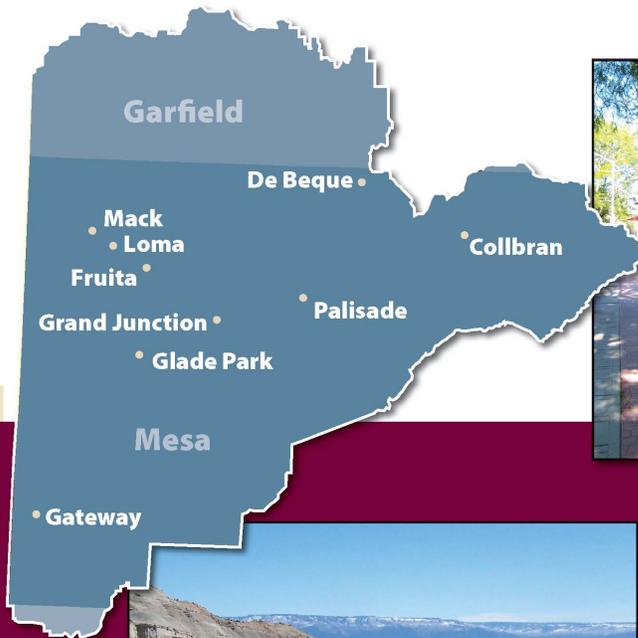




## BLM GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT REPORT



A STUDY BY THE MESA STATE COLLEGE  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND POLICY INSTITUTE  
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**List of Acronyms**

ATV	All-terrain vehicle
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
COPMOBA	Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association
GJFO	Grand Junction Field Office
NCA	National Conservation Area
OHV	off-highway vehicle
PILT	Payments in Lieu of Taxes
RMP	Resource Management Plan
LBCWHR	Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range

## **Executive Summary**

### **Purpose**

Between February 23 and April 22, 2009, 11 focus groups were conducted with community leaders and residents living in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Grand Junction Field Office's (GJFO) planning area. The communities include Grand Junction, Fruita, Mesa County, Glade Park, Palisade, De Beque, Gateway, and Loma-Mack. The purpose of the focus groups was to ascertain what participants value about the community they live in and the surrounding public lands (values); their concerns in achieving their community and public lands vision (concerns); the beneficial outcomes their vision would produce (outcomes); and the appropriate role of collaborating partners in planning and managing public lands (collaboration). These data will be used in the revision of the GJFO Resource Management Plan (RMP). The RMP will provide the BLM GJFO guidance for managing over 1 million acres of BLM land in Western Colorado for the next 20 years. Map 1 illustrates the GJFO planning area, neighboring public lands, and key resource areas.

### **Methodology**

Focus group meetings lasted an average of 1.5 hours and were held in a convenient location in their respective communities. Focus groups were populated in one of three ways: 1) community leaders only; 2) community residents only; and 3) a mixture of community leaders and community residents. A majority of the focus groups were mixed groups, while larger communities (Grand Junction, Fruita, and Palisade) were divided between leaders and residents. Advertising was done using social networks, phone calls, letters, e-mail notices, posters hung in strategic locations (post offices), and word of mouth. Seventy-six participants attended the focus groups.

The general format for each focus group section was twofold: 1) present an open-ended question to participants for discussion; and 2) use i>clickers to measure participants' intensity about the issues raised in the open-ended discussion. I>clickers are an electronic audience response system to facilitate instant feedback on predefined focus group questions. For questions and available response choices, refer to Appendix 9. This format allowed researchers to identify key issues and then anonymously measure the intensity of individual participants. A benefit of this methodology is that it minimizes the impact of vocal participants, while providing a method of participation to timid participants. Often in a focus group an issue might get mentioned, but it is difficult to tell how important that issue is to anyone beyond the person who mentioned it. The i>clicker technology allows the BLM to better understand the salience of that issue for all participants in the group.

### **Community Summaries**

#### ***Mesa County***

Mesa County is a sparsely populated land mass roughly the size of the states of Delaware and Rhode Island combined. Within this area the vast majority of the county's 143,000 residents live in the Grand Valley. Since the oil shale bust of the 1980s, the county has focused on diversifying its economy. While the energy industry remains an important part of the county's economy, economic development efforts have significantly increased the area's role as a regional hub for retail trade, restaurants, and

entertainment, as well as medical services. The county has also successfully marketed itself as a retirement community. Access to public lands has played a key role in the county's economic development and is expected to continue to do so in the future.

Mesa County seeks to continue economic growth and stability by diversifying its economy. At the same time, it hopes to limit the negative impacts of growth by containing sprawl and maintaining the community's awareness of its heritage and culture. The county does not want the pursuit of high-paying jobs to come at the expense of agriculture's traditional role in the county's economy and culture. Education will play an important role in providing the highly skilled work force needed to attract the diverse industries necessary to maintain a stable economy.

The BLM can play a key role in assisting Mesa County in achieving its vision for the future. To assist in attracting new industries, the BLM can provide diverse outdoor recreational opportunities in limited areas that are well developed with trailheads, ample signage, maps, and easy access. This will help provide a social setting for community members to meet, recreate, and maintain the healthy lifestyle important to today's professionals. At the same time, the provision of these front-country opportunities should not preclude maintenance of other more primitive areas where wildlife can be protected and solitude can be experienced by both residents and tourists alike. While the BLM should continue to support the role the extraction industry plays in the county, the expansion of recreational opportunities is seen as a benefit for attracting new economic activity to the area. Development of educational and interpretive programs can help the county maintain awareness of its agricultural heritage and culture based on the landscape provided by the surrounding public lands.

