



## Draft RMP and Draft EIS Fact Sheet

### Alternative A (Current Management)

Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, continues current management of resources within the planning area under the existing plans.

- Oil and gas leasing is closed on 4 percent of federal mineral estate and subject to moderate and major constraints on 76 percent of federal mineral estate.
- Renewable energy projects are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Livestock grazing is allowed on all but 5,171 acres, or less than 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Greater sage-grouse management prohibits surface-disturbing activity near leks on 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Nine Areas of Critical Environmental Concern encompass 71,297 acres, or 2 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Motorized vehicle use is limited to existing roads and trails across the majority of the planning area.

### Alternative B (Least Resource Use)

Alternative B emphasizes conservation of physical, biological, heritage, and visual resources with constraints on resource uses.

- Oil and gas leasing is closed on 55 percent of federal mineral estate and subject to moderate and major constraints on 42 percent of federal mineral estate.
- Renewable energy projects are excluded on 39 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Livestock grazing is not allowed on 1,988,927 acres, or 62 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Greater sage-grouse management prohibits surface occupancy within 0.6 mile of occupied greater sage-grouse leks.
- Seventeen Areas of Critical Environmental Concern encompass 299,954 acres, or 9 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Motorized vehicle use is limited to designated roads and trails across the majority of the planning area.

### Alternative C (Most Resource Use)

Alternative C emphasizes resource uses and reduces constraints on resource uses.

- Oil and gas leasing is closed on 4 percent of federal mineral estate and subject to moderate and major constraints on 57 percent of federal mineral estate.
- Renewable energy projects are excluded on 5 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Livestock grazing is allowed on all but 5,171 acres, or less than 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Greater sage-grouse management restricts surface-disturbing activity within ¼ mile of occupied leks.
- Two Areas of Critical Environmental Concern encompass 12,144 acres, or less than 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Motorized vehicle use is limited to existing roads and trails across the majority of the planning area.



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## Alternative D (Agency Preferred Alternative)

Alternative D represents the BLM's Preferred Alternative at this stage of the process. It applies a more balanced approach than alternatives B and C, and generally increases conservation of physical, biological, heritage, and visual resources compared to current management.

Alternative D's management approach supports economic development, such as identifying priority areas for oil and gas development, and traditional land uses like mining and livestock grazing. Important resource values are protected by constraining resource uses in areas where conflicts exist such as by limiting disturbance in greater sage-grouse key habitat areas. A variety of recreational opportunities, including OHV use, are provided across the planning area.

- Oil and gas leasing is closed on 7 percent of federal mineral estate and subject to moderate and major constraints on 87 percent of federal mineral estate.
- 1,543 new oil and gas wells/pads are projected during the life of the plan.
- Renewable energy projects are excluded on 9 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Rights-of-way avoidance/mitigation areas encompass 79 percent of BLM surface estate while exclusion areas encompass only 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Livestock grazing is allowed on all but 5,171 acres, or less than 1 percent of BLM surface estate.
- Greater sage-grouse management is based on key habitat areas.
- Twelve Areas of Critical Environmental Concern encompass 103,128 acres, or 3 percent of BLM surface estate.
- The Absaroka Front, Chapman Bench, and Craig Thomas Little Mountain Management Areas provide special management for specific resource values.
- Motorized vehicle use is limited to existing roads and trails across the majority of the planning area.

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## How to Comment on the Bighorn Basin Draft RMP and Draft EIS

<i>How do I comment?</i>	<i>Tips for Making Effective Comments:</i>
During the 90-day comment period (April 22, 2011 through July 20, 2011) you are encouraged to comment on any aspect of the document. Comments received during this period will be considered before the BLM issues the proposed RMP and final EIS. We encourage you to submit your comments electronically via email or online, but they may also be submitted by mail, in person at either the Cody or Worland Field Office, or at a public meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Be specific. State particular reasons for your concerns instead of making broad statements. Provide detail.</li><li>✓ If possible, refer to specific portions of the document and provide section or page numbers.</li><li>✓ Provide suggestions for how the BLM can improve the document.</li></ul>

### Where can I obtain a copy of the Draft RMP and Draft EIS?

- Download the document from the RMP website listed below.
- Visit your local library where hardcopies are available for public review.
- Stop by the Cody or Worland Field Office to pick up a CD of the document. A limited number of hardcopies are also available.

### Where can I submit comments?

**Email:** BBRMP\_WYMail@blm.gov

#### **Worland Field Office**

101 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
PO Box 119  
Worland, WY 82401-0119  
(307) 347-5100

#### **Cody Field Office**

1002 Blackburn Street  
Cody, WY 82414  
(307) 578-5900

**RMP website:** <http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/Planning/rmps/bighorn.html>