Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond. In order to obtain and renew an OMB control number, Federal agencies are required to seek public comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d) and 1320.12(a)).

As required at 5 CFR 1320.8(d), the BLM published a 60-day notice in the Federal Register on September 4, 2012 (77 FR 53905), and the comment period ended November 4, 2012. The BLM received no comments. The BLM now requests comments on the following subjects:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the BLM, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the BLM’s estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please send comments as directed under ADDRESSES and DATES. Please refer to OMB control number 1004–0025 in your correspondence. 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.

The following information is provided for the information collection:


OMB Control Number: 1004–0025.

Abstract: On its face, the General Mining Law (30 U.S.C. 29, 30, and 39) authorizes a holder of an unpatented claim for hardrock minerals to apply for fee title (patent) to the Federal land (as well as minerals) embraced in the claim. Since 1994, a rider on the annual appropriation bill for the Department of the Interior has prevented the BLM from processing mineral patent applications unless the applications were grandfathered under the initial legislation. While grandfathered applications are rare at present, the approval to collect the information continues to be necessary because of the possibility that the moratorium will be lifted.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Description of Respondents: Owners of unpatented mining claims and mill sites upon the public lands, and of reserved mineral lands of the United States, National Forests, and National Parks.

Estimated Annual Burdens: 10 responses.

Estimated Hour Burden: 556 hours.

Estimated “Non-Hour Cost” Burden: $173,600.

The “Non-Hour Cost” burden estimate includes $13,400 for fixed document processing fees, $1,200 for publication costs, and $159,000 for case-by-case fees for validity examinations.

Jean Sonneman, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Bureau of Land Management.

[FR Doc. 2013–01518 Filed 1–24–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–84–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLCNO3000 L16100000.DP0000]


AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO) and by this notice is announcing the opening of the public 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 this notice 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 GJFO Draft RMP/Draft EIS by any of the following methods:

• email: gjfo_rmp@blm.gov.
• fax: 970–244–3083.
• mail: BLM—GJFO RMP, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Copies of the GJFO Draft RMP/Draft EIS are available in the GJFO at the above address or on the Web site at: http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gjfo/rmp.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Collin Ewing, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, telephone 970–244–3027; see address above; email cewing@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 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 BLM prepared the GJFO Draft RMP/Draft EIS to analyze and revise the current management decisions for public lands and resources within the GJFO planning area. The current management decisions for resources are described in the Grand Junction Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) (approved January, 1987), as amended (1987 GJFO RMP).

The GJFO planning area includes approximately 2.2 million acres of BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, state, local, and private lands located in northwestern Colorado, primarily in Mesa and Garfield counties, with additional small tracts located in Montrose and Rio Blanco counties.

Within the GJFO planning area, the BLM administers approximately 1.1 million surface acres and 1.2 million acres of Federal oil and gas mineral (subsurface) estate. Surface management decisions made as a result of the draft RMP/Draft EIS will apply only to the BLM-administered lands in the GJFO planning area.

The formal public scoping process for the GJFO RMP/EIS began on October 15, 2008, with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register, and ended on January 9, 2009. The BLM held three scoping open houses in December 2008. The BLM held an additional six public workshops in February 2009 for travel management data collection to give the public the opportunity to review its resource inventory for completeness and accuracy, as well as offer suggestions for possible reroutes or new routes that
would complement the existing system. Following the travel management workshops, the BLM held an additional public comment period was held from July 17 through August 21, 2009, to help the BLM evaluate the quantity and quality of the experiences and desired recreation setting available in the planning area. The BLM used public scoping comments to identify planning issues that led to the formulation of alternatives and framed the scope of analysis in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. The scoping process was also used to introduce the public to preliminary planning criteria, which set limits on the scope of the Draft RMP/Draft EIS.

Major issues considered in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS include travel management; energy development; recreation management; lands and realty/community growth and expansion; wildlife and fish; special designation areas; lands with wilderness characteristics; water, soil, and riparian areas; special status species management; and vegetation management, among others.

The Draft RMP/Draft EIS evaluates in detail four alternatives, including the No Action Alternative (Alternative A) and three action alternatives (Alternatives B, C, and D). The BLM has identified Alternative B as the preferred alternative. Identification of this alternative, however, does not represent the final agency direction, and the Proposed RMP may reflect changes or adjustments based on information received during public comment, from new information, or from changes in BLM policies or priorities. The Proposed RMP may include objectives and actions described in the other analyzed alternatives.