### ***Grand Junction***

As the largest city between Denver and Salt Lake City, Grand Junction is the center for regional activity in Mesa County. Ample shops, restaurants, and medical services contribute greatly to the city's economic role as a regional hub. Along with the county, the city has gone to great lengths to diversify its economy while maintaining a robust extraction industry. To do this, the city seeks to attract a talented pool of professionals eager to expand the area's economic base.

Outdoor recreation is important to the professionals the city seeks to attract. Access to public lands and a variety of recreational opportunities that can be provided on BLM lands will play a significant role in the Grand Junction Economic Partnership's efforts to expand the community's economic base.

Concentrating recreational opportunities to limited areas will allow the BLM to maintain open space and protect wildlife and promote agricultural activity. As the population grows, the BLM's assistance in educating new citizens on safety and on the importance of ranching and other aspects of the community will be needed.

### ***Fruita***

Like much of Mesa County, Fruita's population has increased greatly over the last 20 years. The community prides itself on its small town atmosphere and its role as "Gateway to our Federal Lands." Like other Grand Valley residents, Fruita sees public lands as a good buffer against sprawl. While the community would like to promote its economy, the focus is much more on developing its potential

tourism industry. Consequently, the community is somewhat suspicious of growth and supports good planning to maintain its small-town atmosphere while promoting economic vitality.

The BLM can contribute to this vision by ensuring continued access to outdoor recreational activities, protecting open space, improving trails, and assisting with keeping its lands clear of trash and burnt cars. The energy industry should not be discouraged, but efforts to reduce the risks posed by extraction activities should be a priority. Efforts to develop “green energy” should also be pursued.

The benefit of access to the public lands is at the heart of the Fruita community. Public lands are the economic engine that drives the community. The BLM should increase access for hikers, bikers, and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use. The BLM should act to prevent the dominance of land use by any single user group. Because land preservation limits access by many to BLM lands, it should be used sparingly. Continued access to recreational activities on BLM lands will help the city achieve its economic goals and maintain a healthy lifestyle for city residents.

### ***Palisade***

The town of Palisade is small and very community oriented. It is surrounded by high-end agriculture consisting of orchards and many wineries that cultivate their own grapes. The area is also well known for its stunning scenery and viewscapes. The town’s vision includes further development of its downtown core to promote entertainment and economic activity. Each year the town sponsors a number of festivals and events that highlight its heritage and agricultural background.

The town would like to maintain its connection to the land through the continued prosperity of its high-end agricultural and tourism activities. The BLM can assist this vision by providing more access points to public lands, creating more bike trails in the area, and preserving the area’s hunting and fishing activities that are so important to family values and that provide economic opportunities in the community. To this end the town favors recreational opportunities and resource protection over resource extraction. This emphasis would provide viable year-round economic benefits, while avoiding the risk to viewscapes and the area’s water and air quality that may be caused by the energy industry. Additionally, a tourism-based economy will reduce pressures on housing and minimize the boom and bust economic cycle so prevalent in the energy industry.

### ***De Beque***

Located in the far eastern part of Mesa County, De Beque is a town with a little over 500 residents. Traditional agriculture such as ranching and the natural gas industry provide much of the economic base for community residents. The town expects rapid growth due to the boom in the natural gas industry. Many think the development of natural gas reserves can be done with minimal environmental consequences, but some fear the community could become a waste pit for the industry.

Community members were quick to point out that they live in De Beque because the surrounding public lands provide opportunities to observe wildlife, hunt, fish, and enjoy “God’s Country.” They would like to see the BLM continue to promote the family values and agricultural heritage of the area by providing greater access to public lands, continuing provision of grazing opportunities on public lands, and providing better signage on trails to protect sensitive areas. The town would not mind having more

recreational visitors in the area, as this promotes more economic activity in local stores. However, more people will probably create a need for another road through town to access BLM lands.

### ***Glade Park***

A part of unincorporated Mesa County, Glade Park is a small community located behind the Colorado National Monument. Consequently, the area is fairly well isolated from the Grand Valley, a fact that appeals to its residents. The community has strong historical family ties to the area. Ranching and traditional agriculture have always been a major part of the economy and the heritage in the community. Area residents wish to preserve this lifestyle for the future. The BLM can assist this effort by continuing to provide access to its public lands for residents who need it for ranching operations or outfitting. Increased recreational opportunities should be backed by increased resources (such as assistance to the fire department) to offset the stresses they can place on the community's services.

Sustainable agriculture and continued irrigation are primary concerns of area residents. They seek a BLM RMP that will protect their privacy, provide access to public lands for economic opportunities, and educate the general public of the importance of continued ranching in the area.

### ***Loma/Mack***

Like Glade Park, the residents of Loma and Mack have a strong connection to ranching and farming. Located west of Fruita, the traditional agricultural community is in transition as more and more residents commute to Grand Junction to work. The rural lifestyle, the quiet, and the lack of local government and its ability to tax were reasons cited for living in the Loma/Mack area. Area residents are proud of the fact that they are not Fruita residents. They do not wish to be overrun by too many recreational opportunities. They want their community to stay the way it is – based in agriculture and affordable living. The BLM can assist their vision by limiting bike trails, providing more ATV access, and enforcing existing rules for trail use and dumping. As with other rural communities, the BLM lands serve as a buffer against sprawl and should continue to be managed that way. The BLM should continue to allow resource extraction and promote ranching through grazing permits and other aspects of traditional lifestyles such as hunting.

