



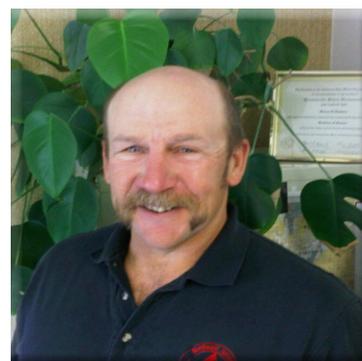
November 2011

This edition of the Bighorn Basin Resource Management Plan (BB RMP) Revision Newsletter introduces Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Manager Steve Dondero and summarizes the comments received during the comment period for the Draft BB RMP.

From District Manager Steve Dondero . . .

Dear Neighbor,

I recently had the honor of becoming the Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Manager. I have been with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for 34 years, mostly in the fields of wildlife biology, range conservation and outdoor recreation planning, before serving as the assistant district manager of the Elko District in Nevada. I moved to Worland in September and I look forward to working with you to complete the BB RMP. Like you, I care deeply about this area and am proud to have the opportunity to take a role in its stewardship.



Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Manager Steve Dondero

I would like to thank those who have participated in the RMP process this far by providing valuable input that helped inform and guide the development of the Draft BB RMP. Thank you for your continued participation in the BB RMP revision process.

Sincerely,

Steve Dondero
Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Manager

*Have you visited the Bighorn Basin RMP Revision Website lately?
www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/Planning/rmps/bighorn.html*

Commonly Used Acronyms:

BLM	Bureau of Land Management	EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
BB RMP	Bighorn Basin Resource Management Plan	ROD	Record of Decision



An overview of the draft RMP public comments . . .

More than 45,000 comments about the Draft BB RMP/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were received during the public comment period from April 22 through September 7, 2011. The vast majority of these were form letters, postcards or e-mails from organized groups.

This overview is not considered an exhaustive accounting of all comments received. Substantive comments will be compiled in a published document as an appendix to the proposed RMP and final EIS.

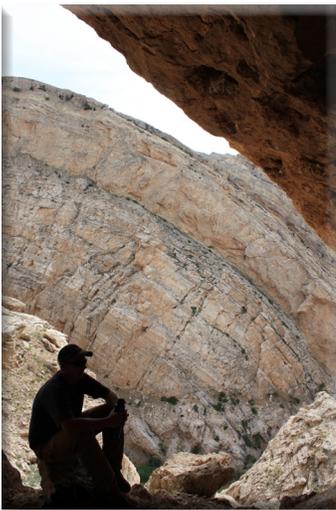
Major comment topics included mineral production, wildlife habitats, recreational opportunities, and travel and transportation management. Comments voiced support for enhancing resource protections as well as for facilitating sustainable economic development. Comments suggested the BLM consider the impacts from managing for wilderness characteristics. Opportunities for development that may offset declining oil production were brought to the BLM's attention. In addition, comments indicated there is strong support for protecting the Absaroka Front.

The BLM continues to review these comments, however, one thing is clear—these comments will help refine and clarify the analysis and provide direction for the future management of public lands.



BLM staff and an interested member of the public discuss proposed oil and gas management areas at the Draft BB RMP meeting in Lovell.

The next steps . . .



Based upon analysis of the comments received during the public comment period, the BLM will make revisions to the document and issue a proposed RMP and final EIS, currently projected for spring 2012.

Once finalized, the RMP will guide the management of public lands

managed by the Cody and Worland field offices for the next 15-20 years.

