planning is tiered to the RMP/IRMP







# Update on the BLM RMP and BIA Integrated RMP Process

- AMS
- Scoping
- Socioeconomic Assessment
- Special Studies



# Analysis of the Management Situation

BLM H-1601-1 Appendix F-3:

“The analysis of the management situation (AMS) should describe the current conditions and trends of the resources and uses/activities in the planning area in sufficient detail to create a framework from which to resolve the planning issues through the development of alternatives. This analysis should be short, concise and focused on the issues relevant to resource management in the area. It should not be an exhaustive review of everything known about the area.”



# Public & Tribal Scoping

- Formal public scoping period: July 26, 2013 to January 31, 2014
- BLM and BIA hosted 17 public meetings Nov 2013 to Jan 2014
  - 172 total attendees
- 683 Comments Received
  - 85.9 % contained planning issues that will be addressed in the Joint EIS/BLM RMP and BIA IRMP



# Planning Issues

## Planning Issue Categories

- Energy Development
- Minerals and mining
- Cultural and historic resources
- Fences and trespassing
- Recreation and other uses along the Red River
- Access and transportation
- Public health and safety
- Lands and realty
- Fish and wildlife
- Socioeconomics
- Tribal Interests
- Issues not addressed in previous RMPs
- Climate change and future water needs



# Issue Statements

- Minerals and mining
  - *How can the BLM and BIA allow development of federal and tribal coal resources and honor valid existing lease rights, while protecting air, water, and the natural environment?*



# Socioeconomic Assessment

- Baseline Data was collected for counties that are within or overlap the Decision Area
- Socioeconomic workshops were conducted from January-February 2015. Five workshops were held and 67 local government/tribal representatives attended the workshops.
- Socioeconomic Report has been finalized



# Objectives of the Socioeconomic Report

- Compile and document the socioeconomic conditions of the planning area;
- Summarize the results of socioeconomic workshops held by the BLM and BIA in local communities in early 2015;
- Assess the relationship between the management of BLM and BIA-administered lands and local communities at both the local and District Office levels;
- Document input from communities on how management could be revised; and
- Outline methods to be used in the RMP/IRMP process for assessing potential impacts on social and economic conditions.



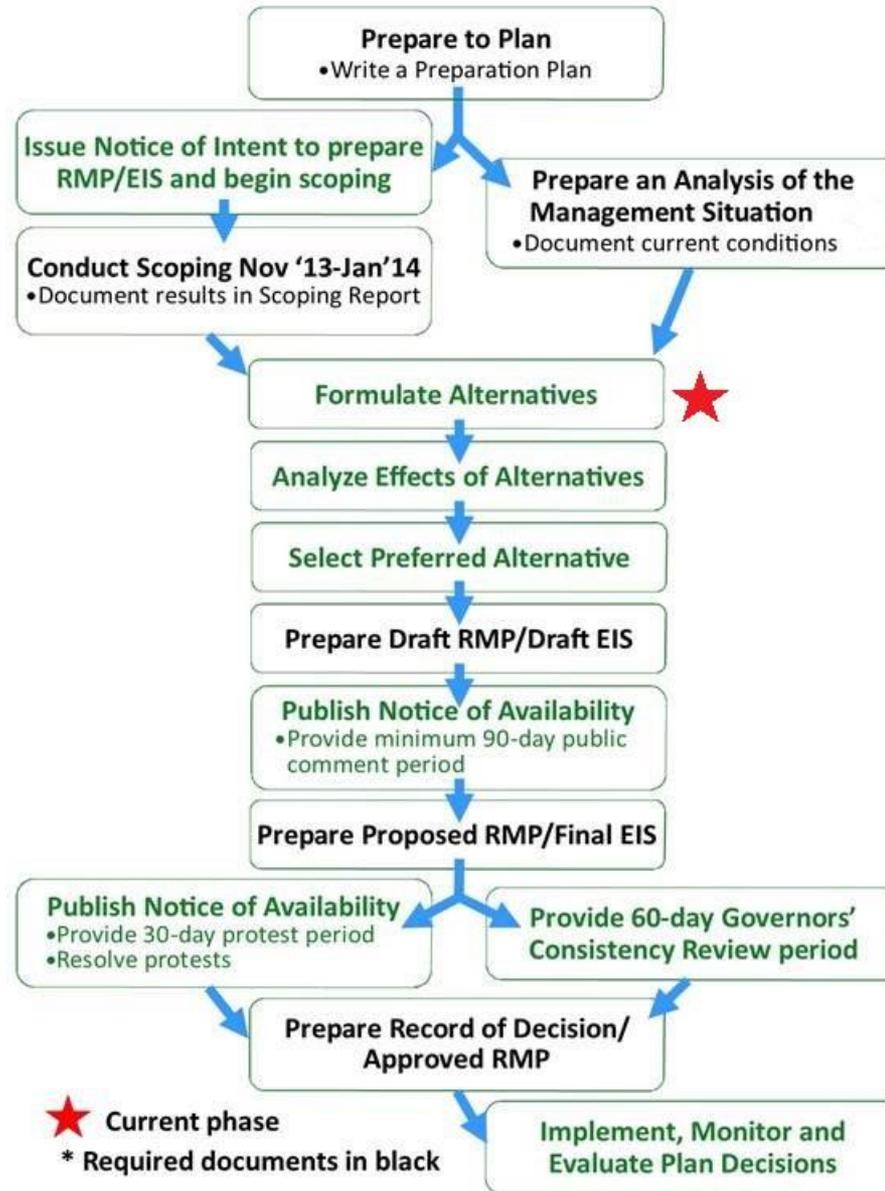
# Government-to-Government Consultation

- Previous Tribal Consultation Meetings
  - October 28th, 2013 in Muskogee, OK
  - October 30th, 2013 in Anadarko, OK
  - January 14th, 2015 in Norman, OK
  - January 15th, 2015 in Muskogee, OK
- This consultation will continue throughout the Joint EIS/BLM RMP and BIA IRMP process to ensure that the concerns of tribal groups are considered as the Joint EIS/BLM RMP and BIA IRMP is developed.



# Next Steps

- Data collection, document current condition
- Finalize special studies (cultural, hydro assess, etc.)
- Finalize alternatives
- Publish a Draft EIS/ BLM RMP and BIA Integrated RMP



# Joint EIS/BLM RMP Schedule

- Special Studies: Summer/Fall 2015
- Alternatives Development: Summer/Fall 2015
- Draft Joint EIS/BLM RMP: Summer 2016
- Final Joint EIS/BLM RMP: Summer 2017



# Questions?

## Project Web site:

<http://www.blm.gov/nm/oktrmp>

## Project E-mail Address:

[BLM\\_NM\\_OKT\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_NM_OKT_RMP@blm.gov)

### Laurence Levesque

BLM, Oklahoma Field Office  
7906 E. 33<sup>rd</sup>, Suite 101  
Tulsa, OK 74145  
918-621-4136

### David Anderson

BIA, Southern Plains Regional Office  
Anadarko, OK 73005  
405-247-1532

### Steve Tryon

BLM, Oklahoma Field Office  
7906 E. 33<sup>rd</sup>, Suite 101  
Tulsa, OK 74145  
(918) 621-4102

### Sierra Mandelko

BIA, Eastern Oklahoma Region  
3100 W. Peak Boulevard  
Muskogee, OK 74401  
918-781-4660