### ***Gateway***

Located in the southern part of Mesa County, Gateway is a small unincorporated community with a strong heritage connected to traditional agriculture and resource extraction, particularly uranium. Recently the community has been changed by the development of Gateway Canyons Resort. Residents are concerned that the resort's new emphasis on recreation will interfere with future resource-extraction activity, as well as grazing and other economic activity that have provided a living for generations of family members. The area is almost entirely surrounded by BLM-managed lands, so management decisions will have an impact on resident's livelihood and lifestyles.

The BLM can assist community members in achieving their vision of the future by ensuring that efforts to develop recreational opportunities do not interfere with community members who count on access to public lands for their economic security. The BLM should protect access to public lands for grazing, mining, hunting, and fishing. Too much emphasis on resource protection is seen by community

members as another way of promoting recreational activities on public land. The BLM should limit managing areas as wilderness, as this limits human access to and use of public lands.

## Findings

The community assessment process resulted in the following eight findings:

- 1. The Value of Public Land:** Public lands are a vital component of what citizens enjoy about living in their respective communities. With a mix of BLM, Forest Service, Park Service, and State lands within the RMP planning area, the term Public lands takes on a broad meaning. For purposes of this report the term Public lands is taken in context to be applied to BLM lands. The most frequently discussed values of wildlife, access, small-town atmosphere, quiet/isolation, open space, and recreation are all related to public lands. The same is true of the concerns that were identified: health of public lands, social spaces, water, trash, oil and gas development, jobs and economic growth, and user conflict on public lands. While some connections to public lands may not be as readily apparent as others, they are nonetheless visible. For example, the small-town atmosphere of many communities is protected by surrounding public lands, as these lands prevent significant population increases. It is clear that public lands both attract and maintain residents by increasing the quality of life for residents of the communities found in the BLM GJFO planning area.
- 2. The Need for a Tailored Approach to Managing Public Lands:** In most cases, the character of a community is shaped by its surrounding public lands. Because citizens are attracted to the character of their communities, they have a strong desire to maintain that character. The result is a lack of consensus among the communities for how public lands should be managed. The different interests and intensity preferences among the communities suggest that a tailored management approach for each community is preferable to a one-size-fits-all management approach. For example, there is more support for oil and gas development in the northern part of the Roan Creek Area than in the Grand Valley Area. Agriculture is an emphasis in both the Glade Park and Grand Mesa Slopes Areas, but the preferred type of agriculture differs, with communities favoring ranching in the Glade Park Area, and higher-end fruit growing in the Grand Mesa Slopes Area. The individual community write-ups provide a more detailed discussion of community preferences.
- 3. Conflicting Viewpoints:** Even within communities, there are conflicts over what residents desire. For example, the experiences ATV users and quiet users seek are contradictory. Yet, because the participants believe that public lands should provide opportunities for multiple users, they expressed a desire for multiple-use management. Specifically, participants expressed a desire for a tailored multiple-use approach that reflects community values, addresses the concerns of community members, and helps the community achieve its outcomes. This might mean a greater emphasis on mountain biking in the Grand Valley and Grand Mesa Slopes Areas,

with more off-highway vehicle (OHV) use in the remote areas of the Bangs Canyon, Glade Park, and Gateway Areas, refer to Map 1 for illustration of areas.

4. **Economic Opportunities:** Given the diversity of public lands in the GJFO, there are a diverse range of economic opportunities directly tied to public lands. These include agritourism (in the Grand Valley and Grand Mesa Slopes Areas), ranching (in the Glade Park Area), extractive resources development (in the northern portion of the Roan Creek Area), tourism (in the Gateway Area), attracting business (in the Grand Valley Area), recreation services (in the Bangs Canyon Area), and hunting (in the Bookcliffs and Glade Park Areas), to name just a few. Not all of these economic opportunities appear in each community. In fact, the uniqueness of the local economic opportunities on public land contributes to the unique characteristics of the distinctive communities. There can be conflict among these opportunities, and the BLM should tailor the management of their lands to prevent and/or manage conflict.
5. **Presence of a Regional Hub:** Grand Junction is a regional hub, and there is recognition that the management of public lands can impact the city and surrounding communities. This impact can be felt in numerous ways, from acting as a natural barrier to growth, to encouraging high-density development, attracting young talent to the region, and attracting businesses. In turn, because Grand Junction is the regional hub, what happens in Grand Junction has an impact on surrounding communities. As a result, the BLM should factor this into their decision-making process.
6. **The Need for Educational Outreach:** There was a desire by participants to see a conscientious effort by the BLM to engage in educational outreach. Educating citizens about public lands, the challenges of managing these lands, and stewardship were important to many communities. Beginning this process with children (in tandem with public schools) would help correct many of the problems witnessed on public lands such as dumping trash and ad-hoc trail building. In turn, this would aid BLM in management and protection of resources. This would help ameliorate public relations problems that may persist in the GJFO, while giving communities a more focused understanding of how the BLM can appropriately help them achieve their vision.
7. **The Desire for Collaboration:** Beyond outreach, there is a clear desire for collaboration between the BLM and various partners. The two groups that received the most support as collaborators are community residents and local governments. There was greater support for collaboration in the planning process than there was in the management of public lands. Also, a number of additional partners were identified as ones the BLM should consider during planning and management of public lands.

