

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Proposed Northwest California Integrated Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact St

Lead Agency: USDOI Bureau of Land Management

Contact Name: Victoria Slaughter

Email: vslaughter@blm.gov

Phone Number: (707) 825-2315

Project Location: Northwest CA; Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, Shasta, Tehama, and Butte

City

County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Bureau of Land Management released the proposed Northwest California Integrated Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (NCIP), updating management for public lands in BLM's Arcata and Redding field offices. If finalized, the plan will guide management of approximately 382,200 acres of BLM-managed public land and approximately 295,100 acres of subsurface minerals in Butte, Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity counties for the next 15 to 20 years. The proposed plan addresses changing use patterns, provides for a broad array of recreation uses, plans for wilderness management, and protects and conserves Wild and Scenic Rivers and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The preferred alternative (Alternative D) strikes a balance between creating opportunities for resource uses, such as recreation, motorized and mechanized travel, livestock grazing, and maintaining ecological function and meeting land capability to protect habitat connectivity. Alternative D prioritizes lands for retention and acquisition of lands that provide public access. Alternative D provides opportunities for recreation and improved access by designating four Special Recreation Management Areas (41,790 acres) and eight Extensive Recreation Management Areas (45,880 acres). Alternative D would designate 26 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) (87,890 acres) to protect a variety of resources with relevant and important values, including but not limited to plant communities, wildlife, fisheries, and scenic, cultural and historic values (more details included below), 540 acres of new FLPMA Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas adding to 58,490 acres of existing FLPMA Section 603 Wilderness Study Areas. Lastly, Alternative D includes 11,570 acres of lands with wilderness characters managed to protect and prioritize wilderness characteristics and 21,950 acres of lands with wilderness characteristics would be managed to minimize impacts to wilderness characteristics while emphasizing other multiple uses.

The BLM would implement mitigation measures during project-level implementation. The BLM takes a landscape-scale approach to mitigation, utilizing best management practices, ensuring mitigation measures are durable, monitoring mitigation measures for compliance and effectiveness, and adaptively managing mitigation measures. The BLM's mitigation policy is outlined in Instruction Memorandum (IM) 2021-046, Manual 1794, and Handbook H-1794-1.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

There are no known major areas of controversy on this plan.

During the most recent public comment period, the BLM received 854 from 111 unique letters and 734 form letters - 533 comments were substantive. Those comments covered a variety of planning process, resource, and resource use topics and also provided recommendations on management direction, special designation proposals, and information to inform our analyses. Commenters included members of the public, non-governmental organizations, cooperating agencies, and Tribes.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Bureau of Land Management