

## **What makes an effective comment?**

The BLM provides official comment forms, which are helpful in setting up your comments. Fill in all of the requested information, and be sure to consider the following when writing your comment:

1. The more specific, the better. Refer to the page numbers, sections, paragraphs, or even direct quotes that you marked. This way the BLM knows exactly what you are talking about, and there is not only less ambiguity in interpreting your comment, but also more ease on the part of the BLM in considering, and thus, hopefully incorporating it into the final plan. When appropriate, it is also highly recommended that you be specific about place or geographic location.
2. It is most effective to demonstrate your connection to geographic area and/or issue to which you are referring.
3. Clearly describe what you do or do not advocate regarding the topic or section on which you are commenting, and WHY. You can do this by expressing criticism of or concern or support for a current, proposed, or desired but not proposed management scheme for the area and/or resource at hand (e.g., a campground, trail, or other recreation area; a particular wildlife species or habitat; grazing allotment or regulation; water resources; oil and gas field, etc.). Once you've done this, you need to provide reasoning for your stance.
4. Longer is not always better. If you can clearly and thoroughly convey your comment to BLM in a brief manner, the easier, and thus more likely it is that they will seriously consider it.
5. Always be polite and respectful, even when expressing criticism.
6. Give your comment/s a second look, and make changes as needed.

### **Below is an example of an effective comment:**

[Example coming soon.]

## **How do you get your comment to BLM?**

The comment forms typically include address information so that you can send them directly back to BLM. You can mail the forms, or submit them electronically. More detailed information on comment submission will be provided once the Draft plan is released.

*If you have questions, or want help going through the Draft and/or writing your comments, the Outdoor Council is here to help. Please contact Jamie Wolf, 307.721.7610 or [jamie@wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org](mailto:jamie@wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org), or Nathan Maxon, 307.332.7031 X11 or [nathan@wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org](mailto:nathan@wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org).*