8. **The Process for Identifying Action Areas:** Because of budgetary constraints, as well as a defined jurisdiction, the BLM cannot address every action desired by focus group participants. As such, the BLM should identify areas of priority for management actions. Its emphasis should be on collaborating with other jurisdictions and partners to ensure that its management actions can have the greatest impact in helping communities achieve their vision.

## **1. Introduction**

Between February 23 and April 22, 2009, 11 focus groups were conducted in communities residing in the BLM GJFO planning area. The purpose of the focus groups was to ascertain what participants value about the communities they live in and the surrounding public lands; their concerns in achieving their community and public lands vision; the beneficial outcomes their visions would produce; the perceived impacts BLM decisions will have on their visions; and the appropriate role of collaborating partners in planning and managing public lands. These data will be used in the revision of the GJFO RMP.

## 2. Participating Communities

Considering that the GJFO planning area contains many diverse communities, the community assessment process involved a number of focus groups. The focus groups included the primary rural and urban communities that reside in the management area, as well as Mesa County (45% of the county is composed of BLM-managed lands). Table 1 contains information on the focus group sessions.

**Table 1**  
**Focus Group Locations and Dates**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
Grand Junction (Leaders)	Grand Junction Municipal Building	February 23, 2009
Grand Junction (Community)	Grand Junction Municipal Building	February 23, 2009
Fruita (Community)	Fruita Civic Center	February 24, 2009
Mesa County (Community and Leaders)	Mesa County Annex Building	February 27, 2009
Palisade (Leaders)	Palisade Community Center	March 2, 2009
Glade Park (Community and Leaders)	Glade Park Community Center	March 3, 2009
De Beque (Community and Leaders)	De Beque Town Hall	March 4, 2009
Gateway (Community and Leaders)	Gateway Community Center	March 10, 2009
Palisade (Community and Leaders)	Palisade Community Center	March 16, 2009
Loma-Mack (Community and Leaders)	Loma Elementary School	March 19, 2009
Fruita (Leaders)	Fruita Civic Center	April 22, 2009

### 2.1 Grand Junction

On February 23, 2009, two focus groups were conducted with Grand Junction leaders and residents. Grand Junction is a city of 49,688 residents on the western slope of Colorado and has experienced dramatic population and economic growth over the last 30 years. The population has increased from 29,034 in 1990, a 71% growth rate.<sup>1</sup> Grand Junction serves as the Mesa County seat and is the health care, educational, economic, and political hub of Mesa County and Western Colorado. The city has seen

<sup>1</sup> US Census Bureau 2009 and 2008. Population Finder, Internet Website: [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?\\_event=Search&\\_name=Grand+Junction&\\_state=04000US08&\\_county=Grand+Junction&\\_cityTown=Grand+Junction&\\_zip=&\\_sse=on&\\_lang=en&pctxt=fph](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?_event=Search&_name=Grand+Junction&_state=04000US08&_county=Grand+Junction&_cityTown=Grand+Junction&_zip=&_sse=on&_lang=en&pctxt=fph). Accessed April 2009.

a dramatic diversification in its economy since the boom and bust energy economy of the 1980s. Today, retail, health care, business, and government jobs make up a significant proportion of employment. Grand Junction is located in the Grand Valley Management Area.

## 2.2 Fruita

On February 24, 2009, a focus group was held with five community members in Fruita, Colorado, followed by a focus group with three leaders on April 22, 2009. Fruita is a community of 7,027 and is located between Grand Junction and the Utah state border. The community has been defined by rapid population growth; with a population of 2,810 in 1980, the community has seen a 163% population increase in the last three decades.<sup>2</sup> The city is governed by a Council-Manager form of government with a six-member city council, mayor, and professional city manager responsible for carrying out the duties of the Home Rule city.<sup>3</sup> Fruita is located in the Grand Valley Management Area.

## 2.3 Mesa County

On February 27, 2009, a focus group was conducted with six residents and leaders of Mesa County, Colorado. Mesa County is an important political unit in the management of public lands, since a vast majority of the 1.2 million acres managed by the Grand Junction BLM field office are in Mesa County. The county has experienced dramatic growth since 1990. With 93,145 residents in 1990 and 143,171 residents in 2008, the population has increased 53% over the last two decades.<sup>4</sup> The county is governed by a three-member Board of County Commissioners and was incorporated in 1883. Historically, Mesa County's economy had been centered around agriculture and energy extraction industries. Today, the county's booming economy is more diverse but is still focused around a few key economic sectors, including retail trade, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food service, and government.

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<sup>2</sup> US Census Bureau 2008. Population Finder, Internet Website: [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?\\_event=Search&\\_name=Fruita&\\_state=04000US08&\\_county=Fruita&\\_cityTown=Fruita&\\_zip=&\\_sse=on&\\_lang=en&pctxt=fph](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?_event=Search&_name=Fruita&_state=04000US08&_county=Fruita&_cityTown=Fruita&_zip=&_sse=on&_lang=en&pctxt=fph). Accessed April 2009. Colorado State Demography Office, 2009. [http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog\\_webapps/population\\_census.jsessionid=3561622AE69B1D8530FABFBD1DCF2448](http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog_webapps/population_census.jsessionid=3561622AE69B1D8530FABFBD1DCF2448). Accessed July 2009.

