



BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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WILDLAND FIRE PLAN AVAILABLE

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko Field Office has released a Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) Fire Management Amendment and Environmental Assessment (EA).

BLM proposes to amend the 1987 Elko and 1985 Wells RMPs to increase flexibility and efficiency for fire management. The proposed plan divides public lands in northeastern Nevada into fire “polygons” or different geographic areas for which varying levels of fire suppression or use are prescribed, based on the resources at risk. For example, if a particular area would benefit from fire, a wildland fire may be allowed to burn under certain conditions or a prescribed fire may be planned in the area. However, other areas with high resource values or structures would have full suppression.

The primary goals of Elko’s Fire Management Amendment are to:

- improve effectiveness of initial attack on wildland fires that should be suppressed;
- increase options for vegetation and fuels management to reduce the scale, cost, and adverse impacts of large wildland fires;
- minimize damage to other resources through advance coordinated planning
- lessen the impact of wildfire on public land-based sectors of the local economy such as recreation, hunting, and grazing; and
- increase options to use fire to accomplish resource objectives, such as improving habitat diversity to benefit wildlife.

Notice of the availability of this document initiates a 30-day public protest period. Any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest that may be adversely affected may protest a proposed land use plan decision to the Director of the BLM. The protest must in writing, and filed by December 10, 2003. The document and instructions for filing a protest are posted on the Elko Office website at www.nv.blm.gov/elko.

Copies are available from the BLM Elko Field Office at 3900 Idaho Street, Elko,

NV 89801. For questions or more information, please contact Joe Freeland by phone - (775) 753-0380 or by mail - 3900 Idaho St., Elko, NV, 89801.

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