



Monticello Field Office
435 N. Main Street
Monticello, Utah 84535
(435) 587.1500

For Immediate Release
Contact: Gary Torres 435-587-1524

**BLM Releases Monticello Field Office Draft Resource Management
Plan for Public Review**

Monticello, Utah—November 2, 2007—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released a draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement (RMP/EIS) for public review and comment. The draft RMP/EIS provides direction for future management of public lands administered by the BLM's Monticello Field Office in San Juan and Grand Counties.

The release of this document represents a significant step in public lands management. The Monticello Field Office and its cooperators have been working on the effort for the past four years.

The draft RMP/EIS analyzes five alternatives aimed at sustaining the land's health, diversity and productivity using a broad spectrum of management options. BLM identified a preferred alternative that emphasizes protecting important environmental values and sensitive resources while allowing for commodities development, and offers a full range of recreation opportunities.

This planning effort will result in a comprehensive resource management plan for 1.8 million acres of public lands administered by the Monticello Field Office. The draft RMP identifies how various programs like special designations, travel management, recreation, minerals, wildlife, and livestock grazing would be managed in the future.

As provided by Federal planning regulations, the public is welcome to comment during the standard 90-day comment period which ends Feb.8, 2008. The Monticello Field Office has planned five public meetings in Monticello, Blanding, Moab, Montezuma Creek and Salt Lake City, Utah, to provide information to public. The meetings will be held at the following locations from 6 to 8 p.m. on the following dates:

Tues., Jan.8
Monticello High School Cafeteria
148 South 200 West
Monticello, Utah

Wed., Jan. 9
Grand Center
182 North 500 West, Room 1
Moab, Utah

Thurs., Jan. 10
CEU Arts and Conference Center
CEU Campus
Blanding, Utah

Wed., Jan. 16
Whitehorse High School
Montezuma Creek, Utah

Thurs., Jan. 17
Salt Lake City Library
210 East 400 South
Salt Lake City, Utah

The draft RMP/EIS is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/monticello/planning.html>

This website also contains background information about the plan, as well as an electronic public comment form. Comments may also be mailed to the BLM Monticello Field Office, P. O. Box 7, Monticello, UT 84535, or emailed to UT_Monticello_RMP_Comments@blm.gov.

Copies of the draft RMP/EIS are also available for public review at the Monticello, Blanding, Moab and Salt Lake City public libraries, at the Utah State BLM Office and the Monticello and Moab BLM Field offices.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the draft RMP/EIS, please contact the Monticello Field Office at (435) 587-1500 or at the above address.

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