<sup>3</sup> City of Fruita 2009. Internet Website: <http://www.fruita.org/cityhome.htm>. Accessed April 2009.

<sup>4</sup> US Census Bureau 2008. Population Finder, Internet Website: [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?\\_event=ChangeGeoContext&\\_geo\\_id=05000US08077&\\_geoContext=&\\_street=&\\_county=Mesa&\\_cityTown=Mesa&\\_state=04000US08&\\_zip=&\\_lang=en&\\_sse=on&ActiveGeoDiv=&\\_useEV=&pctxt=fph&pgsl=010&submenuId=population\\_0&ds\\_name=null&ci\\_nbr=null&qname=null&reg=null%3Anull&keyword=&industry](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?_event=ChangeGeoContext&_geo_id=05000US08077&_geoContext=&_street=&_county=Mesa&_cityTown=Mesa&_state=04000US08&_zip=&_lang=en&_sse=on&ActiveGeoDiv=&_useEV=&pctxt=fph&pgsl=010&submenuId=population_0&ds_name=null&ci_nbr=null&qname=null&reg=null%3Anull&keyword=&industry). Accessed April 2009.

## **2.4 Palisade**

As a result of scheduling complications, focus groups were held on March 2 and 16, 2009, with community leaders in Palisade. The March 2, 2009, leader's focus group involved four participants, while the March 16, 2009, leader's focus group involved six participants. No community residents attended either of the two focus group meetings. Palisade is a small community of 2,793 residents located on the eastern edge of Grand Junction. The area is heavily involved in high-end agriculture (grapes, wine, peach orchards) and tourism. Palisade is located in the Grand Valley Management Area, but comments were often directed toward other management units such as Grand Mesa Slopes Management Area and Roan Creek Management Area.

## **2.5 Glade Park**

On March 3, 2009, a focus group was conducted with 10 residents of the Glade Park area to assess their concerns and hopes for public lands in their area. Glade Park is an unincorporated area of Mesa County, Colorado. It is located on a plateau on the opposite side of the Colorado National Monument from Grand Junction. The area is home to a small community of dispersed residents, acting as a bedroom community to Grand Junction, and as a much longer established farming and ranching community surrounded by public lands on all sides, including the Colorado National Monument to the east and north, USFS-managed lands to the south, and BLM-managed lands to the north, south, and west. Glade Park is located in the Glade Park Management Area.

## **2.6 De Beque**

On March 4, 2009, a focus group was held at the town hall in De Beque, Colorado with 12 community leaders and residents to determine their community's vision for the future and concerns about public lands. De Beque is a town of 522 in the eastern part of Mesa County, approximately 20 miles from Grand Junction and the easternmost population base in the GJFO. The economy of De Beque is largely driven by ranching and the development of natural gas on the surrounding public lands. The population of De Beque rises and falls with the price and production of natural gas in the surrounding area. De Beque is located in the Roan Creek Management Area.

## **2.7 Collbran**

On March 9, 2009, a focus group was held for Collbran residents and leaders in the Collbran Town Hall. The focus group was cancelled due to poor turnout. The mayor of Collbran did arrive in time for a brief interview regarding preferences for public lands. Collbran is located in the Plateau Valley Management Area.

## **2.8 Gateway**

On March 10, 2009, a focus group was conducted with 10 residents and leaders of the Gateway community. Gateway lies in the southeastern portion of Mesa County, approximately 50 miles from Grand Junction, and is almost entirely surrounded by BLM-managed public lands. Gateway is a community in transition. Traditionally, the economy of Gateway had been driven by uranium and other mineral extraction, ranching, and recreational support services. Several years ago, a new resort, Gateway Canyons, was built on private land, and the economic base of the community began shifting from traditional uses of public lands to tourism opportunities due to extensive marketing by the resort of the

surrounding public lands as a destination tourism site. Gateway is located in the Gateway Management Area.

## **2.9 Loma and Mack**

On March 29, 2009, a focus group was held at Loma Elementary School with 10 community leaders and citizens from the communities of Loma and Mack. Loma and Mack are rural communities 15 to 20 miles west of Grand Junction. Traditionally, the economy of these communities has been driven by farming and ranching. In more recent times, many residents of the communities commute into Grand Junction to work, making it a community in transition. Recently, a proposal for coal extraction in the area has offered both economic promise and social clash for these communities. Participants were recruited for the focus group by personal invitation based on their position in the community (i.e., public officials, members of the business community) or because they had previously shown an interest in public lands by attending a series of public meetings on the Red Cliff coal mine application, refer to Map 1 of proposed mine location. Loma and Mack are located in the Grand Valley Management Area.

### 3. Participating Groups

Two groups were invited to participate in the focus groups. The first group consisted of community leaders, including elected officials, business leaders, and nonprofit organization leaders. The second targeted group was community residents.

Because of the differing population sizes, densities, and visions for their communities, recruitment was tailored to each community. In smaller communities, residents were contacted through e-mail and postal letters. Flyers were also posted on community centers and at the local post office. In larger communities, social networks were utilized to “spread the word” to interested citizens, while phone calls and e-mails were made to community organizers with the intent of stirring interest.

Depending on the size of the community, focus groups were populated in one of three ways: 1) community leaders only (leaders); 2) community residents only (residents); or 3) community leaders and community residents (mixed). Larger communities were split into leader and resident focus groups, while smaller communities were mixed. As shown in Table 1, there were three leader focus groups, three community focus groups, and five mixed focus groups.<sup>5</sup> As a general rule, leader focus groups were held in the afternoon, while community and mixed focus groups were held in the evening. Regardless of the community, every focus group was held in the respective town and in a convenient location.

