Agenda Item Submittal

Date of Request	Dec 5, 2013
Completion Deadline	(This is the LAST possible date that you need the package back to your office.)
Desired Agenda Date	Jan 14, 2014
Amount of Time Requested	
Is this Confidential?	(Select Yes if it should be kept out of public packet. Leave blank if No.)
Action Requested*	(Please select one or select "Other" and enter in field below.) Discussion
Parties to the Agreement	
Term Begins	
Term Ends	
Grant Contract Number	
Agenda Item*	(50 Character Limit) RMBL, Public Lands Bill Language
Agenda Title	(This is the legal description.) Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research and Education Site; Draft Bill Language
Summary*	Per Ian Billick's request, the intent of the discussion is to solicit feedback for the language and request support from the BOCC.
Fiscal Impact*	N/A
Comments to Reviewers	(Enter any comments you would like for the review committee.)
Submitted By*	Katherine Haase
Submitter's email address*	khaase@gunnisoncounty.org
Upload any supporting Documents	(Please upload any necessary supporting documents.)

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Katherine Haase

From: Ian Billick <ibillick@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2013 8:42 AM
To: Paula Swenson
Cc: Katherine Haase
Subject: Re: RMBL- public lands bill
Attachments: draft legislation for release 10.15.13.docx; RMBL site proposal.jpg

Katherine-

Here are the supporting materials. The subject is "Draft Language concerning the area around RMBL for consideration in Senator Bennet's Gunnison Public Lands Bill". The intent of the time is to solicit feedback for the language and request support from the BOCC.

Once you know when the item is scheduled, please let me know so I can get it on my schedule. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks for your help with this!

On 12/3/2013 8:35 AM, Paula Swenson wrote:

> Ian,
> I have copied Katherine on this so that she can get this on an agenda. Let's shot for our work session the 2nd Tuesday of January.
> Can you forward the information to Katherine.
> Thanks
> Paula
> Katherine- I have mentioned this to Phil and Jonathan and they are interested in the presentation.
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Dec 3, 2013, at 8:08 AM, "Ian Billick" <ibillick@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> Paula-
>>
>> I think January will be okay. I'll check in with John Whitney and confirm that things aren't moving faster than it appears.
>>
>> Thanks!
>>
>> On 12/2/2013 4:03 PM, Paula Swenson wrote:
>>
>>> Yes, what kind if a time frame are you thinking? Still this year or will January be ok.
>>> Let me know what will work on your schedule.
>>> P
>>>
>>> Sent from my iPad
>>>
>>> On Dec 2, 2013, at 9:38 AM, "Ian Billick" <ibillick@gmail.com> wrote:

Paula-

I just wanted to follow up and see if you are still thinking of taking it to the Board. thanks!

On Tue, Nov 19, 2013 at 10:58 AM, Paula Swenson <PSwenson@gunnisoncounty.org> wrote:

Yes, wait until I visit with Bill. Then I will bring it forward to the board.
Remind me on Monday about this.
P

Sent from my iPad

On Nov 19, 2013, at 10:46 AM, "Ian Billick" <ibillick@gmail.com> wrote:

> Paula-
>
> RMBL plans on approaching the state division of wildlife and parks (or whatever they are calling it now-- Mike King and Bob Randall) for support of our language on the public lands bill. They've previously supported our efforts for getting a focus on research on the public lands around Gothic. We believe they will want to know where the BOCC stands on our language. How should I handle this? I don't think they will need a formal resolution or motion. But we don't want to misrepresent or overstate where the BOCC stands. Should we wait until after you have checked in with Bill on the language?
>
> My sense is that the closing of the government has slowed things up with the Bennet lands bill, so I don't think there is a rush at this point (though when things move, they will probably happen quickly).
>
> We can check in on this Monday after we meet with Murphy if you want. The enviro's have agreed to the language (Laura Yale and Matt Keller) and CMBMA is on board.
>
> --
> Ian Billick
> Executive Director
> RMBL
> PO 519, Crested Butte, CO 81224

> 970 349 6669
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Title __ - Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research and Education Site

Section 101. Short title. This title may be cited as the "Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research and Education Site Act of 2013."

