



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Pocatello Field Office
1111 N 8th Avenue
Pocatello, Idaho 83201-5789
(208) 478-6340

In Reply Refer To:
1614
(ID-075)

April 23, 2003

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Upper Snake River District (USRD) is preparing a Resource Management Plan revision for the Pocatello Field Office in southeastern Idaho. This revision involves the planning areas currently managed under the Malad Management Framework Plan (1981) and Pocatello Resource Management Plan (1988). The revision will result in one Resource Management Plan for the entire Pocatello Field Office.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to analyze the potential impacts on elements such as wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, special status species, and socio-economics in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), BLM policies and handbooks.

This letter initiates the **60 day public scoping process** for the Pocatello Field Office planning effort. The Notice of Intent to prepare a Resource Management Plan and EIS was originally published November 21, 2001. This letter announces the date, time and location of five public scoping meetings to be held and also provides you with an informational briefing package prior to the scheduled meetings.

Public Scoping Meetings

You are invited to attend public scoping meetings being held throughout the Pocatello planning area in regards to the Pocatello Resource Management Plan revision. Five public meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, May 28, 2003, 5-8 pm, **Auditorium, Montpelier City Hall**
534 Washington Street, Montpelier, Idaho 83255, (208) 847-0824

Thursday, May 29, 2003, 5-8 pm, **Malad Senior Center**
26 North Main Street, Malad City, Idaho 83252 (208) 766-2250

Thursday, June 5, 2003, 5-8 pm, **Conference Room, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Tribal Business Center** Pima Drive, Fort Hall, Idaho 83203, (208) 478-3700

Tuesday, June 10, 2003, 5-8 pm, **City Council Chambers, Pocatello City Hall**
911 North Seventh Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201, (208) 234-6582

Wednesday, June 11, 2003, 5-8 pm, **Garage Building Classroom, Caribou County/BLM Interagency Fire Station** 655 East, 2 South, Soda Springs, Idaho 83276, (208) 547-2583

You are welcome to attend any meeting at any time during the three-hour period. The open house meeting format is intended to be informal to promote discussion between you and the RMP team members.

How You Can Be Involved

This is your opportunity to meet with us to ask questions, discuss ideas and thoughts so you can provide us with your written comments identifying potential issues and or concerns. The team will review all comments and use these to identify issues to be resolved through the planning process and development of a draft EIS. Additional opportunities for public comment will be provided throughout the planning process. Public meetings will be held at a later date to facilitate review and comment on the draft EIS.

Your written comments may be e-mailed to **ID_Pocatello_RMP@blm.gov** or sent directly to:

**Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Terry Smith
1111 N. 8th Avenue
Pocatello, ID 83201**

Your comments need to be received by the Pocatello RMP Team no **later than June 30, 2003**, which is the final day of the 60 day comment period.

We wish to keep you informed throughout this planning effort. If you wish to remain on our mailing list, you must inform us in writing or attend one of the public meetings. **If we do not receive written comments from you or a written request to stay on the mailing list or if you do not attend one of the scheduled public meetings, your name will be removed and you will not receive any additional information by mail.**

We hope you will join us at one of the scoping meetings listed above.

Sincerely,

/s/ Philip Damon

Philip Damon,
Pocatello Field Office Manager