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BLM BATTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OFFICE RMP PLANNING FACT SHEET *Recreation and Travel Management*

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The BLM Battle Mountain District Office (BMDO) is revising the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the BMDO planning area. The BMDO RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's dual mandate of *multiple use* and *sustained yield*.

Developed Recreation Sites: Recent trail construction has added to the amount of developed recreation opportunities the BLM Battle Mountain District has to offer. Foot and horse trails were constructed in 2009 at the Hickison Petroglyph site, with hitching rails and a trailhead site suitable for horse trailers. The Shoshone OHV trail began construction in spring of 2010, and currently has trailhead facilities as well as 25 miles of trail developed for public enjoyment. Along with these recent developments, the Battle Mountain District also maintains the Copper Basin and Goldfield Bike trails, the Hickison and Mill Creek campgrounds, and interpretive sites at Mill Creek, Hickison Petroglyph, Rhyolite Ghost Town, Lunar Crater, and Black Rock Lava Flow.



SRMAs in the Planning Area

SRMAs IN THE PLANNING AREA

The BMDO planning area contains six Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), designated in the 1997 Tonopah RMP revision. These areas are managed for their value as a recreation resource to help ensure that they will be enjoyed by people for years to come. At the time of the Shoshone-Eureka RMP, no SRMAs were designated for the Mount Lewis Field Office. Currently, proposed SRMAs are under consideration for this RMP revision. Areas where dispersed recreation occurs that are not designated as SRMAs are considered Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs). ERMAs are managed to meet the needs of dispersed recreation and to protect the environment.

Name	Acres
Clayton Valley Sand Dunes	2,500
Crescent Sand Dunes	3,000
Lunar Crater	39,680
Railroad Valley Wildlife Area	14,720
Rhyolite	425
Tybo-McIntyre	80

BLM

3.1—Recreation and Travel Management



Travel Management:

Travel and transportation are an integral part of virtually every activity that occurs on BLM-administered public lands. Recreation, management of livestock, wildlife, commodity resources, rights-of-way, access to private inholdings, maintenance of electronic sites, and the day-to-day management and monitoring of the BMDO all rely on effective travel management planning. Motorized travel in the BMDO ranges from standard passenger vehicles driving on maintained roads to off-highway vehicles (OHVs) operating on primitive roads and trails. OHVs include off-road motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, utility terrain vehicles, jeeps, specialized 4x4 trucks, and snowmobiles.

OHV Area Designations:

The BLM designates sections of planning areas as *open*, *limited to existing roads and trails*, *limited to designated roads and trails*, and *closed to motorized use*. The majority of the Battle Mountain planning area is currently open to motorized use. Both Executive Order 11644 and the Code of Federal Regulations (43 CFR Part 8340) require the BLM to designate all public lands as *open*, *closed*, or *limited* for OHV use.

The BLM wants your input...

Should the BLM develop recreation facilities and improve access to recreational opportunities? If so, where? In what areas and how should the BLM plan for motorized/non motorized vehicle use on public lands? Where, if at all, should the BLM leave areas for “open” use?

What criteria should be used to designate OHV use areas (routes) and the uses permitted on each?

How Will Comprehensive Travel Planning be Addressed During the RMP Revision?

Due to the size and complexity of the area, controversy, and incomplete data, the BMDO will to the extent possible:

- Produce a map of a preliminary road and trail network
- Outline additional data needs and a strategy to collect needed information
- Provide a clear planning sequence, including public collaboration, criteria, and constraints for subsequent road and trail selection and identification
- Produce a schedule to complete the limited area or sub-area road and trail selection process. As per BLM’s planning handbook guidance, this process should not exceed five years
- Identify any easements and rights-of-way needed (by the BLM or others) to maintain the preliminary or existing road and trail network.



BMDO Planning Webpage:
[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/
battle_mountain_field/
blm_information/rmp.com](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/rmp.com)

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