As illustrated in Table 2, 76 individuals participated in the focus groups. No individuals participated in more than one focus group. Turnout varied by community and group. Of the 76 participants, 11 (14.5%) were solely residents, and 17 (22.4%) were solely leaders. The remaining 48 participants (63.2%) were categorized as mixed. It is interesting to note that the largest turnouts were in the GJFO’s least populous regions (De Beque, Gateway, Loma-Mack, and Glade Park). In larger communities, there was a sense expressed by a few participants that too many focus groups were being conducted by the BLM and other government bodies, leading to focus group fatigue.

**Table 2**  
**Communities and Participants**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>	<b>Percent</b>
De Beque	12	15.8
Fruita	8	10.5
Grand Junction	10	13.2
Glade Park	10	13.2
Loma and Mack	10	13.2
Mesa County	6	7.9
Palisade	10	13.2
Gateway	10	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>5</sup> There was also a mixed focus group planned in Collbran that was cancelled because of lack of turnout.

#### 4. Focus Group Script

The purpose of the focus groups was to explore the following issues: 1) values; 2) concerns; 3) outcomes; and 4) collaborating partners. For the purposes of this study:

- **Values** refers to:
  - What people like about living in their community.
  - The role public lands have on quality of life.
- **Concerns** refers to:
  - Participants' 20-year vision for their community.
  - Participants' vision for public lands.
  - The most important economic, social, and environmental concerns that must be addressed to meet the 20-year vision.
- **Outcomes** refers to:
  - The changes in the community that result from BLM adoption of various resource management alternatives.
  - The beneficial outcomes of their vision.
  - How to best produce beneficial outcomes.
- **Collaborating partners** refers to:
  - The appropriate level of participation potential collaborating partners will have in planning and managing public lands.

The focus group script was constructed by melding traditional focus group methods with newly emerging technologies. As illustrated in Appendix 9, participants were asked 12 questions. The questions took one of two forms. The first are traditional open-ended questions intended to set the boundaries for discussion, while allowing room for flexibility. These questions were presented to the group and left open for comments and discussion.

A second type of question was used to measure the intensity of key values, concerns, outcomes, and the appropriate role of collaborating partners. Using a technology known as i>clickers, participants were allowed to indicate their preference using a remote-like device. This technology was used to measure how intensely each participant felt about a value, outcome, concern, or collaborating partner that was mentioned during the group discussion. All of the values, concerns, and outcomes reported in this study were generated by the groups themselves as a result of an open-ended question. There was no attempt during the focus groups to standardize the language across issue areas. Using a widely accepted Likert

Scale, participants were asked to select one of the following: A= Unimportant, B= Of Little Importance, C= Neither Important nor Unimportant, D= Somewhat Important, or E= Very Important, when discussing values, concerns, and outcomes. When discussing collaborating partners, the options were: A= Never, B= Rare, C= Occasional, D= Frequent, and E= Significant. The results were displayed after the participants made their selection for further comment.

The benefit of this approach is threefold: 1) It allows the researchers to anonymously measure community agreement or disagreement on various issues. What is important to one person may not be important to others; 2) Given the vast array of issues raised in the focus groups, the results are easily comparable and amenable to ranking by intensity. This methodology adds an additional layer of analysis by allowing public land managers to determine which issues are important (and less important) to participants; 3) It helps to avoid the dominance of any particular personality by capturing data from all participants in the room, not just those who speak first. This is an attempt to address a serious problem in the conduct and data collection from focus group methodologies.

Every focus group had a moderator, a human recorder (taking notes), and a digital recorder. The results of the polling with i>clickers is automatically saved in the computer's hard drive. Utilizing a tablet computer and projector (in lieu of butcher paper), all written comments were instantly recorded and displayed by the tablet computer. All written comments and recordings were digitally archived.

## 5. Values

Values refers to why people like living in their community, and the role public land has on the quality of life. The aggregate analysis (all participants' responses) is discussed first, followed by the community results (data divided by community).

### 5.1 Values: Aggregate Results

The aggregate results of values are listed in Table 3. Table 3 shows the issues that were raised by participants in order of the most commonly discussed issue. For example, wildlife was the issue raised the most, by 35 different participants in 4 different communities. The Range, Minimum, and Maximum columns display the importance of each issue on a 5-point scale (1= unimportant) and (5= very important). The Mean column shows the average importance of the issue to the group. Wildlife measured an importance value of 4.69 out of 5.

To further define the table, the first column lists those issues that were raised by participants in open-ended questions and then assigned an importance value by each participant using the i>clickers. The second column (participants N) lists the number of participants that assigned an importance value to each issue, while the third column (community N) lists this same measure by the number of communities. The range column illustrates the distribution of responses on the aforementioned 5-point Likert Scale by measuring the gap between the lowest and highest measures assigned by the participants. A range of five indicates the widest gap, with one or more participants selecting the lowest possible value (1= unimportant) and one or more participants selecting the highest value (5= very important). Likewise, a range of zero indicates unanimity among the participants for a specific value. The integer listed in column seven (recorded as the mean) is the average numerical value measuring importance on the 1 to 5 Likert Scale.

