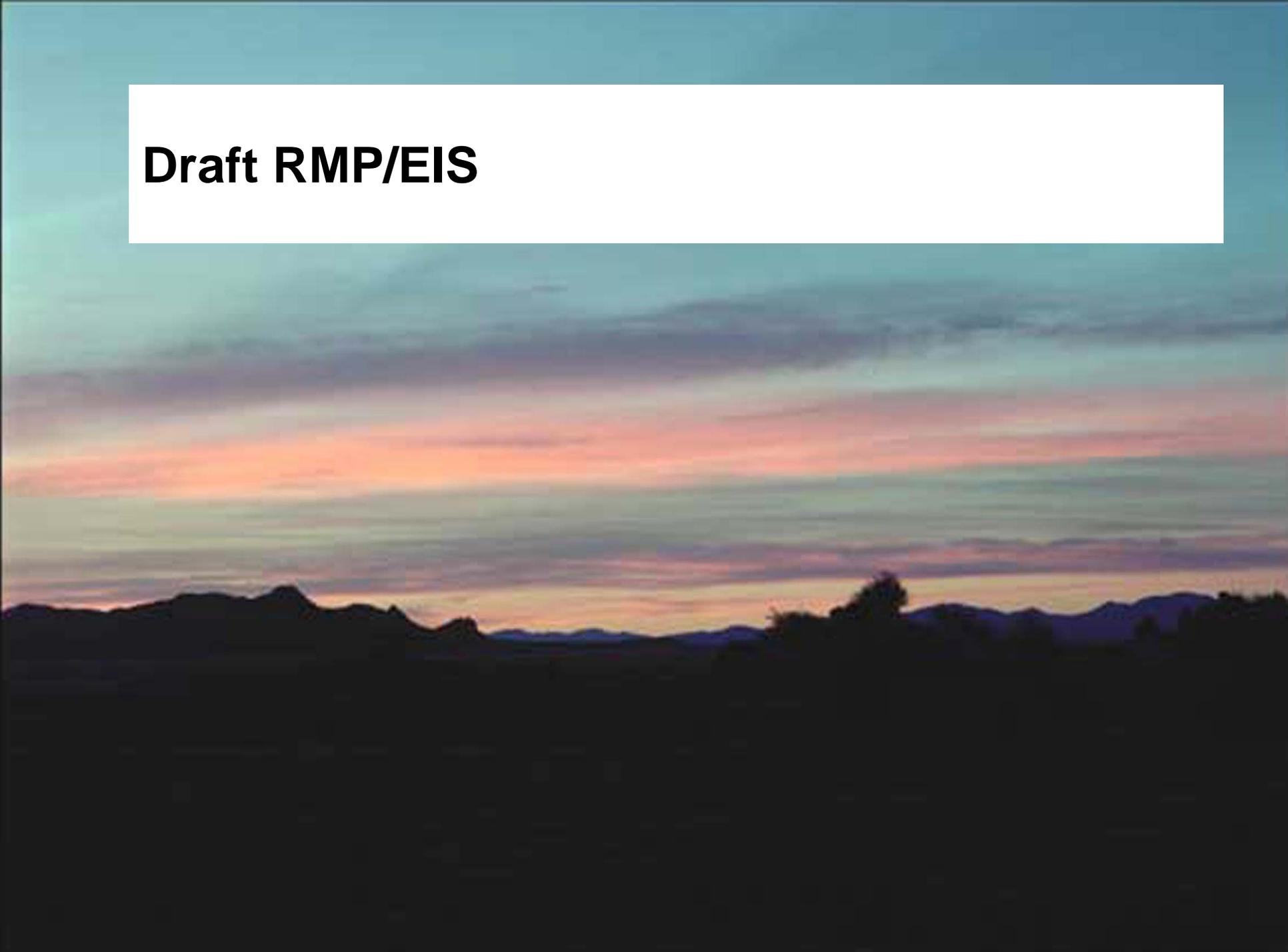


# Draft RMP/EIS



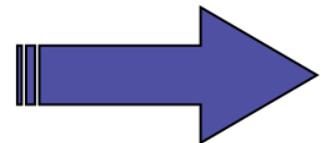
# Objectives

- Write a draft land use plan and EIS.
- Issue a draft land use plan and EIS for public review.



