

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[NM-018-1610-00/G010-G8-0252]

**Notice of Availability of a Proposed Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS); Taos Field Office, New Mexico and San Luis Resource Area, Colorado**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Taos Field Office and Cañon City District, San Luis Resource Area have completed a Proposed CRMP/FEIS and Taos Resource Management Plan Amendment. This document contains a 15-year strategy for managing 94 miles of the Rio Grande from La Sauses, Colorado to Velarde, New Mexico, and 42.7 miles of its tributaries. The document also addresses legislative requirements for the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River extension and study areas.

Copies are available for review at public libraries in Alamosa, Colorado, and in Taos, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Española, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Additional copies are available at the following BLM offices: San Luis Resource Area, 1921 State Street, Alamosa, Colorado; Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico; New Mexico State Office, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico; and Albuquerque Field Office, 435 Montão Road NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**DATES:** Protests related to decisions at the New Mexico Resource Management Plan level must be filed in writing to: Director, Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Ms. Brenda Williams, Protest Coordinator, WO-210/LS-1075, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240. An informal protest may be made on specific actions described in Chapter 2, Activity-Level Proposals. Informal protests must be filed in writing to the address below. All protests and informal protests must be post marked no later than September 30, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terry Humphrey, CRMP Team Leader, Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571; phone (505) 758-8851.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Proposed CRMP/FEIS is a plan for managing the public land and allocating resources along 94 miles of the Rio Grande and 42.7 miles of its tributaries.

The plan addresses the following public land issues: Wild and Scenic Rivers, protection of riparian areas, soils, vegetation, water quality, terrestrial and aquatic habitat, historical and archaeological resources, scenic quality, recreation, commercial uses, access, and resource interpretation/education.

Under the Proposed Action, the BLM would implement the CRMP in both areas administered by the Taos Field Office and San Luis Resource Area, along with the following Taos Resource Management Plan amendments: designation of the identified areas of the Lower Gorge and Copper Hill Units as Areas of Critical Concern for wildlife habitat and scenic quality values; incorporation of the Guadalupe Area of Critical Environmental Concern into the Wild Rivers Recreation Area and expansion of the Recreation Area; exclusion of 58,765 acres from grazing; withdrawal of 73,820 acres from mineral entry; closure of 50,173 acres to mineral leasing; application of No Surface Occupancy standards for oil and gas development on 25,615 acres; closure of 65,432 acres to mineral material disposal; prohibition of land disposals, except for Color-of-Title sales (in the Dixon, New Mexico area) and three parcels identified for community needs; exclusion of rights-of-way from within the expanded Wild Rivers Recreation Area, the Lower Gorge Unit (with exceptions), and portions of the Copper Hill Unit. The BLM would also recommend the Rio Grande Bosque segment (as identified in Public Law 103-242) for Wild and Scenic River designation, with a Recreational classification, and the Rio Embudo for designation with a Wild classification. In other actions under the Proposed Plan, the agency would increase protection of riparian areas, vegetation, soils, water quality, wildlife habitat, and scenic quality, while placing limits on recreational uses in the corridor and restricting vehicle access to some areas.

Public participation has occurred throughout the CRMP process. A Notice of Availability for the Draft CRMP/EIS was published on June 27, 1997, in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 62, No. 124, pp. 34771-2), identifying the end of the comment period as October 8, 1997. The Notice was amended in the **Federal Register** on July 29, 1997 (Vol. 62, No. 145, p. 40540), extending the comment period to October 20, 1997. In response to numerous requests from the public, the comment period was extended to December 20, 1997 (**Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 191, p. 51682), allowing for a total of 177 days to review the document. Oral hearings were conducted in Alamosa, Colorado

(August 19, 1997), Taos, New Mexico (August 20, 1997), Santa Fe, New Mexico (August 21, 1997), and Dixon, New Mexico (September 3, 1997).

Dated: August 10, 1998.

**Steve Henke,***Taos Field Office Manager.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places; Request for Comments; Historic Properties in Franklin County, Pennsylvania; Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places**

On January 15, 1997, four historic farmsteads in Greene Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, were determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for their historic and architectural importance, following a request from the Federal Highway Administration. The four properties are the Chambers House, 325 Woodstock Road, the Hambright Farmstead, 1873 Ragged Edge Road, the Shollenberger Farmstead, 896 Ragged Edge Road, and the Shively Farmstead, 528 Ragged Edge Road.

Since the determinations of eligibility were issued, the National Park Service has received a request that the boundaries of the properties be redrawn. Documentation relative to this request was submitted to the National Register. Copies of this documentation are available from the National Register at the address below. In order to accommodate those who wish to provide new information concerning the boundaries of these properties, the National Park Service is providing a 60 day comment period. A written statement on the determinations of eligibility will be issued by the National Park Service within 30 days of the close of the comment period.

The determinations of eligibility remains in effect pending review of responses submitted during the comment period. In order to revise the boundaries the National Park Service must receive authoritative information, which evaluated in conjunction with documentation already on file, results in a finding that the determined eligible boundary does not accurately delineate the historic property in accordance with established National Register standards.

Comments should be addressed to the National Register of Historic Places,