



DOCUMENT PREPARATION

This resource management plan was prepared by an interdisciplinary team of specialists from the Headwaters Resource Area and the Butte District Office. Writing of the RMP began in November 1982; however a complex process that began in 1979 preceded the writing phase. This process included resource inventory, public participation, interagency coordination, and preparation of a management situation analysis (on file in the Headwaters Resource Area Office). Consultation and coordination with agencies, organizations, and individuals occurred in a variety of ways throughout the planning process.

CONSISTENCY

The BLM's planning regulations require that resource management plans be "consistent with officially approved or adopted resource related plans of other federal agencies, state and local governments and Indian tribes, so long as the guidance and resource management plans are also consistent with the purposes, policies and programs of federal law and regulations applicable to public lands" Several actions were taken to ensure that this consistency requirement was met. A letter was sent to the Governor's Natural Resource Council in December 1981 requesting copies of state plans that the BLM should consider in their planning effort. Meetings were held in September and October 1982 with the County Commissioners for all nine counties in the Headwaters Resource Area, the Governor's Natural

Resource Council, and other agencies and groups. These same agencies and groups received copies of the draft RMP and were asked for their comments.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A preliminary list of issues was sent to about 800 people in April 1979. The purpose of the mailing was to identify the major issues in the resource area, which would then provide guidance for the data collection effort. Following this mailing, a nine member Citizen's Advisory Group was set up to provide additional guidance for issue identification.

A Federal Register notice was published on March 18, 1980 that announced the formal start of the planning process. A letter was sent to range users in June 1980 to announce that a vegetative inventory would be conducted that summer and that the data would be used in the RMP. Four meetings were held in July to explain the inventory process and how it would be used. In September 1980 a second mailing was sent to about 1,000 people asking for their comments on a revised list of issues. The comments received were used to further refine the issues, and in August 1982 a third mailing was sent to about 2,700 people that contained the finalized issues and a list of planning criteria that would be used to resolve the issues.

Other informal coordination with the public took place throughout the planning process by means of personal contacts, phone calls, etc.

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED

The RMP team consulted with and/or received input from the following organizations during the development of the RMP:

Federal Agencies

Bonneville Power Administration
Census Bureau
U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Forest Service
 Soil Conservation Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Mines
 Bureau of Reclamation
 Fish and Wildlife Service
 Geological Survey

State Agencies and Organizations

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
Montana Department of Agriculture
Montana Department of Commerce
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Montana Department of Labor
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Montana Department of Revenue
Montana State Historic Preservation Officer
Montana State University
Office of the Governor
University of Montana

Organizations and Businesses

American Fisheries Society, Montana Chapter
Atlantic Richfield Company
Dawson Community College
Headwaters RC&D
League of Women Voters
Montana Power Company
Montana Public Lands Council
North Dakota State University
Phillips Petroleum
Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association
Scratchgravel Hills Homeowners Association
The Wilderness Society
Western Environmental Trade Association
Wildlife Society, Montana Chapter

DISTRIBUTION

Copies of the Draft RMP were sent to the following agencies, businesses, and interest groups for their review and comment:

Federal Agencies

Bonneville Power Administration
Council on Environmental Quality
Department of Agriculture
 Forest Service
 Soil Conservation Service
Department of the Air Force
Department of the Army
 Corps of Engineers
Department of Energy
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Bureau of Mines
 Bureau of Reclamation
 Fish and Wildlife Service
 Geological Survey
 National Park Service
Environmental Protection Agency
Farmers Home Administration
Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Highway Administration
National Advisory Council For Historic Preservation

Congressional Offices

Office of Congressman Marlenee
Office of Congressman Williams
Office of Senator Baucus
Office of Senator Melcher

State Agencies

Bureau of Mines and Geology
Department of Commerce
Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Department of Highways
Department of Military Affairs
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Department of State Lands
Environmental Quality Council
Office of the Governor
Oil and Gas Commission
State Clearinghouse
State Historic Preservation Officer
State Library

