

## SOCIOECONOMICS

### Economic Impacts

Uses of BLM resources have economic impacts on local communities. The “multiplier effect” refers to the way that direct use of resources has additional effects in the economy, as shown below.

To the extent that indirect and induced purchases are local, money recirculates in the local economy additional times; for example, when a transportation company buys fuel from a local fuel supplier. We will carefully quantify the direct effects of each MLP management alternative, then put that data into a computer model of the local economy to estimate the total impacts.

### Other Impacts

In addition to addressing monetary flows as described above, we will address:

- Nonmarket values – For instance, while expenditures of hikers, bikers, and rafters on motels and restaurants are captured via the approach above, the value of the enjoyment they derive is not. For the most part recreation on BLM-managed lands comes free or at a nominal charge, but this does not mean it does not have value.
- Social impacts – People have cultural as well as economic linkages to public lands. Ranching, mineral prospecting, recreation, and many other activities have important social and cultural significance that may be affected by land use changes.

### Some questions for your consideration/comments:

- What social and economic conditions and trends are most important for BLM to consider?
- How do you think oil, gas, and potash development in the planning area will affect social and economic conditions and trends?
- What are the economic and social/cultural tradeoffs between different uses of BLM public lands in the planning area (for example, mineral development and recreation)? How should BLM balance those trade-offs or mitigate socioeconomic impacts?
- Are there areas within the two counties with low-income or minority populations that could be impacted by BLM’s planning area management decisions? If so, what areas, populations, and potential impacts are of concern?

