



*Bureau of Land Management  
Director's Protest Resolution Report*

**Big Game Habitat Conservation for  
Oil and Gas Management in  
Colorado Proposed Resource  
Management Plan  
Amendment and Final  
Environmental Impact Statement**

August 27, 2024



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## *Acronyms and Abbreviations*

| <b>Term</b>            | <b>Definition</b>  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>BGHC PRMPA/FEIS</b> | Big Game Habitat Conservation for Oil And Gas Management in Colorado Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement |
| <b>BLM</b>             | Bureau of Land Management  |
| <b>CFR</b>             | Code of Federal Regulations  |

## ***Introduction***

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado State Office released the *Big Game Habitat Conservation for Oil and Gas Management in Colorado Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement* (BGHC PRMPA/FEIS) for public protest on July 19, 2024. The BLM received four protest letters during the 30-day protest period, which ended on August 19, 2024.

The planning regulations at 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1610.5-2 outline the requirements for filing a valid protest. The BLM evaluated all protest letters to determine which protest letters were complete, timely, and if the person held standing to protest. All four letters received met these criteria. One letter was not intended to be a protest letter, therefore is not considered further in this report. The remaining three letters did not contain any valid protest issues because they only included comments, opinions, or observations that were not substantiated with a concise statement of why the State Director’s proposed decision is believed to be wrong; issues not previously raised in the planning process; or issues not germane to the planning process. Therefore, all letters were dismissed, as shown in the *Protesting Party Index*, below.

After careful review of the report by the BLM’s Assistant Director for Resources and Planning, the Assistant Director concluded that the BLM Colorado State Director followed the applicable laws, regulations, and policies and considered all relevant resource information and public input. The Assistant Director addressed the protest letters and issued a Protest Resolution Report to the protesting party and posted the report on the BLM’s website; no changes to the BGHC PRMPA/FEIS were necessary. The decision was sent to the protesting parties by certified mail, return receipt requested. Resolution of protests is delegated to the BLM Assistant Director for Resources and Planning whose decision on the protest is the final decision of the U.S. Department of the Interior (43 CFR 1610.5-2(b)) consistent with the *BLM Delegation of Authority Manual (MS-1203 Delegation of Authority)*.

## ***Protesting Party Index***

| <b>Submission No.</b> | <b>Protester</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Determination</b>   |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| PP-CO-BG-EIS-24-01    | Meagan Wilder    | N/A                                  | Dismissed – Comments Only  |
| PP-CO-BG-EIS-24-02    | L. Fisher        | Continental Divide Trail Coalition   | Dismissed – Comments Only  |
|                       | Claire Cutler    | Continental Divide Trail Coalition   |  |
| PP-CO-BG-EIS-24-03    | Jane Yazzie      | N/A                                  | Dismissed – Comments Only  |
| PP-CO-BG-EIS-24-04    | Melissa McCoy    | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | This letter was not intended to be a protest letter and is not addressed further in this report. |