

# News Release



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## IPAMS Applauds BLM for Approval of RMP's in Energy-Rich Utah *Seven year revision process finally nears completion*

(Denver)- The Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS) today applauded the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on its approval of Resource Management Plan (RMP) for five crucial planning areas in Utah. The effort to update these plans began seven years ago and has been carried out in close consultation with the state, citizens' groups, and other federal agencies.

"With 67% of the American public supporting increased domestic energy exploration, the release of these plans comes as welcome news to American consumers and businesses," said Kathleen Sgamma, IPAMS Director of Government Affairs. "IPAMS applauds BLM for completing this process, which was carried out in an open manner that included 70 public meetings. BLM has a difficult job in trying to balance multiple often competing interests, and respond to nearly 220,000 public comments and 87 formal protests."

"We hope BLM took into account the small and temporary impacts of natural gas development and recognized that energy production and other uses of public lands in Utah can and do co-exist," said Sgamma. "We are pleased to see that BLM is finally taking this step to sign the Records of Decision (ROD) for these RMPs, and are looking forward to reviewing the final decisions contained in the RODs."

Production in Utah occupies less than 1% of public land. With current technology and industry practices, producers are able to develop vital energy resources now, and reclaim the land to its original condition afterwards.

"More exploration on these energy-rich federal lands in Utah will increase supplies of natural gas, making it more affordable to Americans, who rely on natural gas to produce their electricity, heat their homes and cook their food," concluded Sgamma.

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*The Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS), founded in 1974, is a non-profit trade association representing more than 400 independent oil and natural gas producers, service and supply companies, banking and financial institutions and industry consultants committed to environmentally responsible oil and natural gas development in the Intermountain West. More information on IPAMS and its members is available at [www.ipams.org](http://www.ipams.org).*