

Dear NWCOS:

The Keystone Center has posted the final version of the draft alternatives on the NWCOS website. I wanted to make you aware of the more major changes in the alternatives to ease your job of reading these bulky things again.

As you remember from a note after we briefed the State Office on the alternatives, two more major issues were the Livestock Grazing section and the Lookout Mountain ACEC. We did quite a bit of work on the Livestock section, adding some decisions and creating more of a range. We made no change to Lookout Mountain—it is still an ACEC in Alternative D only.

We have been working with the State Office in utilizing the Benefits-Based Recreation process. You will see how the SRMAs have been reworked and displayed differently. However, there were no changes in the prescriptions for the SRMAs.

Some other changes:

- More explanation of the intent of the sage grouse stipulations. We also listed some recommended Best Management Practices for long term protection of sage grouse habitat.
- We finished the GIS analysis of the Coal Study Unit and updated the coal section.
- Completed the Natural Systems (rare plants) ACECs in Alternative D.

There are more changes to the tables, but the majority of the changes are to the language. We are working on creating all the necessary maps of the different alternatives, such as all ACECs in Alternative D, all SRMAs in alternative C, VRM classes, etc. We will share these with you when they are completed, maybe around mid-October.

On a separate note, some sections of the national BLM website are being opened to the public. I requested that our RMP documents be made available. They agreed and have allowed access to these documents. You can find them at:

[http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state\\_info/planning/co/rmpdocs/lsfdocs/rmp-docs.htm](http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state_info/planning/co/rmpdocs/lsfdocs/rmp-docs.htm).

We will work on posting more documents to the site in the next few weeks.

Jeremy