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Carlsbad Resource Management Plan Revision

The Carlsbad Field Office is currently in the process of revising its Resource Management Plan (RMP). In this stage of the RMP revision process, we have completed the public scoping period. The RMP outlines our long-term, "landscape-level" plans and goals for the public lands in Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Counties.

You may be familiar with the scoping process from other BLM projects, or even other land use planning projects from other federal agencies. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that any major federal action that might affect the environment be considered among alternative actions.

The scoping period during the RMP revision provides the BLM with an opportunity to collect questions, comments, and concerns from anyone with a stake in how public lands are managed. These concerns allow the Field Office revising the plan to:

- Identify who will be affected by management decisions
- Define the issues and alternatives that will be examined during the revision process
- Focus attention specifically on the important, relevant planning issues

Now, the Scoping Report is being written. This document collects all the comments we received during the scoping period from industry, other agencies, and members of the public, as well the Planning Issues and Management Concerns we compiled in the Field Office. In the Scoping Report, we will explain how we will answer the questions raised by each comment, issue, or concern.

Although the official scoping comment period is closed, we always welcome substantive comments and suggestions.

The Carlsbad Field Office is also completing the Analysis of Management Situation (AMS), which will evaluate current management of BLM lands and identify opportunities for improvement. Both the Scoping Report and the AMS will be available for public review on the Carlsbad Field Office Website, or by mail, if requested. The public will have another formal opportunity to comment on the RMP when the Carlsbad Field Office publishes the Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement in the Spring of 2012.

To be kept up-to-date on all important developments during the RMP revision process, request to be added to the RMP Mailing List.

For more information on the scoping process, the RMP revision process, or any other land use planning concerns, please contact James B. Smith at (575) 234-5986, e-mail nm_cfo_rmp@blm.gov, or write to:

BLM
Carlsbad Field Office
Resource Management Plan Project Team Lead
620 E Greene St.
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

RMP Information

- [About the RMP](#)
- [Preliminary Issue Topics](#)

Documents

- [Preparation Plan](#)
- [Plan Schedule](#)
- [Preliminary Planning Criteria](#)
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Maps

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Scoping

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BLM Public Scoping Meetings

Scoping Meetings for the Carlsbad Resource Management Plan Revision there will be two meetings at each location: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm and 6:00 pm-9:00 pm.

- **Date: July 19-Meeting Held**
 - **Location:** Artesia, NM
 - **Address:** Artesia High School Gymnasium
- **Date: July 20-Meeting Held**
 - **Location:** Carlsbad, NM
 - **Address:** Pecos River Conference Center-Carousel House Room, 711 Muscatel Drive
- **Date: July 22-Meeting Held**
 - **Location:** Hope, NM
 - **Address:** Hope Community Center
- **Date: July 26-Meeting Held**
 - **Location:** Jal, NM
 - **Address:** Jal Community Center, 109 West Panther
- **Date: July 27-Meeting Held**
 - **Location:** Hobbs, NM
 - **Address:** NM Junior College/Training Outreach Facility

Contact Information

- **Email:** nm_cfo_rmp@blm.gov
- **Fax:** Attention To: RMP Project Team Lead
 - Fax #: 575-885-9264
- **Mail:** BLM, Carlsbad Field Office, RMP Project Team Lead
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 - Carlsbad, NM 88220

10/28/2010

Carlsbad RMP

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BLM 2010

http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Carlsbad_Field_Office/carlsbad_rmp.html

Carlsbad Resource Management Plan Revision

Carlsbad, N.M. – The Bureau of Land Management’s Carlsbad Field Office is seeking public input as it begins a process to revise and update its Resource Management Plan (RMP) for public lands in Eddy, Lea, and southwestern Chaves Counties.

The new RMP will provide overall management direction for the next two decades for about 2.2 million surface acres and 4.1 million acres of federal mineral estate (1.9 million acres of which is split estate – with private or state surface ownership and federally owned minerals).

The BLM is revising the RMP due to the changes that have taken place in the resource use and protection arena over the past 20 years. This is also due to continuing energy development in addition to changing demands and types of uses of BLM-administered public lands as well as the conditions of the resources they contain. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also be developed during the planning process.

A formal announcement initiating scoping and the preparation of an EIS for the proposed project was published in the Federal Register on June 10, 2010.

The Carlsbad Resource Management Plan (RMP) contains the land use decisions for allocating resources and for guiding future management actions on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This RMP establishes areas for limited, restricted, or exclusive uses, levels of production, allowable resource uses, resource condition objectives, program constraints, and general management direction. This RMP also describes, in general terms, the implementation, monitoring and amendment processes.

This RMP covers all of the Federal surface and Federal subsurface mineral estate within the New Mexico portion of the Carlsbad Resource Area. This includes approximately 2.2 million surface acres and approximately 2.7 million subsurface acres in Eddy, Lea, and a portion of Chaves County. Much of the public land is consolidated in large tracts, with State and private inholdings scattered throughout. The exceptions include scattered public land parcels in eastern Lea County, along the Pecos River, and in the southwest corner of Chaves County.