County Commissioners and Planning Boards

Broadwater County
 Cascade County
 Gallatin County
 Jefferson County
 Lewis and Clark County
 Meagher County
 Park County
 Pondera County
 Silver Bow County
 Teton County

Businesses

Amax Coal Co.
 American Petrofina
 Anderson Exploration Co.
 Atlantic Richfield Co.
 Big Sky Land and Leasing Service
 Bouma Post Yards
 Burlington Northern Inc.
 Champlin Petroleum Co.
 Chevron Resources Co.
 Chevron USA Inc.
 Conoco Inc.
 Consolidated Georex Geophysics
 Consolidation Coal Co.
 El Paso Exploration Co.
 Elanco Products Co.
 Exxon Coal Res. USA Inc.
 Kerr McGee Corp.
 Louisiana Pacific Corp.
 Malon Oil and Gas Co.
 Meridian Land & Minerals Co.
 Montana Power Co.
 Montco
 Multitech
 Natural Gas Corporation of California
 NTEC
 Phillips Petroleum Co.
 Polar Marine
 Shell Oil Co.
 Shelton Land and Cattle Co.
 Shelton Ranches Inc.
 Sohio Petroleum Co.
 Texaco Inc.
 Wesco Resources Inc.
 Westech
 Western Energy Co.
 Wexpro Co.
 Williams Exploration Inc.
 Z K Resources Inc.

Organizations

Audubon Society
 Boulder River Sportsmen's Club
 Continental Divide Trail Society
 Defenders of Wildlife
 Ducks Unlimited
 E. Montana Distance Riders Assn.
 Elkhorn Citizens Organization
 Fishing and Floating Outfitters Assn. of Montana
 Flathead River Basin Study
 Inland Forest Resource Council
 Int. Snowmobile Ind. Assn.
 Laurel Saddle Club
 League of Women Voters
 Marysville Pioneers
 Montana Assn. of Conservation Districts
 Montana Assn. of Counties
 Montana Assn. of Grazing Districts
 Montana Cattlemen's Assn.
 Montana Environmental Information Center
 Montana 4 x 4 Assn.
 Montana Historical Society
 Montana Mining Assn.
 Montana Oil Journal
 Montana Petroleum Assn.
 Montana Snowmobile Assn.
 Montana Stockgrower's Assn.
 Montana Water Development Assn.
 Montana Wilderness Assn.
 Montana Wildlife Fund
 Montana Women in Timber
 Montana Woolgrowers Assn.
 National Trails Council
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 Nature Conservancy
 Northern Plains Resource Council
 Rocky Mountain Front Advisory Council
 Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Assn.
 Sierra Club
 Skyline Sportsmen
 Sun River Teton Resource Forum
 Sunny Vista Homeowners Assn.
 The Wilderness Society
 Trail Riders
 West Yellowstone Ski Club
 Western Environmental Trade Assn.
 Western Forest Industries Assn.
 Western Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society
 Wildlands Resource Assn.
 Wildlife Society

PREPARATION OF THE FINAL RMP/EIS

The Draft RMP/EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency on May 6, 1983. The Notice of Availability and Announcement of Public Hearings was published in the Federal Register on May 6, 1983. The notice announced a ninety day public comment period ending August 5, 1983. Over 1,100 copies of the Draft RMP/EIS were mailed to federal, state, and local governments and agencies, elected officials, businesses, organizations, and individuals. News releases contained information on the Draft RMP/EIS and the times and locations of public meetings. Eighty-nine comment letters were received.

Chapter 7 contains comments received and the responses to them. Appendix V contains all letters received in response to the Draft RMP/EIS. Thirty-two of the comments came in on the Headwaters Land Ownership map. It was not possible to reproduce these comments. They are on file in the Headwaters Resource Area Office.

A formal public hearing was held in Helena on June 15, 1983. A court recorder transcribed the hearing verbatim and five people gave testimony. The testimony is on file in the Headwaters Resource Area Office.

A coordination meeting with the Governor's Natural Resource Council was held on September 8, 1983. Previous to the meeting the BLM conducted a tour for the Council members along the Rocky Mountain Front on July 22, 1983.

