

Buffalo Field Office, 1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Thomas (Tom) Bills, RMP Supplemental EIS Project Manager; Telephone 307-684-1133; or at the above mailing address or email. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 2015 Buffalo Approved RMP provides a single, comprehensive land use plan that guides management of BLM-administered lands and minerals in the Buffalo Field Office, which consists of approximately 800,000 acres of BLM surface land and 4.7 million acres of BLM mineral estate in Campbell, Johnson, and Sheridan counties in north-central Wyoming.

Based on the court decision *Western Organization of Resource Councils, et al. v. BLM* (CV 16-21-GF-BMM; 3/23/2018 and 7/31/2018); feedback from cooperating agencies and stakeholders; and public scoping, the BLM developed and analyzed a No Action Alternative and an Action Alternative, which are detailed in the Draft Supplemental EIS. The alternatives focus solely on the leasing of BLM-administered coal, in response to the court order.

The No Action Alternative represents the decision area from the 2015 RMP and brings forward all management decisions that precluded coal development in the 2015 RMP. It relies on the decisions from the 2001 coal screening process that informed the 2015 RMP, but uses an updated 2018 coal production baseline. The BLM also used the 2019 U.S. Energy Information Administration development forecast to project development over the 20-year planning period. The No Action Alternative covers a total area of approximately 968,252 acres, including approximately 59.324 billion tons of BLM-administered coal reserves.

The Action Alternative also uses the 2018 coal production baseline and the 2019 U.S. Energy Information Administration development forecast. In addition, the Action Alternative applies new coal screens (as described in 43 CFR 3420.1-4(e)), considers new scientific and GIS data, and evaluates issues identified through internal and

public scoping. Based on these factors, the Action Alternative area contains approximately 328,578 acres, including approximately 37.345 billion tons of BLM-administered coal reserves.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 43 CFR 1610.2(c) and 3420.1-2.

Mary Jo Rugwell,

Wyoming State Director.

[FR Doc. 2019-10289 Filed 5-16-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[L16100000 DS0000 LXSS036E0000 19X LLMTC020000]

Notice of Availability of the Draft Amendment to the Approved Resource Management Plan for the Miles City Field Office, Montana, and the Associated Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Montana Miles City Field Office has prepared a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 2015 Miles City Field Office Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP). This effort is in response to a United States District Court of Montana opinion and order (*Western Organization of Resource Councils, et al. v. BLM*). By this notice, the BLM is announcing the opening of the comment period.

DATES: To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability of the Supplemental Draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings and

any other public participation activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases and/or mailings.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Supplemental Draft EIS by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** <https://go.usa.gov/xmbE4>.
- **Mail:** Miles City Field Office; Irma Nansel; 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301.

Copies of the Supplemental Draft EIS are available at the Miles City Field Office at the above address, or may be viewed at: <https://go.usa.gov/xmbE4>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irma Nansel, RMP Supplemental EIS Project Manager, Miles City Field Office, at (406) 233-3653, or at the above mailing address or website. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact Ms. Nansel during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 2015 Miles City Approved RMP provides a single, comprehensive land use plan that guides management of BLM-administered lands and minerals in the Miles City Field Office, which consists of approximately 2.7 million acres of BLM surface land and 10.6 million acres of BLM mineral estate across 17 counties in eastern Montana.

Based on the above-referenced court decision, feedback from cooperating agencies and stakeholders, and public scoping, the BLM developed and analyzed a No Action Alternative and two Action Alternatives, which are detailed in the Supplemental Draft EIS.

The No Action Alternative represents the decision area from the 2015 RMP and brings forward all management decisions that precluded coal development in the 2015 RMP. It relies on the decisions from the 1985 Power River RMP and 1996 Big Dry RMP coal screening process. The No Action Alternative includes a total area of approximately 1,581,240 acres available for further consideration for leasing of BLM-administered coal.

The Action alternatives applied the coal screens (43 CFR 3420.1-4(e)) using current data and evaluate the issues identified through internal and public scoping. The Action alternatives also address the NEPA deficiencies identified by the court order associated with the application of the multiple-use screen. Alternative B considers the development of air resources as a multiple-use screen in accordance with

the Clean Air Act. Alternative C applies an air resource multiple-use screen that encompasses greenhouse-gas emission criteria limited to coal development tied to existing mining areas. Based on these factors, Alternative B area contains approximately 990,815 acres available for further consideration for leasing of BLM-administered coal; and Alternative C area contains approximately 144,877 acres available for further consideration for leasing of BLM-administered coal.

