



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming State Office

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In Reply Refer To:

6840 (930) P

April 12, 2004

Instruction Memorandum No. WY-2004-032
Expires 9/30/05

To: Field Managers, Kemmerer, Lander, Pinedale, Rawlins, and Rock Springs

From: Deputy State Director, Resources Policy and Management

Subject: Resource Management Plan (RMP) Maintenance Action: Incorporation of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Programmatic Biological Assessment (BA) for Whooping Cranes and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concurrence letter into Field Office RMPs.

Attached are copies of: (1) the Wyoming BLM Statewide Programmatic BA for the Rocky Mountain (Grays Lake) Experimental Flock of federally endangered whooping cranes (*Grus americana*); and (2) the FWS July 19, 2002, concurrence letter issued in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.). The concurrence letter documents the FWS agreement that current BLM activities are not likely to adversely affect the whooping crane in Wyoming.

The preliminary determination is that this action is an RMP Maintenance Action as defined in 43 CFR 1610.5-4. All appropriate Field Offices should review their existing RMPs, the Programmatic BA, and FWS concurrence letter. If you agree with the preliminary determination, please maintain the official hard copy of your RMP within 30 days of the date of this IM. Please also maintain the web-based copy of your RMP during the same timeframe. Contact Bill Daniels, Wyoming State Office, at (307) 775-6105 or Karen Smith at Argonne National Laboratory (303) 986-1140 ext 267 for information updating this platform.

If you believe this action may require an RMP amendment, please contact Walt George at (307) 775-6116.

If you have further questions regarding this IM, please contact Jeff Carroll at (307) 775-6090.

/s/Donald A. Simpson

2 Attachments:

1 - Biological Assessment For Whooping Cranes (36 pp.)

2 - Fish and Wildlife Service Memorandum (ES-61411) Concurrence Letter (2 pp.)