



Guiding Statutes

Price Management Area Resource Management Plan

Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) – Sometimes called BLM’s Organic Act because it consolidated and articulated the agency’s responsibilities. Directs the land use planning process and the management of the public lands based on the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Provides that the federal government receives fair market value for the use of public lands and resources and establishes a general national policy that the public lands be retained in federal ownership. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/43/1701.html>

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – Directs all federal agencies to prepare Environmental Impact Statements before development on public lands. Requires public involvement on land management plans and issues. Enacted to declare a national policy, encouraging productive and enjoyable harmony between people and the environment, to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment, and stimulate the health and human welfare. NEPA requires the following areas be addressed in land management planning:

- (i) the environmental impact of the proposed action,
- (ii) any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided,
- (iii) alternatives to the proposed action,
- (iv) the relationship between short-term use and long-term productivity,
- (v) any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources.

<http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/nepanet.htm>

Wilderness Act - This Act initially protected wilderness areas by withdrawing them from standard multiple use management and established a process for adding new lands to the system. Lands classified Wilderness through the Wilderness Act can be under jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. With some exceptions, prohibitions include closure to motorized and mechanized vehicles, timber harvest, new grazing and mining activity, or any kind of development. Currently there are 630 areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System totaling approximately 104 million acres. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/16/1131.html>

Endangered Species Act - The Endangered Species Act provides a program for the conservation of threatened and endangered plants and animals and the habitats in which they are found. Under the supervision of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) the law prohibits any action, administrative or real, that results in a "taking" of a listed species, or adversely affects habitat. Requires interagency consultation with USFWS for land use planning that affects species or habitat. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/16/ch35.html>

Clean Air Act - The Clean Air Act is the comprehensive Federal law that regulates air emissions from area, stationary, and mobile sources. This law authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and the environment. The setting of maximum pollutant standards was coupled with directing the states to develop state implementation plans (SIP's) applicable to appropriate industrial sources in the state. http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaq_caa.html

Scoping Meetings - 2002 - Salt Lake City (Jan. 15), Moab (Jan. 16), Grand Junction (Jan. 17)
Green River (Jan. 29), Castle Dale (Jan. 30), Price (Jan. 31)

For more information, please contact:

Floyd Johnson, BLM Assistant Field Office Manager (435) 636-3600
or Gary Armstrong, Project Manager (801) 350-9155

Submit comments to: comments@pricermp.com
or Price RMP Comments, 125 South 600 West, Price, UT 84501



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Clean Water Act - The Clean Water Act is an amendment to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, which set the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants to waters of the United States. The law gives EPA the authority to set effluent standards on an industry basis (technology-based) and continued the requirements to set water quality standards for all contaminants in surface waters. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/33/ch26.html>

The General Mining Law - Enacted to promote the development of mining resources in the United States. This act declared the public lands free and open to mineral exploration and purchase, and all lands with valuable mineral deposits open for occupancy. This act established the procedure for mining claims and operations. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/30/>

The Mineral Leasing Act - Governs the leasing of *onshore* oil and gas, coal, and other minerals on the federal lands. The BLM administers the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and other lands where the government owns the resources. A BLM study determined that of the approximately 700 million acres of federal subsurface minerals under the agency's jurisdiction in 2000, about 165 million acres have been withdrawn from mineral entry, leasing, and sale, subject to valid existing rights. Also of the 700 million acres, mineral development on another 182 million acres is subject to the approval of the surface management agency, and must not be in conflict with land designations and plans, according to a BLM representative. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/30/>

Taylor Grazing Act - This Act was the first federal effort to regulate grazing on federal public lands. It establishes grazing districts and uses a permitting system to manage livestock grazing in the districts. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/43/ch8AschI.html>

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act - Established a national system of rivers to be preserved in free-flowing condition, with their immediate environments protected. There are three classifications of rivers in the system: wild, scenic, or recreational depending on the level of development near the stretch of river. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/16/ch28.html>

Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act - Directed Department of Interior to proceed with a program of works of improvement for the enhancement and protection of the quality of water available in the Colorado River for use in the United States and the Republic of Mexico, and to enable the United States to comply with its obligations under the agreement with Mexico of August 30, 1973 pursuant to the Treaty of February 3, 1944. The act was designed to prevent seepage of irrigation water from agricultural lands into groundwater of the Colorado River Basin. <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/43/ch32A.html>

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