

Legal Notice
30-Day Comment Period For Environmental Assessment

Opportunity to Comment on Naturita Rangeland Landscape Assessment

The Forest Service, Uncompahgre National Forest, Norwood Ranger District, is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the entire Naturita Division. The Proposed Action is to continue livestock grazing, which will utilize adaptive management strategies to make management adjustments to improve rangeland health, sustain multiple uses, and improve riparian conditions. The Naturita Division is located on the Norwood Ranger District, on the Uncompahgre National Forest, in San Miguel County, Colorado. The Analysis Area is all contained within an isolated tract containing about 26,145 total acres of National Forest System land. This area is situated just south of the Town of Norwood, Colorado and north of Miramonte Reservoir, between the San Juan River and Uncompahgre Plateau to the North and the San Juan Mountain Range to the South.

The proposed action description and other information are available for review at the Norwood Ranger District office. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Brian Hoefling, P.O. Box 388, Norwood, Colorado 81423, (970-327-4261).

The purpose of this comment period is to provide an opportunity for the public to provide early and meaningful participation on a proposed action prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official. Those who provide substantive comments during this comment period are eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the Telluride Daily Planet. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

Written comments must be submitted to: Judy Schutza, District Ranger, P.O. BOX 388, NORWOOD, COLORADO 81423 or Fax (970)-327-4854. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone (970) 327-4261 or in person, or at an official agency function (i.e. public meeting) that is designed to elicit public comments. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to comments-rocky-mountain-gmug-norwood@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period.

Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6(a)(3).