Section 102. Purpose. In order to encourage scientific research into biological responses to a changing climate, sustainability, pollination, ecology and other biological issues, to preserve conditions necessary for that research, and to provide clear authority and direction for the conduct of scientific research, there is hereby established, subject to valid existing rights, the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research and Education Site (hereinafter referred to as the "research site") in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests in the State of Colorado.

Section 103. Findings.

(a) The Congress finds that the location of the research site in a high elevation, relatively undisturbed and undeveloped location on the national forest, along with the existence of one of the world's largest collections of long-term field studies at the research site, and the commitment of nationally and internationally known scientists to long-term work at the research site, make the research site uniquely suited to the conduct of continuing scientific research on biological responses to a changing climate and other issues of critical importance to the American people.

(b) The Congress finds that, in view of the significant public and private investment in research at the research site, ensuring the future viability of research in the area is a cost-effective measure for achieving national priorities for scientific research.

(c) The Congress finds that scientific and educational uses are among the public purposes to which wilderness areas are to be devoted, and that research within wilderness areas provides critical information for the present and future management of such areas and for the advancement of scientific knowledge.

(d) The Congress finds that because designations of a wilderness area and a special management area overlapping the research site, in part,

are made in Title _ of this Act, it is necessary to clarify the standard for approval of research activity within those areas.

SEC. 104. Administration. The Secretary of Agriculture shall administer, protect and regulate use of the research site in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations applicable to National Forest System lands and this Act, and in such manner as will best contribute to achieving the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 105. Boundaries.

(a) The research site shall consist of approximately 9,700 acres. The boundaries are depicted on a map entitled "Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research Site," dated September __, 2013, which is on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief, Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

(b) Following timely notice in writing to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate of his intention to do so, the Secretary may, after public notice and public hearing, make minor adjustments in the boundaries of the research site to provide for more effective management or to encourage further research activity. For the purposes of this subsection, minor boundary adjustments shall not increase or decrease the amount of land within the research site by more than 250 acres.

SEC. 106. Management.

(a) As soon as practicable after enactment of this title, the Secretary of Agriculture shall, with provision for public participation in the planning process, develop a management plan for the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Research Site consistent with the requirements of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-588) (16 U.S.C. 1604) and this title, which plan shall be incorporated as an amendment to the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest land and resource management plan as provided for under that Act. In developing the plan, the Secretary shall consult with the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory and appropriate ranching, conservation, wildlife, industry, recreation, local government and public interest groups.

(b) The plan shall include specific research and management prescriptions necessary for the protection, management and regulation

of the research site and to ensure that research can continue and modern techniques and methodologies can be used, in accordance with the following objectives:

(1) The Forest Service, in consultation with the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, shall coordinate all research occurring within the research site so as to prevent conflicting research uses.

(2) The Forest Service shall complete timely review of research proposals submitted to it for approval.

(3) New and existing grazing use, existing special use permits, and existing recreational trails shall continue to be permitted. Other new uses and authorizations that the Secretary, in consultation with the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, determines to be compatible with scientific research may be permitted.

(4) The Forest Service shall manage general recreational use within the research site so as to be compatible with scientific research and to achieve the purposes of this title.

SEC. 107. Construction

(a) Nothing in this title shall be construed to preclude or limit the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory from conducting research activity outside of the boundaries of the research site.