# General Considerations in EIS Preparation

- Administrative record
- Emphasis on alternatives
- No post-hoc rationalization
- Interdisciplinary emphasis
- Tiering
- Incorporation by reference
- Special rules for incomplete, unavailable information
- “Hard look” doctrine



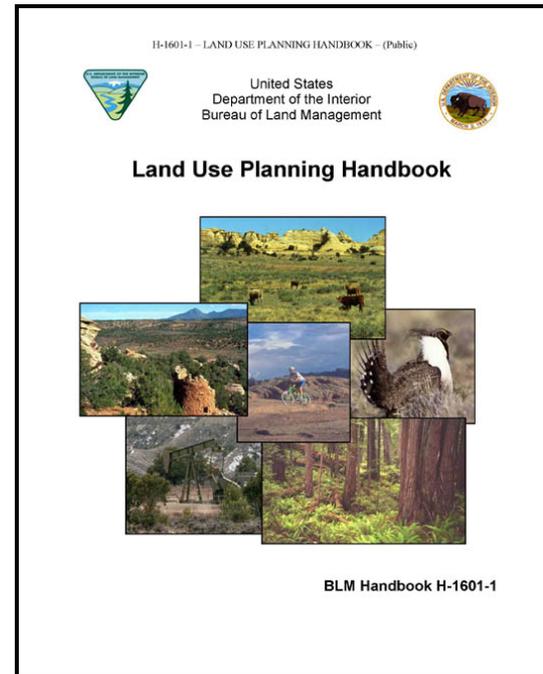
# General Considerations in EIS Preparation (Cont.)

- Scientific methodology, accuracy
- Analytic emphasis
- Conciseness
- Writing style

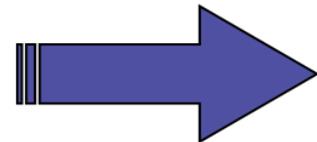


# Content Requirements for Draft RMP/EIS

- Abstract
- Cover sheet or title page
- Dear reader letter
- Protest procedures
- Summary

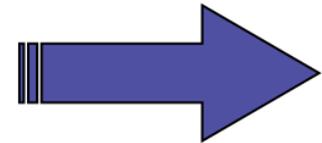


**BLM NEPA Handbook, Chapter 9; CEQ NEPA Regs 40 CFR 1502.10;  
BLM Planning Handbook, Appendix F-4**



# Content Requirements for Draft RMP/EIS (Cont.)

- Table of contents
- Introduction (includes purpose and need, planning area, scoping issues, planning criteria, planning process, related plans, policy, overall vision)
- Alternatives (includes alternatives considered but not analyzed, comparison tables)
- Affected environment (see definition of “human environment” in CEQ Regulations)



# **Content Requirements for Draft RMP/EIS (Cont.)**

- Environmental consequences (same outline as affected environment)
- Consultation and coordination (collaborators, list of preparers)
- Appendices
- Glossary, references, index, abbreviations and acronyms

# Internal Review of Draft RMP/EIS

- BLM must independently review consultant- and partner-produced products.
- Be aware of pros and cons of having cooperating agencies and other partners participate in the internal review.
- Discuss FOIA issues associated with non-BLM reviews.
- Allocate ample time for state office and Washington office briefings and reviews.
- Consider briefing your Congressional delegation.

# Document Format Issues

- ePlanning will determine document format.
- BLM RMPs integrate plan and EIS into 1 document.
- Use clear and succinct writing style: develop style guide.
- Use table, graphs, maps, white space, etc.
- Use technical appendices.
- Plan decisions vs implementation decisions (See BLM Planning Handbook p 30.)

# Tips for Effective RMP/EIS Summary

- Limit to 10-15 pages.
- Use plain English.
- Focus on significant effects, alternatives comparison, and major conclusions of the analysis.
- Use graphics and tables.
- Use bullets.
- Identify areas of controversy and unresolved issues.
- Budget sufficient time and resources.

# Legal Requirements for Public Notice and Review of Draft Plan and EIS

- Who must receive notice:
  - Federal agencies with jurisdiction/expertise,
  - Agencies requesting notice,
  - Tribes, state and local agencies
  - Public
  
- Draft EIS must be filed with EPA, which issues weekly Federal Register Notice.



# Legal Requirements for Public Notice and Review of Draft Plan and EIS (cont.)

- Methods of public notice
  - Federal Register
  - Press release
  - Local publications
- Requirement for public meeting
- Timeline: minimum 90-day review period
- Roles of BLM state office and Washington office
- FOIA language for privacy (Planning Handbook p 4)

# EPA Review of Draft EIS

## ■ Impacts of Proposed Action

- LO—lack of objection
- EC—concern
- EO—objections
- EU—unsatisfactory

## ■ EIS adequacy

- 1—adequate
- 2—insufficient information
- 3—inadequate

