AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Correspondence; Bureau of Land Management; Request

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement: Commissioners

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Letter requesting extension to comment on proposed BLM Resource Management Plan

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Laura Seymour for David Baumgarten **Submitter's Email Address:** lseymour@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ◉ Required ○ Not Required

Comments:
ok db 3/28/16 The request for additional comment time will allow staff to review and provide proposed language for formal BOCC comments. The letter is consistent with one from Delta County.

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\gstuhr Discharge Date: 3/29/2016 Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ◉

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 4/1/2016

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 10

Agenda Date: 4/5/2016

Revised April 2015

April 5, 2016

Neil Kornze, Director
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW., Room 2134LM
Washington, DC 20240
Attention: 1004-AE39

Re: Request for Extension to Comment Period for Proposed Rule on Resource Management Planning 43 CFR 1600 RIN 1004-AE39

Mr Kornze,

The Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado requests a 120 day extension to conduct a more comprehensive review of the new BLM Planning Rule. The comment period deadline is published as April 25, 2016. The importance of any policy used to plan for the management of our nation's public lands and to determine present and future use is not something that should only have a 60-day window for comment. Additional time for substantive comments is clearly warranted given the intrinsic and economic value of our natural resources, and the social and economic impacts that agency actions have on our counties.

In particular, the BLM proposes to change the definition of "multiple-use". Multiple-use is a core concept in the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The far reaching regulatory, societal, ecological and economic implications of changing the definition requires absolute due diligence that should not be metered by inadequate time for consideration.

Gunnison County is 82% federal land and the multiple-use of our federal lands in Gunnison County is critical to the sustainability of our County. Thank you for considering the merits of this request by extending the comment period.

Sincerely,

Gunnison Board of County Commissioners

_____	_____	_____
Paula Swenson, Chairperson	Phil Chamberland, Vice Chair	Jonathan Houck, Commissioner