

Butte Field Office
106 North Parkmont
Butte, MT 59701



**You are Invited to Public Meetings to Discuss Travel Planning Criteria
For the Bureau of Land Management – Butte Field Office
Resource Management Plan Revision**

The Bureau of Land Management – Butte Field Office will host public meetings to discuss criteria for travel planning on public lands; these criteria are currently being developed as part of the Resource Management Plan (RMP). The public meetings will be tailored to discuss travel planning criteria in five separate areas and are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, November 15, **Big Hole Area**, Divide Grange Hall, Highway 43 next to the Divide School, 7 – 9 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 16, **Boulder Area**, Boulder School Library, 205 S. Washington, Boulder, 7 – 9 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 30, **North Hills Area**, West Valley Volunteer Fire Department, 1165 Forestvale, Helena, 7 – 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 1, **Scratchgravel Hills**, West Valley Volunteer Fire Department, 1165 Forestvale, Helena, 7 – 9 p.m.
- Thursday, December 2, **Marysville Area**, West Valley Volunteer Fire Department, 1165 Forestvale, Helena, 7 – 9 p.m.

For additional information, please contact Ruth Miller, BLM Project manager, at 406-533-7645 or visit the RMP website at <http://www.mt.blm.gov/bdo/>.

Butte Resource Management Plan (RMP) Revision

November 2004 Update

■ Public Involvement

Six public scoping meetings were held in January 2004 in various towns within the Butte Field Office to begin the Butte RMP revision process. A scoping report was completed combining the results of the public scoping meetings, written responses, and other briefings given by the Field Office. The scoping report is available on the Butte RMP website - www.mt.blm.gov/bdo/rmp - under the link 'What is an RMP?'

■ RMP Work

Much of the past year has been spent on assessing/analyzing data for the RMP. The RMP Team has been working on several Geographic Information System (GIS) data layers for the entire Field Office, including wildlife habitats, travel routes, recreation sites and designations, timber stands, and mineral maps.

The Analysis of the Management Situation has been drafted and will be finalized this fall. This document describes the existing situation, what has occurred in the Field Office since the last RMP (20 years ago), the need for revision, and potential opportunities.

The RMP Team is currently working on developing a draft proposed planning scenario to send to the public this winter. The idea of presenting this to the public is to get more specific comments, and find out any issues we may have missed, in order to better develop alternatives.

■ What's Next?

Travel plan meetings are scheduled for this November-December; five separate meetings will be held—Divide, Boulder, and three in Helena (Scratchgravel Hills, North Hills, and Marysville). See the travel planning section of this update for specific dates and locations.

The draft proposed planning scenario is scheduled to be drafted this winter. Public meetings will be held after it is released. Once comments are received, alternatives will be developed. The Draft EIS/RMP is scheduled for release in the Fall 2005.

■ Mailing List

If you are receiving this update, it means you are on our mailing list for the Butte RMP revision. If you wish to be removed from this list, please contact our office:

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If you need further information, please contact **Ruth Miller**, RMP Project Manager, 406-533-7645