

Dillon Resource Management Plan

Update #8 April 2004

Bureau of Land Management
1005 Selway Drive
Dillon, MT 59725

(406) 683-2337
www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp
MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov

This is the eighth in a series of update letters you'll be receiving as we move through the planning process and develop an RMP for BLM managed public lands in the Dillon Field Office.



If you received this letter, you are on our mailing and/or email list. If there is a problem with your address information, or you would like to be removed, please contact Renee Johnson at (406) 683-8016 or send an email to MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov. The BLM Dillon Field Office address is 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana 59725.

You may also visit our website at www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp.

Draft RMP/EIS Released

The Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) is now available for public review. Review copies were sent to over 300 individuals and entities the last week of March.

A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be published on April 9, 2004, which begins the 90 calendar day public review period. Comments must be received at the Dillon Field Office by 4:30 PM, July 8, 2004 to be considered. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be specific and should address the adequacy of the statement and the merits of the alternatives. The most helpful comments are those that are substantive and that refer to page numbers in the RMP/EIS, that provide specific values, numbers, or criteria, and that explain your concerns and issues and changes that you think would improve the RMP.

The document is also posted on the project website at www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp. A limited number of CDs and hard copies are available upon request. If you didn't reserve a copy and would like one now, please contact Renee Johnson at (406) 683-8016 to check on availability.

Hard copies of the document are available for review at the following locations:

BLM Butte Field Office
BLM Dillon Field Office
BLM Ennis Office
BLM Missoula Field Office
Beaverhead County Commissioner's Office
FS Office, Sheridan
FS Office, Wise River
FS Office, Wisdom
Lima Town Hall
Madison County Commissioner's Office
Public Library, Bozeman
Public Library, Butte
Public Library, Dillon
Public Library, Ennis
Public Library, Twin Bridges
Public Library, Whitehall
Red Rocks Refuge, Lakeview

How to Submit Your Comments

By US Mail: Dillon RMP Team
BLM Dillon Field Office
1005 Selway Drive
Dillon, Montana 59725

By FAX: (406) 683-2970

By Email: MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov

At a Comment Meeting (see page 2)

We recommend written comments be submitted by US Mail given the uncertainty of BLM's continued connection to the internet and email as a result of ongoing litigation.

Continued on page 2



OPEN HOUSES TO BE HELD

Join us at an Open House to learn more about the Draft RMP/EIS. Each open house will begin at 6:30 PM with a brief presentation. The presentation will provide an overview of the Draft RMP/EIS, along with information on timeframes and avenues for commenting. After the presentation, there will be an opportunity for informal discussions. Electronic CD copies of the RMP/EIS will be available at these meetings.

Lima Open House
Monday, May 3, 2004
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Lima Town Hall
Lima, Montana

Virginia City Open House
Tuesday, May 4, 2004
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Madison County Courthouse Courtroom
Virginia City, Montana

Bozeman Open House
Thursday, May 6, 2004
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Comfort Inn, Beartooth/Gravelly Rooms
(use Convention Center entrance)
1370 North 7th Avenue
Bozeman, Montana

Dillon Open House
Tuesday, May 11, 2004
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Search and Rescue Building
1000 Hwy 41
Dillon, Montana

Butte Open House
Wednesday, May 12, 2004
6:30-8:30 PM
Holiday Inn Express, Rocky Mountain Room
(beneath Denny's)
1 Holiday Park Drive
Butte, Montana

COMMENT MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN TWO LOCATIONS

Come to a Comment Meeting if you are interested in providing oral comments on the Draft RMP/EIS. The Comment Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. and will be moderated with oral comments recorded and entered into the record for consideration. Members of the public wishing to comment must register during the first 15 minutes of the meeting. Each commentor will be allowed up to five minutes to provide oral comment. There will be no relinquishing of time to another commentor. After five minutes, time will be called and the next commentor will be given their opportunity to speak. The meetings will continue until all registered commentors have had the opportunity to present their comments.

If commentors want to read from a written statement, they should plan on submitting a copy of that statement for the record.

These meetings are for the public to express concerns. If you want to interact with BLM, an Open House meeting would be more appropriate for you to attend.

Ennis Comment Meeting
Tuesday, May 18, 2004
7 PM
Madison Valley Fire Hall
north of Ennis off Hwy 287
Ennis, Montana

Dillon Comment Meeting
Tuesday, May 25, 2004
7 PM
Swygood Center at U of M-Western campus

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<i>May 3, 2004</i>	<i>Lima Open House</i>
<i>May 4, 2004</i>	<i>Virginia City Open House</i>
<i>May 6, 2004</i>	<i>Bozeman Open House</i>
<i>May 11, 2004</i>	<i>Dillon Open House</i>
<i>May 12, 2004</i>	<i>Butte Open House</i>
<i>May 18, 2004</i>	<i>Ennis Comment Mtg</i>
<i>May 25, 2004</i>	<i>Dillon Comment Mtg</i>
<i>July 8, 2004</i>	<i>End of Comment Period</i>

Western Montana RAC to Meet on Dillon RMP/EIS

The Western Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will have a “working” meeting on Monday, April 19, 2004 at the Bureau of Land Management Conference Room in Dillon. The 15-member council advises the BLM on land management and planning issues.

The group will convene at 10:00 a.m. to review the Draft Dillon Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The council will review portions of the draft document and determine if they want to make a consensus recommendation to the BLM.

The meeting is open to the public and the public comment period is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on April 19. Interested parties may make oral statements before the Council or file written statements for the Council to consider. Depending on

the number of persons wishing to make comments, a per-person time limit may be established.

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of issues associated with public land management. The 15-member Council includes individuals who have expertise or education in the planning and management of public lands and resources. Members for the Western Montana Council include: Roger Peters and Sue Marxer - Dillon, Robin Urban and Robin McCulloch - Butte, Donna McDonald - Alder, Doug Abelin, Susan Lenard, and Garry Williams - Helena, Ben Deeble - Missoula, Richard Young, Dennis Phillippi, and Pat Flowers - Bozeman, Robin Cunningham - Gallatin Gateway, Ted Coffman - Ennis, and Dan Lucas - Philipsburg.

Policy on Disclosure of Comments

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

How Can You Get Involved?

Attend a Meeting. Five open houses and two comment meetings will be convened by the BLM and Cooperating Agencies in May (see page 2) so you can learn more about what’s in the plan and hear what others have to say.

Visit the Dillon RMP Web Site. The Draft RMP/EIS has been posted to the Dillon RMP website. The website also contains archived information dating as far back as 2001 when the planning process was initiated.

Contact Western Montana RAC Members. The RAC is BLM’s formal advisory council and will be meeting in Dillon at the BLM office on April 19 to discuss what comments they will provide on the Draft RMP/EIS. More information about the Western Montana RAC and the diverse interests members represent can be found at www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/pages/documents/western_index.html.

Submit Comments. Write to the Dillon RMP Team, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana 59751 or send an email to www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp.

Call Us. If you have questions or need additional information, contact our office at (406) 683-2337 (main receptionist), dial our toll-free number 1 (877) 521-2889 where you can listen to recorded information on the RMP, or contact Renee Johnson, Dillon RMP Project Manager, at (406) 683-8016.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS *UPDATE*

<i>BLM</i>	Bureau of Land Management
<i>CD</i>	Compact Disk
<i>EIS</i>	Environmental Impact Statement
<i>NOA</i>	Notice of Availability
<i>RAC</i>	Resource Advisory Council
<i>RMP</i>	Resource Management Plan

*Thank You
for your Interest and Participation
in the
Dillon RMP*



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