Values were first identified in an open-ended question asking: "What are the things you like about living in your community?" Participants were then asked to assign an importance measure using their i>clickers. Looking at the results in Table 3, there are 23 issues raised in focus groups, with a handful of issues spanning multiple communities. The most commonly discussed issues include wildlife, access to public lands, a small-town feel, quiet/isolation, open spaces, recreation, sense of community, viewscape, and agriculture. The average response for these issues ranges from a high of 5 (recreation) to a low of 4.31 (viewscape). The range of responses also varies from a low of 0 to a high of 5. This indicates that outside of recreation, unanimity was not shared on the importance of the values. However, the high mean value does suggest a relatively high importance assigned to all of these issues.

### 5.2 Values: Community Results

As noted above, wildlife, access to public lands, a small-town atmosphere, quiet/isolation, open space, and recreation were commonly discussed among the participants. Data in Table 4 illustrate the importance of these issues to each community. The integer in the table represents the average ranking of importance, where 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, and 5= Very Important. Blank cells indicate that the community did not raise

the issue. This table shows which communities addressed which issues, as well as the importance they placed on those issues.

**Table 3**  
**Values: Aggregate Focus Group Results**

Issues	(N)Number of Participants	(N)Number of Communities	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Wildlife	35	4	3	2	5	4.69
Access	33	5	4	1	5	4.61
Small Town	31	4	4	1	5	4.35
Quiet/Isolation	23	3	3	2	5	4.43
Open Space	17	2	3	2	5	4.65
Recreation	13	3	0	5	5	5.00
Sense of Community	13	2	2	3	5	4.38
Viewscape	13	2	4	1	5	4.31
Agriculture	12	2	2	3	5	4.75
Recreation Access	10	2	1	4	5	4.90
Ranching	10	1	3	2	5	4.60
Family History	10	1	2	3	5	4.30
Big But Not Too Big	9	2	1	4	5	4.67
Lower Taxes	8	1	2	3	5	4.38
Not Grand Junction	8	1	2	3	5	4.25
Festivals	7	2	1	4	5	4.29
Variety of Ecosystems	5	1	1	4	5	4.80
Non-Motorized Access	5	1	1	4	5	4.60
Regional Provider	4	1	0	5	5	5.00
Tourism	4	1	1	4	5	4.50
Shopping	4	1	1	4	5	4.50
Culture Guided by Landscape	4	1	2	3	5	4.25
History/Heritage	3	1	1	3	4	3.67

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

**Table 4**  
**Values: Results by Community**

Issues	De Beque	Fruita	Grand Junction	Glade Park	Loma Mack	Mesa County	Palisade	Gateway	Total
Recreational Access	5.00	4.67							4.90
Small Town	4.33	4.13					5.00	4.29	4.35
Wildlife	4.91	4.00		4.80				4.67	4.69
Sense of Community	4.11		5.00						4.38
Public Lands Access		5.00	4.78			4.75	4.75	3.86	4.61
Viewscape		3.60					4.75		4.31
Recreation		5.00				5.00	5.00		5.00
Regional Provider			5.00						5.00
Open Space				4.80				4.43	4.65
Quiet/Isolation				4.50	4.56	4.00			4.43
Family History				4.30					4.30
Ranching				4.60					4.60
Festivals		4.33					4.25		4.29
Tourism							4.50		4.50
Big But Not Too Big			4.60			4.75			4.67
Culture Guided by Landscape						4.25			4.25
Variety of Ecosystems			4.80						4.80
Non-Motorized Access			4.60						4.60
Not Grand Junction					4.25				4.25
Lower Taxes					4.38				4.38
Agriculture					4.78		4.67		4.75
Shopping							4.50		4.50
History/Heritage		3.67							3.67

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

### 5.2.1 De Beque

When asked what they like about living in De Beque, 100% of the participants agreed that recreational opportunities were very important to them. Other values included the access to wildlife (91% indicated that was very important to them). Several supported the idea of a small-town feel and sense of community, but not as intensely or uniformly as the other values (33% very important; 44% somewhat important, and the rest neutral to the value). It was noted that De Beque is far enough from Grand Junction to get away from the urban feel, but not too far to lose access to the amenities and services of the city. Other values mentioned include the openness of the area, hunting, and the wild horses in the Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range (LBCWHR), refer to Map 1.

When asked how the surrounding public lands impact these values, the participants thought the question redundant since the public lands are what allow them to enjoy their lifestyles. The public lands are used for wild horse days, ATV riding, picnicking, and other activities. There is a point of pride to share the public lands with others. A lot of people come to town hall to get maps and learn about access to the surrounding public lands. The town's close proximity to these lands adds to its character. They are an important part of the heritage of the area and if access to the lands were denied, the entire value of the town would change.

### 5.2.2 Fruita

#### *Fruita Residents*

When asked what they liked about living in Fruita, residents were equally enthusiastic about their access to outdoor activities and the variety of outdoor activities their access allows them to enjoy. On a scale of 1 to 5 (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant), 100% of the participants ranked access to and variety of outdoor activities as very important. While somewhat less enthusiastic, residents discussed the viewscape surrounding the city (40%= very important; 20%=somewhat important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant; 20%= unimportant); the small-town atmosphere of Fruita (20%= very important; 60%= somewhat important; 20% unimportant); the wildlife and hunting resources (40% very important; 40% somewhat important; 20% of little importance); and their ability to remain a distinct community from Grand Junction while enjoying the benefits their proximity affords.