The BLM revised the reasonable-foreseeable development scenario used in the 2015 Miles City RMP using current coal production from existing mines to forecast development over the 20-year planning period. The revised scenario was applied to all alternatives.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6 and 43 CFR 1610.2.

Donato J. Judice,
Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. 2019-10288 Filed 5-16-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLMTL060-L16100000-DP0000]

Notice of Availability of the Draft Lewistown Resource Management Plan Revision and Associated Environmental Impact Statement, Montana

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lewistown and Butte Field Offices have prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) with an associated Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for BLM public lands and resources managed by the Lewistown Field Office and a portion of the Butte Field Office in northern Lewis and Clark County,

Montana, and by this notice are announcing the opening of the comment period.

DATES: To ensure that comments will be considered, the BLM must receive written comments on the Draft RMP/Draft EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability of the Draft RMP/Draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce future meetings or hearings and any other public participation activities at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media releases, and/or mailings.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Lewistown Draft RMP/Draft EIS by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** <https://bit.ly/2lUdsb2>
- **Mail:** Lewistown Field Office, Attn: Lewistown RMP, 920 NE Main Street, Lewistown, MT 59457

Copies of the Lewistown Draft RMP/Draft EIS are available in the Lewistown Field Office at the above address, or may be viewed at: <https://bit.ly/2lUdsb2>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Brunkhorst, RMP Project Manager, Lewistown Field Office, at (406) 538-1981, and at the above mailing address or website. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact Mr. Brunkhorst during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lewistown Draft RMP/Draft EIS covers approximately 651,200 acres of BLM-managed public lands and 1,196,800 acres of Federal mineral estate in central Montana in Cascade, Fergus, Judith Basin, Meagher, Petroleum, Pondera, Teton, Chouteau, and Lewis and Clark counties. These lands and minerals are managed by two BLM offices located in Lewistown and Butte, Montana. The RMP will fulfill the needs and obligations set forth by NEPA, FLPMA, and BLM management policies. The RMP will reflect the changing needs of the planning area over the next several decades, and will replace the current Headwaters and Judith RMPs, as amended, that were developed in 1984 and 1994, respectively.

The planning effort is needed to identify goals, objectives, and management actions for the BLM-managed public lands. The BLM used public scoping comments to help

identify planning issues that directed the formulation of alternatives and framed the scope of analysis in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. Resource issues identified included air quality, soil and water resources, vegetation, geology, cave and karst features, fish and wildlife, special status species, wildland fire management, cultural and paleontological resources, wilderness characteristics, and visual resource values. The plan also considers resource uses including livestock grazing; delineation of lands open, closed, or subject to special stipulations or mitigation measures for minerals and energy development; forest, woodland, and special forest products; recreation, visitor services, access, and travel management designations; and lands and realty actions including rights-of-way (ROWs), withdrawals, and land tenure adjustments. Special designations, social and economic conditions, tribal interests, and public safety are also addressed.

The Draft RMP/Draft EIS evaluates four alternatives in detail.

Alternative A is the No Action Alternative, which is a continuation of current management direction in the existing Judith and Headwaters RMPs.

Alternative B emphasizes managing habitats for priority plant, wildlife, and fish species while providing modest development of resource uses. Alternative B also emphasizes hunting, fishing, and other recreation through Backcountry Conservation Areas and management of lands with wilderness characteristics.

Alternative C is the agency preferred alternative. Alternative C emphasizes resource uses on BLM-administered lands and mineral estate targeting social and economic outcomes while protecting land health. Alternative C employs less special management designations for resource use objectives.

Alternative D emphasizes resource uses and a variety of management prescriptions (e.g., recreation management areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), Visual Resource Management) to address the use and conservation of natural and cultural resources, while sustaining and enhancing forest and range health across the landscape.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 1610.7-2(b), this notice announces a concurrent public comment period for potential ACECs. The proposed ACECs include:

- Acid Shale-Pine Forest: (2,700 acres) Alternatives A, B, and D;
- Blacktail Creek: (1,200 acres) Alternative B;
- Blind Horse: (4,900 acres) Alternatives B and D;