

READERS' GUIDE

In order for the NEPA process to meet its objectives, the structure of NEPA documents must be understood by readers. This Readers' Guide outlines the format and content of this EIS to facilitate understanding of the information it contains.

Summary: The Summary provides a concise overview of the key information and conclusions discussed in detail in the body of the document.

Table of Contents: The Table of Contents, located at the beginning of the main text, indicates the page numbers for all numbered sections in the Draft EIS. The Table of Contents also includes lists of figures, tables, and appendices.

Chapter 1: This chapter introduces the project, summarizes NEPA process requirements, provides background information on the project, describes the Proposed Action, outlines the purpose and need addressed by the Proposed Action, defines the decisions to be made on the basis of this EIS, describes the public involvement process and the issues identified through public scoping, and identifies other permits and authorizations that may be required to complete the project.

Chapter 2: This chapter describes in detail the Proposed Action, the alternative formulation process, the alternatives analyzed in detail, and those not carried into detailed analysis. It goes on to list the mitigation measures identified through this analysis, to describe the cumulative actions considered, to summarize the impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives, and to identify the agency's preferred alternative.

Chapter 3: This chapter describes the affected environment for each category of environmental concern, providing a baseline for assessment of impacts, then details the environmental consequences of the implementing the Proposed Action and the alternatives. The impact analysis addresses direct, indirect, and cumulative effects. The chapter concludes with required disclosures regarding impacts to critical elements of the human environment, unavoidable adverse impacts, the relationship between short-term uses and long-term productivity and the potential for irreversible or irretrievable commitment of public resources.

Chapter 4: This chapter summarizes the BLM's efforts to include the public and relevant agencies and organizations in this EIS process. It also identifies the agency and consultant staff responsible for producing this EIS.

References: This section provides full citations for all information sources cited in the text.

Appendices: This section includes four appendices that provide key information supporting the analysis and conclusions reached in the body of the text.

