



# Carson City District

## Draft Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement

### Guide to Commenting

#### Why Public Comments are Important

This is an opportunity for you to be involved in the decision-making process and to offer your thoughts on alternative ways for the BLM to accomplish what they are proposing.

The National Environmental Policy Act "... is intended to help public officials make decisions that are based on the understanding of environmental consequences..." (40 CFR 1501(c).) To achieve this, the DEIS considers the effects of our actions on, economic and natural resources within the planning area. Citizens, such as yourself, often have valuable information about places and resources they consider important and the potential effects proposed federal actions may have on those places and resources. This is your opportunity to work with us so we can take your information into account.

The BLM is responsible for managing public lands in the public interest. Comments that provide relevant and new information with sufficient detail are most useful and are referred to as substantive comments. The BLM reviews all comments and identify the topics that are substantive for consideration in the final published document.

#### Substantive Comments

A substantive comment is one that does one or more of the following (BLM Handbook H-1790, *National Environmental Policy Act Handbook*):

- Questions, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in the RMP and EIS
- Questions, with reasonable basis, the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the environmental analysis
- Presents new information relevant to the analysis
- Presents reasonable alternatives other than those analyzed in the EIS
- Causes changes or revisions in one or more of the alternatives

#### Nonsubstantive Comments

A nonsubstantive comment is one that can be categorized as one or more of the following (BLM Handbook H-1790, *National Environmental Policy Act Handbook*):

- Comments in favor of or against the proposed action or alternatives without reasoning that meet the criteria for a substantive comment
- Comments that only agree or disagree with BLM policy or resource decisions without justification or supporting data that meet the criteria for a substantive comment
- Comments that don't pertain to the project area or the project
- Comments that take the form of vague, open-ended questions

#### Tips for Providing Helpful Comments

- Provide specific and detailed text changes. Include the section, management action or page number to help us find the exact location of the subject of your comment. Clearly identify:
  - Where the issue or error is located
  - Why you believe there is an error
  - Alternative ideas to address the issue/errors
- Provide constructive solutions with documentation or resources to support your recommendations.
- Include any knowledge, experience or evidence as it relates to your observations and comments.
- Provide GPS readings if possible when referring to specific locations.
- Avoid vague statements or concerns. These don't give the BLM something on which to act.
- Avoid using form letters to convey your opinion. Your unique way of writing a comment helps the BLM understand your point of view.

## Guide to Commenting (continued)

### Viewing the Document

The BLM encourages the public to review the Carson City District Office Draft RMP/EIS and provide comments. The public can view the document in the following ways:

#### Electronically:

<http://on.doi.gov/1uYBNGT>

#### In-Person:

BLM Carson City District  
5665 Morgan Mill Rd.  
Carson City, NV 89701

### How to Submit Comments

Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- Electronically by e-mail to:  
**BLM\_NV\_CCDO\_RMP@blm.gov**
- By US mail to:  
BLM Carson City District  
Attn: CCD RMP  
5665 Morgan Mill Rd.  
Carson City, NV 89701

To facilitate analysis of comments and information submitted, we strongly encourage you to submit comments in an electronic format.

### Protecting your Privacy

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

### Questions About Commenting or About the Document?

If you have questions about commenting or about the document, please contact:

Colleen Sievers, Carson City District RMP Project Lead

Telephone: 775-885-6000

**Public comments will be accepted until **March 27, 2015****

Examples of substantive and nonsubstantive comments can be found on the BLM NEPA Web Guide:

[http://www.blm.gov/wol/st/en/prog/planning/nepa/webguide/document\\_pages/6\\_9\\_2\\_1\\_\\_examples.html](http://www.blm.gov/wol/st/en/prog/planning/nepa/webguide/document_pages/6_9_2_1__examples.html)