

Gunnison River Segments 3 (upstream) and 1 (downstream) – ORV Worksheet v. 4-26-11

Items in italics reflect comments made in stakeholder group discussions.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ORV + existing uses</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>What is Special</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Possible Threats to ORV</u> Examples: Vandalism, trash, flow issues</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Current protections for the ORV?</u> Examples: NCA, ESA, Grazing Restrictions, Camping Restrictions, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>BLM Management Tools/Options</u> Examples: WSR, ACEC, SRMA, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Other ways to protect the ORV</u> Examples: County or Landowner options</p>
<p>Gunnison River Segments 3, 1 ORV: <u>Recreational</u></p> <p><u>Uses:</u> power lines (vehicle access needed for maintenance, repair and replacement activities) agriculture (fruit, hay, grazing) recreational prospecting (Rattlesnake Gulch) fish & game lands boating roads camping</p>	<p>Outstanding float opportunities for families & novice/casual boaters; public access, scenic canyon walls, verdant orchards, historic features add value.</p> <p><i>Recreational prospecting should be an ORV.</i></p>	<p><i>Railroad: possible derailments, puts rock in the river, could restrict access.</i></p> <p><i>Orchards could turn into housing developments – BLM can't control.</i></p> <p><i>In-holdings could request road access, impacting scenic values.</i></p> <p><i>Quantity and quality of water could be affected by land development.</i></p> <p><i>Exclusion of law-abiding recreational prospectors.</i></p>	<p><i>Designating campsites.</i></p> <p><i>Gold panning restricted to below water (too restrictive); no claims allowed.</i></p> <p><i>Flows: fish flow targets, re-operation of Aspinal Unit, Black Canyon Water Right, senior Redlands P & W water right downstream promote quantity/predictability of flows – Redlands right ensures water through boating season.</i></p> <p><i>Historic proposed site for Dominguez Dam, but water right was abandoned.</i></p>	<p><i>Restrict access/require permits.</i></p>	

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Vegetation ORV (Fremont Cottonwood/ skunkbush sumac riparian woodland) removed due to more recent information that downgraded rareness.					
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Gunnison River Segments 3,1 <u>ORV: Fish</u>	Critical habitat for endangered Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker. Exemplary populations of sensitive flannelmouth suckers, bluehead suckers and roundtail chubs. <i>Eligibility report mistakenly omitted mention of these species from ORV in segment 1.</i>	<i>Selenium – identified as a major issue by Fish & Wildlife Service; hot spots in the Uncompahgre.</i>	<i>Selenium levels are declining with ditch lining, other measures.</i> <i>Selenium levels being addressed by FWS Programmatic Biological Opinion, Selenium Task Force.</i>		
		<i>Need sufficient flows.</i>	<i>Flows: Endangered Species Act (ESA) fish flow targets, re-operation of Aspinall Unit, Black Canyon Water Right are addressing the flow needs of the fish.</i>		
		<i>Needs of sensitive species not covered by ESA.</i>	<i>Sensitive species have same needs as endangered fish & therefore benefit from ESA measures.</i> <i>BLM recognizes state classifications of “sensitive” species.</i>		

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<p>Gunnison River Segment 3, 1 <u>ORV: Cultural</u> <i>Eligibility report mistakenly omitted Cultural ORV in Segment 1.</i></p>	<p>Inhabited over 10,000 years; over 300 Native American sites; high quality rock art that qualify for nomination to NRHP based on quality + potential to yield historical info.</p>	<p><i>Over-use, vandalism and touching by people; publicity increases threat.</i></p> <p><i>Fire.</i></p>	<p><i>Publicizing some sites to draw attention & protect others.</i></p> <p><i>One site only accessible by boat, limiting access.</i></p> <p>NCA</p>	<p><i>Invite site stewards.</i></p> <p><i>Accurate & proper recording.</i></p> <p><i>More enforcement.</i></p>	<p><i>NRHP – nomination brings restrictions, even before designation; different impacts from NRHP site vs. NRHP district.</i></p>
<p>Gunnison River Segment 3, 1 <u>ORV: Historical</u> <i>Eligibility report mistakenly omitted Historical ORV in Segment 3.</i></p>	<p>RR was 1st line connecting Pueblo to Grand Junction (1882); connection to Salt Lake City formed transcontinental RR link. Eligible for inclusion in NRHP based on importance to developing West. <i>Narrow-gauge beds and historic features are the ORV, not current railroad.</i></p>	<p><i>Current railroad – redoing lines from Grand Junction to Somerset.</i></p> <p><i>RR right of way is 200 feet – it's not fixed, and RR can also use adjacent land as needed.</i></p>	<p>NCA</p>	<p><i>Similar options as for cultural ORV.</i></p>	<p><i>RR could rebuild narrow-gauge rails and do a passenger line.</i></p>