



## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Uncompahgre Field Office  
2465 South Townsend Avenue  
Montrose, Colorado 81401  
[www.co.blm.gov](http://www.co.blm.gov)



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3809.301 (CO-150) COC-68907

**MAR 28 2013**

**RECEIVED**

MAR 29 2013  
GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE  
DIVISION OF  
RECLAMATION MINING & SAFETY

CERTIFIED MAIL -- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Alan Chiles  
Rimrock Exploration & Development, Inc.  
PO Box 430  
Nucla, CO 81424

Dear Mr. Chiles:

On March 5, 2013, this office received a mining Plan of Operation (POO) amendment to your J-Bird Mine operation which is located in portions of T47N, R20W, Section 13, W½, Section 14, E½, Section 23, N½ N½, and Section 24, N½ NW¼, NMPM as required by the Surface Management Regulations (43 CFR 3809). This POO was approved on April 9, 2007, and has been assigned BLM serial number COC-68907. We have reviewed your plan amendment to add up to 200 exploration drill holes and associated access development over a 10 year period, and have determined that the POO amendment is complete at this time.

The BLM is required to analyze potential environmental impacts as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to determine if your POO will prevent unnecessary or undue degradation. After further review of our records, this could include requiring inventories for Threatened and Endangered Plant and Animal Species, and Cultural Resources. BLM will advise you regarding any required inventories. If necessary, BLM will conduct these inventories in accordance with our schedule, but at your discretion you can retain BLM approved consultants to conduct these inventories.

BLM will publish a scoping notice where the public will have the opportunity to provide comment on your proposal for a period of 30 days. After scoping, the preliminary NEPA document will be prepared, and it and the POO will also be made available for public comment for a period of 30 days. Upon completion of the NEPA document, a decision will be made as to whether or not to approve the POO, and if so under what terms and conditions to meet the performance standards at 43 CFR 3809.420, or to deny it.

Do not conduct any unapproved operations proposed in the POO until authorization is given by this office. You may be in non-compliance if operations are conducted without the required authorization.

Please contact Robert Ernst at 970-240-5305 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara Sharrow".

Barbara Sharrow  
Manager, Uncompahgre Field Office

cc: Russ Means, CDRMS