Alternative A would retain the current management goals, objectives and direction specified in the 1987 GJFO RMP. Alternative B seeks to balance resources among competing human interests and land uses with the conservation of natural and cultural resource values, while sustaining the ecological integrity of certain key habitats for plant, wildlife and fish species. It incorporates a balanced level of protection, restoration, enhancement, and use of resources and services to meet ongoing programs and land uses. Goals and objectives focus on environmental, economic and social outcomes achieved by strategically addressing demands across the landscape. Alternative C emphasizes non-consumptive use and management of resources through protection, restoration, and enhancement, while also providing for multiple uses, including livestock grazing and mineral development. This alternative would establish the greatest number of special designation areas with specific measures to protect or enhance resource values within these areas. Goals and objectives focus on environmental and social outcomes achieved by sustaining relatively unmodified physical landscapes and natural and cultural resource values for current and future generations. Alternative D emphasizes active management for natural resources, commodity production, and public use opportunities. Resource uses, such as recreation, livestock grazing, mineral leasing and development, would be emphasized. Existing uses would continue and new uses would be accommodated to the greatest extent possible while maintaining resource conditions.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 1610.7–2(b), this notice announces a concurrent public comment period on proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). Proposed ACECs and the resource use limitations which would occur if formally designated are as follows:

- Atwell Gulch, up to 6,100 acres, Alternatives B, and C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class II; right-of-way (ROW) exclusion area; close to motorized travel including over-snow motorized travel; close to mechanized travel; issue no special recreation permits for competitive events; close to fossil collection; close to mineral material disposal.
- Dolores River Riparian, 7,400 acres, Alternative C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; limit travel to designated routes; VRM Class II; ROW avoidance area; and close to recreational placer mining.
- Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa, 27,200 acres, Alternative C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; limit travel to designated routes; VRM Class II; ROW avoidance area; only allow vegetation treatments for the benefit of the identified relevance and importance values; open to livestock grazing outside of occupied sage-grouse habitat.
- Gunnison River Riparian, 460 acres, Alternative C: No surface occupancy; limit travel to designated routes; VRM Class II; ROW avoidance area; and only allow camping in designated sites.
- Hawxhurst Creek, 860 acres, Alternative C: No surface occupancy; limit travel to designated routes; VRM Class II; and ROW avoidance area.
- Indian Creek, 1,700 acres, Alternatives B and C: No surface occupancy; limit travel to designated routes; VRM Class II; and ROW exclusion area.
- John Brown Canyon, 1,400 acres, Alternative C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; limit travel to designated routes; and VRM Class II.
- Juanita Arch, 1,600 acres, Alternatives B and C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; close to motorized and mechanized travel; VRM Class II; ROW exclusion area.
- Mt. Garfield, up to 5,700 acres, Alternatives B and C: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; close to motorized travel including over-snow travel; VRM Class I; ROW exclusion area; close to fossil collection; classify as unsuitable for coal leasing; close to recreational target shooting; close to livestock grazing.
- Nine-mile Hill Boulders, 90 acres, Alternative C: Close to motorized travel including over-snow travel; close to mechanized travel; VRM Class II; ROW exclusion area; issue no special recreation permits for competitive events.
- The Palisade, up to 32,200 acres, Alternatives A, B, C and D: No surface occupancy; close to fluid mineral leasing; close to motorized travel; VRM Class I; ROW exclusion area; issue no special recreation permits for competitive events; limit over-snow travel; cutting units to 20 acres or less in the pinyon-juniper woodlands; close to mineral material disposal.
SUMMARY:
The plats of survey of the following described lands are scheduled to be officially filed in the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon, 30 days from the date of this publication.

**Willamette Meridian**

**Oregon**

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**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the plats may be obtained from the Public Room at the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, 333 SW. 1st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204, upon required payment.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kyle Hensley, (503) 808–6132, Branch of Geographic Sciences, Bureau of Land Management, 333 SW. 1st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A person or party who wishes to protest against this survey must file a written notice with the Oregon State Director, Bureau of Land Management, stating that they wish to protest. A statement of reasons for a protest may be filed with the notice of protest and must be filed with the Oregon State Director within thirty days after the protest is filed. If a protest against the survey is received prior to the date of official filing, the filing will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat will not be officially filed until the day after all protests have been dismissed or otherwise resolved. 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.

**BILLING CODE 4310–J8–P**