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**Congress of the United States**  
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The Honorable Tracy Stone-Manning  
Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Stone-Manning,

On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) officially released its newly proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) with its accompanying Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As you are already aware, I have written to you multiple times in opposition to the initial proposed RMP included in the Draft EIS and have introduced legislation to nullify it. This newly proposed RMP and Final EIS remain far from acceptable as they still designate 12 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) covering almost a million acres of land. The new RMP poses significant threats to the economic well-being of Wyoming and the Country, while threatening our very way of life.

The notion that this new RMP should be accepted simply because it is less tyrannical than the old one is fundamentally flawed. The people of Wyoming deserve better. We deserve a plan that respects our economic needs, our traditions, and the careful stewardship of our lands that we have practiced for generations. America as a whole deserves to benefit from the economic and national security contributions Wyoming makes through its extractive and livestock industries. Wyoming is the backbone of American energy production—contributing to greater energy independence from foreign bad actors. The BLM is enabling those bad actors to a greater extent than anyone by crushing America's best energy producers through regulation.

It is also worth noting that just because the new RMP combines the characteristics of Alternatives B and D as compared to the Draft EIS, this fact does not make it a studied plan. The BLM is proudly advertising the fact that this Proposed RMP/Final EIS is a combination of Alternative B and Alternative D, knowing that Alternative D was the most studied and analyzed of all the alternatives with the greatest stakeholder input. Since Alternative D was the *only* alternative that the BLM really took the time to study, and Alternative B was created as a “bookend” alternative, the BLM is still guilty of trying to enforce policies that have not been adequately vetted, and that were initially made only for the purpose of checking a box. Rushing into its implementation will have detrimental effects for Wyoming that will be difficult, if not impossible, to reverse.

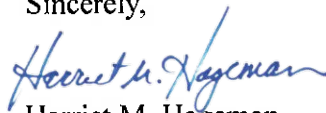
In this new proposal, the BLM states that "Some NGOs and renewable energy companies expressed concern with the lack of availability for renewable energy development areas proposed in Alternative B due to the extensive Right of Way (ROW) exclusions proposed." The BLM cut back on ROW exclusions by reducing the total area from 69% to 24%, which is still an astronomical increase compared to the existing plan. I can only describe this as slightly less disturbing than the initial designation in the preferred alternative of the Draft EIS. Aside from its sheer size, it's also worth noting that the BLM's justification for making it smaller was based on the voices of unreliable energy companies, rather than the countless others who expressed concern on this issue.

The increase in total acreage closed to grazing in the proposed RMP from Alternative A in the Draft EIS (the no action alternative) is 1,545 acres—mostly due to a new closure to grazing for existing campgrounds. The BLM accused the public of falsely assuming that grazing would be closed in all proposed ROW exclusion areas, and in all areas with proposed special management areas such as ACECs, Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), or National Historic Trail (NHT) corridors. BLM reiterated that livestock grazing is allowed under all alternatives in all special management areas and is not prohibited due to ROW restrictions. But can the BLM guarantee that these designations will not impact grazing in the future? These new designations certainly raise an alarm as to how the BLM will eventually regulate grazing where it is currently allowed.

I strongly urge the BLM to scrap the current proposal and begin anew, this time in true collaboration with the people of Wyoming. We need a plan that reflects the realities of our state's economy, the importance of responsible land use, the need to preserve our access to public lands for future generations, and the ever-increasing demand for reliable and affordable energy and food. I stand ready to work with you to achieve a balanced approach that safeguards both our environment and our economy.

I look forward to your prompt response and hope that we can work together to develop a plan that truly serves the best interests of the people of Wyoming and the United States of America.

Sincerely,



Harriet M. Hageman  
Member of Congress