



GARNET RESOURCE AREA
**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN/
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Butte District, Montana

September 1985

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

FINAL



BLM-MT-ES-85-009-4410

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Dear Reader:

The proposed Garnet Resource Area Management Plan and final Environmental Impact Statement is to be used in conjunction with the draft plan and environmental impact statement issued in December 1984. That document described a proposed resource management plan for approximately 145,660 surface acres of public land and 213,385 acres of federal mineral estate administered by the Bureau of Land Management in its Garnet Resource Area and analyzed five alternatives.

Corrections and revisions that should be made to the draft are shown in this document. Comments on the draft that were made at public meetings and by letter are also included, along with the BLM's responses to those comments. Because the changes suggested through the public review process did not require a major rewrite of the draft, the draft statement and its accompanying map supplement are incorporated into this final environmental impact statement by reference. A limited number of copies of the draft and the map supplement are available at the Bureau of Land Management, Butte District Office, P. O. Box 3388, Butte, Montana 59702 and at the Garnet Resource Area Office, 3255 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, Montana 59801.

This concludes the BLM's evaluation of the proposed plan and alternatives. Issuance of a record of decision and implementation of the plan will occur soon after the conclusion of a 30-day protest period beginning September 28, 1985.

With the exception of the recommendations for Wales Creek, Hoodoo Mountain, and Quigg West wilderness study areas, all parts of this proposed plan may be protested. Protests should be sent to the Director (202), Bureau of Land Management, 1800 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, prior to October 27, 1985, which is the end of the 30-day protest period, and should include the following information:

The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.

A statement of the issue or issues being protested.

A statement of the part or parts of the plan being protested.

A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party, or an indication of the date the issue or issues were discussed for the record.

A concise statement explaining why the proposed decision is believed to be wrong.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, the proposed plan, excluding any portion under protest, will become final. Approval will be withheld on any portion of the plan under protest until final action has been completed.

Any significant change to the proposed plan made as a result of a protest will be made available for public review and comment prior to final approval and implementation.

We would like to thank the individuals and organizations whose comments and suggestions have helped us to prepare a plan that will lead to more effective management of public lands. Your interest is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Dean E. Stepanek
State Director

FINAL

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

For The

GARNET RESOURCE AREA
BUTTE DISTRICT
MONTANA

Prepared By

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dean Stepanek".

STATE DIRECTOR
MONTANA STATE OFFICE

1985