

APPENDIX J

EXISTING WITHDRAWAL DESCRIPTIONS

A withdrawal is a formal action that sets aside, withholds, or reserves Federal lands by administrative order or statute for public purposes. The effect of a withdrawal is to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Segregates (closes) Federal land to the operation of all or some of the public land laws and/or mineral laws
- Transfers total or partial jurisdiction of Federal land between Federal agencies
- Dedicates Federal land for a specific public purpose

Withdrawals can be categorized into three major types including:

- Congressional - legislative withdrawals made by Congress in the form of public laws. Examples include designation for wild and scenic rivers or wilderness
- Administrative – withdrawals made by the President, Secretary of Interior, or other officers of the executive branch of the Federal Government. Examples include stock driveways and public water reserves
- Federal Power Act – power project withdrawals established under the Federal Power Act of June 10, 1920. These withdrawals are automatically created upon the filing of an application for hydroelectric power development with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

The following existing withdrawals are depicted on Map 16 in the Approved Plan.

BLM Recreation Sites: These include several administrative withdrawals for the Deadwood Gulch, Shearing Pen, Red Mountain, Ennis Lake, Ruby Reservoir, Ruby Creek and South Madison recreation sites as well as the Bear Trap Canyon Recreation Area. All of these sites are withdrawn from surface disposal and mining, but not from mineral leasing. The Bear Trap Canyon Recreation Area is also withdrawn from mineral leasing.

Public Water Reserves: These include a number of administrative withdrawal actions over the years for spring areas set aside for public use. These areas are scattered throughout the planning area and are withdrawn from surface disposal and nonmetalliferous mining, but not from metalliferous mining and mineral leasing.

BLM Protective Withdrawals: These include two administrative withdrawals on lands acquired for wetland, riparian, recreation, and wildlife values. One is located along the Beaverhead River about eleven miles south of Dillon, and the other is located in the Axolotl Lakes area about five

miles southeast of Virginia City. The properties are withdrawn from surface disposal and mining, but not from mineral leasing.

Reservoir Site Reserve: This consists of a single administrative withdrawal for Lima Reservoir located in the southern portion of the planning area near the Montana-Idaho border. The lands are withdrawn from surface disposal and nonmetalliferous mining, but not from metalliferous mining and mineral leasing.

USFS Administrative Sites: These are administrative withdrawals for U.S. Forest Service administrative sites located outside Forest Service boundaries including the Wisdom, Jackson, Bloody Dick, and Madison River (Ennis Horse Pasture) sites. The Wisdom and Madison River (Ennis Horse Pasture) sites are withdrawn from surface disposal and mining, while the Jackson and Bloody Dick sites are withdrawn from surface disposal and nonmetalliferous mining. None of these sites is withdrawn from mineral leasing.

Bureau of Reclamation: There are two separate reclamation withdrawals for the Clark Canyon Project located at or in the general vicinity of Clark Canyon Reservoir southwest of Dillon. The lands are withdrawn from surface disposal and mining, but not from mineral leasing.

Air Navigation Site: This is a single administrative withdrawal for an air navigation site located about twelve miles southwest of Dillon. It's withdrawn from surface disposal and mining, but not from mineral leasing.

Power Site Reserves and Classifications: There are numerous powersite reserves and classifications within the planning area. These are administrative withdrawals that protect water/power development potential and are located in three general areas including along portions of the Big Hole River about 15 miles north of Dillon, along the Red Rock River in the general vicinity of Lima Reservoir, and along the Madison River. Generally speaking, these sites are withdrawn from surface disposal only.

FERC Power Projects: There are two main FERC Power Project withdrawals affecting BLM lands within the planning area. One withdrawal is for FERC Project No. 2188, a hydropower development on the Madison River about eleven miles northeast of Ennis. The second withdrawal is for FERC Project No. 9482, a hydropower project on Wisconsin Creek and Noble Fork about five miles northeast of Sheridan. These withdrawals are administered by FERC.

Lands included in an application for hydroelectric power development with FERC are automatically segregated from surface disposal. At the time FERC issues a license or preliminary permit, the lands are automatically closed to location and entry under the mining laws, but are still available for mineral leasing.

Lee Metcalf Wilderness–Bear Trap Unit: This is a Congressional withdrawal located along the Madison River and adjacent public lands between Ennis Lake on the south and the Warm Springs recreation site on the north. The lands are withdrawn from surface disposal, mining, and mineral leasing.