



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Royal Gorge Field Office  
3028 East Main Street  
Canon City, CO 81212

In Reply Refer To:  
1610 (LLCOF02000, JS)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is pleased to announce that the Proposed Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP RMP/FEIS) is available. The Proposed RMP/FEIS and supporting information are available on the project web site: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/39877>.

The planning area for the Eastern Colorado RMP/EIS consists of about 35 million acres of land, which includes 658,200 acres of BLM-administered surface lands and 3,311,900 acres of BLM-administered mineral estate managed by the Royal Gorge Field Office. The planning area is the entire field office regardless of ownership or agency. It includes 37 counties in eastern Colorado, from just west of the Front Range to the eastern border of the state and from the Wyoming/Nebraska border in the north to the New Mexico/Oklahoma border in the south. The decision area for this RMP includes all of the public land administered by the BLM within the field office boundaries except for that within the Browns Canyon National Monument, which is managed under a separate RMP. When approved, this RMP will replace the 1986 Northeast RMP and the 1996 Royal Gorge Resource Area RMP and will guide the management of public lands administered by the Royal Gorge Field Office into the future. It does not include National Forest System land and other Federal land where BLM does not make planning decisions about oil and gas management and other uses. The BLM typically adopts the requirements determined by those Federal surface-managing agencies when leasing the associated mineral estate; while such lands are within the planning area, they are outside the decision area for this RMP.

The BLM announces a 30-day protest period to the BLM on the Proposed RMP beginning with the date following the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) publication of its Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in the *Federal Register*. The EPA usually publishes its NOAs on Fridays. Protests must be postmarked or electronically submitted on the BLM's ePlanning site during the 30-day protest period.

The BLM planning regulations state that any person who participated in the preparation of the RMP and has an interest which will or might be adversely affected by approval of the Proposed RMP may protest its approval to the BLM. Protest on the Proposed RMP constitutes the final opportunity for administrative review of the proposed land use planning decisions prior to the BLM adopting an approved RMP. Instructions for filing a protest with the BLM for the Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan can be found at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/filing-a-plan-protest> and at 43 CFR 1610.5-2. All protests must be submitted either as a hard copy or electronically via BLM's ePlanning website by the close of the

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COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

protest period. The only electronic protests the BLM will accept are those filed through ePlanning. All protest letters sent to the BLM via fax or e-mail will be considered invalid unless a properly filed protest is also submitted.

- Website: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/39877>

- Regular Mail:

Director (210)  
Attention: Protest Coordinator  
P.O. Box 261117  
Lakewood, CO. 80226

- Overnight Delivery:

Director (210)  
Attention: Protest Coordinator  
Denver Federal Center, Building 40  
Lakewood, CO 80215

Thank you for your interest in the Eastern Colorado RMP. We appreciate your information and suggestions. For additional information or clarification regarding this document or the planning process, please contact John Smeins, RMP project manager, at 719-252-8212 or email [jsmeins@blm.gov](mailto:jsmeins@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Berger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith Berger  
Field Manager  
Royal Gorge Field Office