



Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan Update



*"Consultation, Cooperation, and Coordination, all in the Service of Conservation."
-Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior*

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IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Field Manager

Supplemental Draft EIS Release

Web Changes

Directors Tour

From the Field Manager

BLM Director Kathleen Clarke and staff were briefed in September; Jim Cason, Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, was also briefed.

The Wyoming BLM and JMH team were asked to provide additional information on adaptive management for the Supplemental Draft EIS. The BLM and Booz Allen Hamilton are currently addressing the Director's and Assistant Deputy Director's requests, conducting the analysis of the Preferred Alternative, and editing the Supplemental Draft EIS in preparation for printing.

"I encourage the public to participate in review of the SDEIS during the 90-day comment period. This comment period provides the public an opportunity to participate in the process, and I encourage everyone to stay involved."

John. S. McKee

Supplemental Draft EIS Release for Jack Morrow Hills

To minimize printing costs of the Supplemental DEIS, BLM will issue the document in CD format. It will also be posted on the project website in PDF format. A limited number of hard copies of the document will be available at the Rock Springs Field Office or will be provided if directly requested. Written requests for hard copies of the document should be directed to:

BLM

Rock Springs Field Office

Attn: JMH CAP

280 Highway 191 North

Rock Springs WY 82901-3447

or emailed to:

rock_springs_wymail@blm.gov

Written requests for hard copies of the document should reach the Rock Springs Field Office no later than November 8, 2002.



Kathleen Clarke's Visit to the Rock Springs Office



BLM director Kathleen Clarke speaks before civic, business, and environmental representatives moments before they take a tour of the Jack Morrow Hills planning area on August 7, 2002 (BLM Photo by Rey Adame)

BLM Director Kathleen Clarke toured the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Planning Area on August 7, 2002. The Director, a staff member, and representatives from the various interests in the area attended the tour hosted by the BLM. Tour stops included the overlook at Chicken Springs near Boars Tusk, the Sand Dunes ORV area, Bush Rim and the Pinnacles area, and South Pass. Topics of discussion included the history of the JMHCAP planning effort; overlapping resource concerns and issues, including gas development, livestock grazing, wildlife numbers and habitat; and wilderness study areas.

The Director shared her interpretation of BLM's mandate of multiple use with the staff. She stated that multiple use should be gauged by quality of life and then recognized this varies by user. BLM should manage lands to improve the quality of life of the local rancher, the non-resident recreationist, and the consumer of energy while striking a balance with the numerous natural resources supported by the public lands. She acknowledged that finding that balance is not a simple task but expressed confidence in the effort of the BLM staff and cooperating agencies.

On August 8, the Director met with BLM staff as well as with the cooperators on the supplemental draft EIS. The Director reported that she had a good day in the field and recognized that many people care deeply about the area for different reasons.

Nine-Step Process for this Coordinated Activity Plan

- Scoping. Issues and concerns were identified through a scoping process that included the public, Indian tribes, other Federal agencies, and State and Local governments.
- Planning Criteria Development. Planning criteria were developed to ensure decisions are made that address the issues pertinent to the planning effort. Planning criteria were derived from a variety of sources including applicable laws and regulations, existing management plans, coordination of other agencies' programs, and the results of scoping. The criteria can be updated and changed as planning proceeds.
- Data and Information Collection. Data and information of resources in the planning area were collected based on the planning criteria.
- Management Situation Analysis. The management of resources in the planning area is continually being assessed.
- Alternative Formulation. A range of reasonable alternatives that address issues identified during scoping is developed.
- Alternatives Assessment. The effects of each alternative are analyzed.
- Preferred Alternative Selection. The alternative that best resolves planning issues is identified as the preferred alternative. No decisions are made at this step of the process.
- **The Supplemental Draft EIS will be made available in November for a review period of 90 calendar days. Comments to the Supplemental Draft EIS will be reviewed and incorporated in the Final EIS as appropriate. A Proposed Plan and Final EIS is published and made available for protest for 30 calendar days. A record of decision is signed to approve the CAP.**
- Implementation and Monitoring. The management measures outlined in the approved plan are implemented on the ground, and future monitoring is conducted to test their effectiveness. Changes are made as necessary to achieve desired results.

Notice of Future Public Meetings

Public hearings will be scheduled during the 90-day comment period. The comment period will start once the EPA publishes a Notice of Availability. News releases will be issued to the media. The web site will be updated for future meetings.

Web Address Changes

Please note that the website and email addresses have changed. These are the official and current addresses.

Website: www.wy.blm.gov/rsfo

email: rock_springs_wymail@blm.gov