

Montezuma, Delores counties in Colorado and San Miguel county in New Mexico. Natural resource land managers and county government officials in these five counties need to understand citizen knowledge of forest management policies—particularly regarding recreation management—in order to develop adequate management practices. The intended effect is to better inform managers and assist with development of citizen involvement programs.

*Bureau Form Number:* None.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households.

*Estimated completion time:* 12 minutes per respondent (approximate).

*Number of respondents:* 320 (400 mail-surveys).

*Burden hours:* 64 hours. (The burden hour estimates are based on 12 minutes to complete each questionnaire and an 80% return rate).

#### Collection No. 2

*Title:* General Public Knowledge of Natural Resource Policy in S.E. Utah.

*OMB Approval Number:* New Collection.

*Abstract:* Understanding institutional processes is an important component of ecosystem management. The authorities, policies, and practices of local, state and federal agencies and how those policies are perceived by the public greatly affects the way people interact with ecosystems. Yet, for most ecosystems there is no comprehensive understanding of the numbers, functions or effects of these factors. This is particularly true of southeastern Utah which is undergoing rapid and extensive change. A survey will be administered to a stratified random sample of citizens living in Grand, Wayne, Carbon, Emery and San Juan counties in southeastern, Utah. Natural resource land managers and county government officials in these five counties need to understand citizen knowledge of natural resource policies—particularly regarding recreation management—in order to develop adequate management practices. The intended effect is to better inform managers and assist with development of citizen involvement programs.

*Bureau Form Number:* None.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households.

*Estimated completion time:* 12 minutes per respondent (approximate).

*Number of respondents:* 320 (400 mail-surveys).

*Burden hours:* 64 hours. (The burden hour estimates are based on 12 minutes

to complete each questionnaire and an 80% return rate).

Dated: May 23, 1997.

**Dennis B. Fenn,**

*Chief Biologist.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Bureau of Land Management

[MT-962-1020-00]

#### Notice of Availability for the Montana/Dakotas Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management Final Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The final environmental impact statement (EIS) describes the environmental impacts of adopting regional standards for rangeland health and guidelines for livestock grazing management (standards and guidelines) on BLM-administered lands in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The proposed standards and guidelines would be incorporated into 10 BLM land use plans that cover about 8.4 million acres of BLM-administered land in Montana and the Dakotas. This action is proposed in accordance with revised regulations for livestock grazing on BLM-administered lands (43 CFR 4100). The proposed standards and guidelines were developed in coordination with four Resource Advisory Councils and other public input.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sandy Brooks, Project Manager, BLM Montana State Office, P.O. Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800, or 406-255-2929.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Preferred Alternative described in the final EIS is the Proposed Action (Alternative Two) analyzed in the draft and supplement to the draft EIS, with changes set forth in the final EIS. Modifications to the Preferred Alternative were based on public comment, Resource Advisory Council (RAC) input, and internal agency review. The modifications included in the Preferred Alternative neither change the scope of the final EIS nor alter the analysis of the environmental impacts. The final EIS incorporates by reference the draft EIS and the supplement to the draft EIS, except as noted.

Three alternatives were considered in detail in the final EIS for standards and

guidelines. The no action alternative (continuation of current management direction) provides a baseline for comparison with other alternatives. The preferred alternative (which was the proposed action in the draft) analyzes the impacts of incorporating regional standards and guidelines into affected land use plans. The third alternative analyzes the impacts of implementing the fallback standards and guidelines defined in BLM's grazing regulations. Several alternatives were considered, but dismissed from detailed analysis. These included a no grazing alternative; designating areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) and research natural areas (RNAs); reintroduction of bison on public rangelands to achieve standards and guidelines; and developing guidelines for uses other than livestock grazing.

Dated: May 28, 1997.

**Thomas P. Lonnie,**

*Deputy State Director, Division of Resources.*

[FR Doc. 97-14483 Filed 6-3-97; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-300-1990-00]

#### Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Revision of the Surface Management Regulations—43 CFR 3809 for Operations Under the Mining Law of 1872, as Amended

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent and scoping, extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is extending to June 23, 1997, the comment period for its notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the revision of its surface management regulations. BLM published the notice of intent on April 4, 1997. The extension is in response to several requests from interested parties for additional time to prepare and submit information.

**DATES:** In order to be considered for preparation of the draft EIS, scoping comments are most useful if received on or before June 23, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand-deliver written comments to Paul McNutt, 3809/EIS Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520-0006. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section