

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

USDA Forest Service, San Juan National Forest, Columbine Ranger District
Hinsdale, La Plata, and San Juan Counties, Colorado

The San Juan National Forest, Columbine Ranger District, is seeking public comments on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the **Weminuche Landscape Grazing Analysis**. The project analyzes livestock management on 13 grazing allotments over approximately 167,000 acres of National Forest System lands in Hinsdale, La Plata, and San Juan counties (85 percent of which lies within the Weminuche Wilderness). The DEIS studies five active sheep allotments, one active cattle allotment, and seven vacant allotments.

A public informational meeting will be held at 1pm on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at the San Juan Public Lands Center, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, CO.

The DEIS and some supporting documents are available for downloading and review at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=37578>

A hard copy or additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Jared Whitmer, 970-884-2512.

How to Comment and Timeframe

The Environmental Protection Agency published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft EIS in the Federal Register on February 19, 2016. Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 45 days following that date. The publication date of the NOA in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for a proposed action documented in a Draft EIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Written comments must be submitted to: Matt Janowiak, District Ranger, POB 439, Bayfield, CO 81122. Comments may also be emailed to: *comments-rocky-mountain-san-juan-columbine@fs.fed.us*. Acceptable formats for electronic comments are text or html e-mail, Adobe portable document format (.pdf), and formats viewable in Microsoft Office applications. Comments may also be hand-delivered to the Columbine District Office at 367 S. Pearl Street in Bayfield, Colorado between 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, or faxed to: Attn: Cam Hooley, fax number 970-884-2428. Input received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.

Only individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) who submit timely and specific written comments during a public comment period will be eligible to file an objection. Other eligibility requirements are defined by 36 CFR 218.25 (a)(3), and include name, postal address, title of the project, and signature or other verification of identity upon request, and the identity of the individual or entity who authored the comments. Individual members of an entity must submit their own individual comments in order to have eligibility to object as an individual. A timely submission will be determined as outlined in 36 CFR 218.25 (a)(4). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted.

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