SEC. 108. Special management considerations

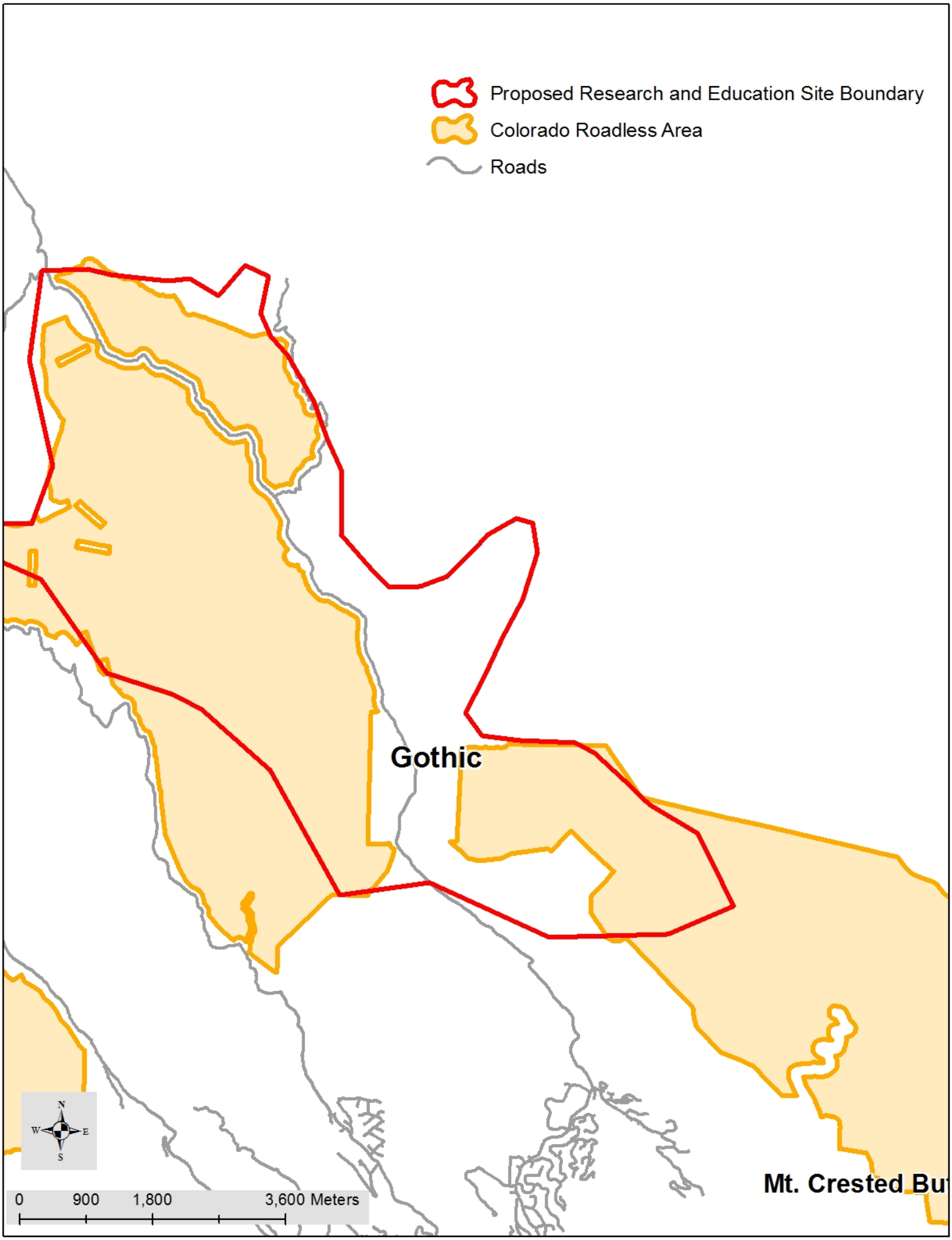
(a) Notwithstanding the designation of any lands within the research site as wilderness areas pursuant to 16 USC §§ 1131 et seq. or subsequent legislation, including title _ of this Act:

(i) the installation and maintenance of data collection and remote transmission equipment, and
(ii) the collection of data by research scientists, including but not limited to the temporary use of markers in the field,

shall be permitted in any case in which use of the lands in question plays an important role in advancing scientific knowledge.

(b) Conducting research activity within the research site hall be permitted to continue subject only to 36 CFR Part 250, Subpart B, and guidance thereunder, on lands designated as roadless areas pursuant to 36 CFR Part 294, Subpart D, and

on lands designated as special management areas pursuant to title _ of this Act, provided that no new roads shall be constructed to conduct the research activity.


Proposed Research and Education Site Boundary
Colorado Roadless Area
Roads
Gothic
Mt. Crested Bu
N
W
E
S
0
900
1,800
3,600 Meters