



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
- Public Comments
- Planning Process: Next Steps
- Changes between the Supplemental DEIS and Final EIS
- Summary of Protest Process

From the Field Manager

Although I have not yet had the opportunity to meet many of you, I would like to take this moment to thank all the people who have worked so diligently on the Environmental Impact Statement for the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan (JMH CAP). The men and women of the Rock Springs BLM office; the cooperators; support staff; and the public have contributed greatly to developing an effective multiple-use plan for the public lands under our stewardship.

I look forward to working with all interested parties as we transition into the implementation phase of this plan. I understand developing the coordinated activity plan has been a long and, at times, difficult journey. I believe the strength of the JMH CAP will come from the cooperative approach. The process has carefully considered public comments and information. Much has been gained from cooperation and input from all participants.

I am confident that whatever the final decision may be, it will be one that offers the best hope of finding a balance between protecting the environment and providing the opportunity for development. The final plan will continue to embrace our long-standing commitment to multiple-use, sustained yield and environmental integrity in managing the many resources and uses found in the JMH CAP area.

—Michael R. Holbert

Thank You for Your Comments!

The 90-day comment period for the Supplemental DEIS closed Friday, May 23, 2003. A total of 69,471 public comments were received via written, email, web-based, and oral communication (public hearings) from members of the public, governments, governmental agencies, and nongovernmental agencies. The number of comments received via each media source is as follows:

- 60,288 email comments
- 53 web-based comments
- 9,130 written comments

Many comments expressed satisfaction with the balanced approach of the Preferred Alternative and the overall readability of the Supplemental DEIS. Other comments raised issues concerning the use of baseline data, impact analysis conclusions, and incorporation of new information. Major topics addressed by the comments included:

- Wildlife Habitat Protection
- Adaptive Management Strategy
- Mineral Development
- Wilderness

All comments will be evaluated, and detailed responses to substantive comments will be provided in Appendix 19 of the Final EIS.

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www.wy.blm.gov/rsfo



Where Do We Go From Here?

- **Publish Supplemental DEIS.** The Supplemental DEIS was published in January 2003 and is available through the Rock Springs Field Office in electronic and hard copy format. Two open houses and two public hearings were held in March and April, respectively. The 90-day public comment period closed May 23, 2003.
- **Prepare and Publish Final EIS.** Based on public comments and internal review, needed changes, corrections and revisions will be incorporated into a Final EIS. Following approval of its release, the Final EIS will be filed with EPA and distributed to the public. A notice of availability (NOA) will be published in the Federal Register. This initiates the 30-day protest period.
- **30-day protest period.** The protest period allows the public an opportunity to protest the BLM's proposed land use plan decisions.
- **60-day Governor's Consistency Review.** The Governor will have 60 days to review the proposed plan, identify inconsistencies between the proposed plan and state programs, and provide written recommendations to the BLM State Director.
- **Prepare Record of Decision.** Once any protests have been resolved and the Governor's consistency review has been completed, the State Director approves the CAP/EIS by signing the Record of Decision (ROD).

Changes Between the Supplemental DEIS and Final EIS

The Final EIS will be a comprehensive document and will include comments on the Supplemental DEIS and related BLM responses. The Proposed JMH CAP will essentially be a modification of the Preferred Alternative presented in the Supplemental DEIS. Modifications to the other alternative CAPs will also occur in the Final EIS due to changes in policy and direction for Wilderness Study Areas and greater sage-grouse. Modifications are a result of public comment, incorporation of new information, internal review, and changes in management direction and policy. The following are the areas for which modifications will occur:

- Adaptive Management Strategy – updated information and materials are being incorporated into the Final EIS to clarify the adaptive management strategy
- Cumulative Impact Analysis – updated information relating to cumulative impact analyses are being considered for inclusion in the Final EIS
- Greater Sage-Grouse Management – updated information and clarification regarding sage grouse habitat is being considered for inclusion in the Final EIS
- Management of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC – clarification and a potential modification to the boundary are being considered for inclusion in the Final EIS
- Designation of Wilderness Study Area (WSA) – updated information and clarification on new direction for WSAs is being included in the Final EIS

Summary of Protest Process

Any participant in the planning process who has an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the Proposed JMH CAP may file a protest.

Protestable Items: A proposed decision in the JMH CAP that would amend the Green River RMP and that may adversely affect an individual or group is protestable.

Protest Procedure: A letter of protest must be filed with the BLM Director within 30 days of EPA's notice of availability (NOA) of the published Proposed JMH CAP/Final EIS in the Federal Register.

Letters of Protest: The protest must be in writing and contain:

- The name, mailing address, phone number, and interest of the person filing the protest
- A statement of the part or parts of the proposed plan and the issues being protested
- A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that the protesting party submitted during the planning process or a statement of the date they were discussed for the record
- A concise statement explaining why the protestor believes the proposed decision is wrong

Mailing List Update

Please send your reply ONLY if you would like to be removed from the mailing list, update your personal information (name, organization, address) on the mailing list, or receive a copy of the Final EIS. If you do not reply, your current information will remain on the mailing list and you will NOT receive a copy of the Final EIS.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

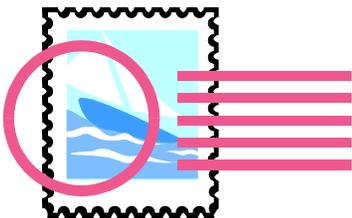
Please remove my name and address from your mailing list.

Please update my name and address on your mailing list.

Please send me a copy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.
(Check one)

CD _____ or Paper Copy _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR MAILING LIST UPDATE TO:



JMH CAP
Rock Springs Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, WY 82901