COORDINATING LOCAL & FEDERAL PLANS
PLANNING IS INHERENTLY A PUBLIC PROCESS.

FLPMA and DOI & BLM’s regulations lay out a number of methods to work with local and state partners, members of the public, and interest groups.

- Cooperation
- Coordination
- Consultation
- Collaboration
- Consistency
- Public Involvement
GUIDANCE

(1) BLM’s planning regulations for the development, maintenance, amendment, and revision of resource management plans (RMPs);

(2) DOI NEPA implementing regulations

(3) BLM guidance, including 2012 Desk Guide to Cooperating Agency Relationships and Coordination with Intergovernmental Partners

(4) Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA)
DOI NEPA REGULATIONS

- DOI NEPA regulations require that a Responsible Official with the BLM (or another DOI bureau) “whenever possible consult, coordinate, and cooperate with relevant State, local, and tribal governments and other bureaus and Federal agencies concerning the environmental effects of any Federal action within the jurisdictions or related to the interests of those entities.” -43 CFR 46.155

Commitment to work across all levels of government
FLPMA

► Passed in 1976 & is one of the most significant pieces of land management legislation enacted within the 20th Century.

► Gave a clear mandate to the nation’s largest land manager, the BLM, for the management of over 260 million acres of public lands under its jurisdiction.

► Formally recognized & codified what BLM had been doing on an interim basis for many years—managing the public lands under principles of multiple use and sustained yield.
GOAL OF COORDINATION

Coordination seeks to balance the mandated land management responsibility & decision making authority of federal agencies with the needs, responsibilities and authorities of state and local governments.
**COORDINATION**

- Coordination is what we do
  - Awareness of local and state plans
  - Regularly scheduled meetings and/or conference calls
  - Raising awareness and Resolving issues

**CONSISTENCY**

- Consistency is what we strive to be
  - Governor’s consistency review key
  - Opportunity to ensure state & local information is included in the plan
FLPMA’S GUIDANCE TO COORDINATION
43 USC 1712

(c) In the development and revision of land use plans, the Secretary shall—

(9) to the extent consistent with the laws governing the administration of the public lands, coordinate the land use inventory, planning, and management activities of or for such lands with the land use planning and management programs of other Federal departments and agencies and of the States and local governments within which the lands are located, including, but not limited to, the statewide outdoor recreation plans developed under the Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 897), as amended [16 U.S.C. 460l–4 et seq. note], and of or for Indian tribes by, among other things, considering the policies of approved State and tribal land resource management programs. In implementing this directive, the Secretary shall, to the extent he finds practical, (1) keep apprised of State, local, and tribal land use plans; (2) assure that consideration is given to those State, local, and tribal plans that are germane in the development of land use plans for public lands; (3) assist in resolving, to the extent practical, inconsistencies between Federal and non-Federal Government plans, and shall (4) provide for meaningful public involvement of State and local government officials, both elected and appointed, in the development of land use programs, land use regulations, and land use decisions for public lands, including early public notice of proposed decisions which may have a significant impact on non-Federal lands. Such officials in each State are authorized to furnish advice to the Secretary with respect to the development and revision of land use plans, land use guidelines, land use rules, and land use regulations for the public lands within such State and with respect to such other land use matters as may be referred to them by him. (5) Land use plans of the Secretary under this section shall be consistent with State and local plans to the maximum extent he finds consistent with Federal law and the purposes of this Act.
What is “to the extent practical?”
--Within the realm of reason & possibility...

- Regularly scheduled meetings
- BLM staff being invited to or requesting to attend board meeting
- Scheduled mtgs at established periods monthly...
- Ensure there is a local plan
PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Investment of time, effort

Timelines & Priorities sometimes driven/pushed by the Administration, Secretary, Congress...

- i.e. Sage Grouse ----
OVERALL:

Building & maintaining TRUST is key!!!
SO 3355 STREAMLINING NEPA

- ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)
  - Completed within 90 days
  - Page Lengths - CEQ guidance of 10-15 pages/DOI
  - Normal practice of 30-40 pages
  - Particularly challenging EA ------
    - 180 days
    - No more than 75 pages
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)
- Completed within 1 year of issuance of NOI
- No more than 100 pages (excluding appendices)