United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Wyoming High Desert District
Rawlins Field Office
1300 North Third Street
P.O. Box 2407
Rawlins, Wyoming 82301-2407

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In Reply Refer To:
1613 (WYD03)

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review is the draft Cave Creek Cave Area of Critical Environmental Concern (Cave Creek Cave ACEC) plan for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) High Desert District, Rawlins Field Office (RFO). This draft Cave Creek Cave ACEC plan provides a framework for the future management direction and appropriate use of the BLM-administered lands and resources located on the Shirley Mountains in Carbon County, Wyoming. The document contains land use planning objectives to facilitate management of the public lands and resources administered by the RFO. The draft Cave Creek Cave ACEC plan is open for a 30-day review. This management plan is needed for the Cave Creek Cave ACEC to protect and preserve the cave and the surrounding area resource values, to improve the quality and safety of visitor experiences, and to allow for scientific and educational opportunities for the public.

The Cave Creek Cave ACEC was identified in the RFO Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan (RFO RMP) in December 2008. In the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, Congress declared a basic policy directing for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of all the public lands to protect certain environmental values.

The management goals for the Cave Creek Cave ACEC are designed to (1) protect the hibernaculum and maternity roost inhabited by several bat species located within Cave Creek Cave and (2) maintain the back country setting conditions in the cave while providing for recreational opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Read, Wildlife Biologist, at the above address, or e-mail Mary_Read@blm.gov, or telephone (307) 328-4255.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Carpenter
Field Manager

Enclosure