

Clarification and Update of the Sublette Mule Deer Mitigation Plan Proposal

Based on public comments received during the initial public scoping period of the Sublette Mule Deer Mitigation Plan - a plan to improve the quantity and quality of habitat in the Sublette Mule Deer Herd unit – information is being made available to clarify certain aspects of the plan.

The information does not constitute any change in the proposed plan itself, but does address clarification questions related to the plan that were identified in comments received during the plan’s initial public scoping period between November 1 – December 14, 2012.

The plan is a joint proposal between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Pinedale Anticline Project Office (PAPO) and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

PAPO Coordinator Eric Decker states, “We received more than 600 individual comments from 22 commenters. Some of the comments suggested that certain plan items be clarified, so we developed a document in response to those comments. Additionally, many of the comments suggested the proposal be modified to address the concerns of livestock permittees and other members of the public. In response to those comments, modifications to the initial proposal will be addressed through development of alternatives which is the next step in the NEPA planning process. This spring a draft environmental assessment (EA) – prepared by a contractor - will go through a formal public comment process. The draft EA will be a culmination of an analysis of the initial proposal and any alternatives developed as a result of comments received during the initial public scoping period. The plan schedule includes an EA decision this summer with field implementation beginning this Fall. ”

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