Public lands are an important component of Fruita residents' quality of life. One participant summed this up by saying that public lands are the penultimate component of the quality of their life. Public lands were also identified as limiting the growth of the city while increasing its health. Specifically, public lands provide natural boundaries that restrict population growth and help maintain a small-town atmosphere. While limiting growth, it contributes to the economic growth of the region through tourism. At the very least, one respondent claimed that public lands allow residents to 'get away from it all.'

#### *Fruita Leaders*

When asked what they enjoyed about living in their community, its small-town atmosphere (very important=100%), outdoor recreational opportunities (very important= 66%; somewhat important=33%), community events (very important=33%; somewhat important=66%), and history (somewhat important=66%; neither important nor unimportant=33%) were mentioned. Also mentioned

was the closeness of a diverse terrain (desert, river, mountains), the rich reserves of fossils in the area, and the closeness of amenities, such as shopping.

Fruita leaders were quick to note that public lands have a significant impact on why they enjoy living in Fruita. Public lands were cited to be the reason that people choose to live in Fruita. Another participant commented that when showing off Fruita, they always take the visitors to the public lands. Other comments cited public lands as being important to recreation opportunities; to keeping Fruita's population in check; and to contributing to the air quality by cutting down on developed land and the smog such land produces. However, they also acknowledged that the attractiveness of public lands potentially places the small-town feel they all desire at risk because it draws people to the town.

### **5.2.3 Grand Junction**

#### ***Grand Junction Residents***

When asked what residents like about living in Grand Junction, they mentioned Outdoor Recreation, the variety of ecosystems, nonmotorized public access, and the amenities available to the large, but not too large, population. On a scale of 1 to 5 (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant), residents thought outdoor recreation was most important (100%= very important), followed by the variety of ecosystems (80%= very important; 20%= somewhat important), non-motorized public access (60%= very important; 40%= somewhat important), and the fact that Grand Junction is large, but not too large (60%= very; 40%= somewhat important).

Public lands have a large impact on the quality of life of Grand Junction residents. Some aspects of public land that were mentioned include the availability of solitude because of access to open land; the amount of undeveloped land; the general accessibility of public lands; the opportunities for self discovery on unmarked public lands; the impact on limiting suburban sprawl; and the ability of individuals to develop a sense of self by allowing a connection to nature.

#### ***Grand Junction Leaders***

Focus group participants listed a number of aspects that they appreciate about Grand Junction. Among those attributes mentioned, 100% felt the following Grand Junction attributes were "very important" to them (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant): being a regional provider of medical care and shopping/retail, being home to Mesa State College, and providing activities to suit a variety of interests. All participants felt the sense of community was "very important," including the 'big, but not too big' size of the community, safety, and short commute times; and 50% felt that access to public lands was very important, while the remaining 50% felt it was somewhat important. Access to public lands includes the abundance of BLM land near the city and access to open space and recreation. Other values listed by the participants include the mild weather, Grand Junction's family friendly atmosphere, and Grand Junction's gateway status.

Public lands play a large role in the participants' view of Grand Junction. Public lands frame the city, thereby limiting its sprawl and encouraging compact development. Public lands impact who chooses to live here, especially outdoor recreation enthusiasts, which contributes to a community with shared

interests; the lands provide economic opportunities to residents through industries such as extractive services, tourism, and grazing; and the lands define the city because it is impossible to conceive of Grand Junction in any other area.

#### **5.2.4 Glade Park**

The participants were asked what they like about living in the Glade Park community. The responses included the isolation and open spaces, as well as ranching and loyalty and affection to the community because of family historic ties. Wildlife was also mentioned as a value. Several of these responses were measured for intensity of importance through the use of i>clicker technology (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant), with the results that 90% felt open spaces were very important, while the group was split 50/50 in its response to isolation, with half saying it was very important and the other half indicating it was somewhat important. Other values measured include the presence of wildlife (80% felt it was very important, while the remaining 20% thought it somewhat important) and family history (60% considered it very important; 10% considered it somewhat important; and 30% indicated it was neither important nor unimportant). This last result is likely due to the mix of traditional land owners and new residents in the area as the community develops.

When asked a more open-ended question on how public lands have an impact on these previously mentioned values, the responses were mixed. While most indicated that they like the close proximity of public lands in their community, there was concern about access being denied in the future. It was mentioned that many older people use the roads and lands to get out of town; that the people in the Glade Park area also use the roads to access public lands; and that their business depends on this access to public lands. This last statement was particularly true of ranchers grazing cattle on public lands, but participants also stressed that the multiple-use concept of public lands was important to them and there should also be room for recreation and outfitting as well. It was also noted that because there is so much public land surrounding the community of Glade Park, the ability for new people to move to the community is “minimized” because there is no place to buy. There was some discussion on whether that is a good thing (limited growth of population maintains small-town atmosphere and feeling of isolation) or a bad thing (reducing opportunity for community growth and others to enjoy community). The community members seemed to be largely in agreement that closing off access to public lands in the area would negatively affect their community’s identity.

#### **5.2.5 Loma and Mack**

The participants were asked what they like about living in Loma and Mack. As is fitting with the economic drivers in the community, participants suggested that the rural lifestyle of farming and ranching is very important to them (88% indicating this was very important, with only one person being neutral on the issue). Other issues related to the rural lifestyle include the fact that they are not under the control of Grand Junction (big city) or Fruita (unmanaged growth, when clarification was requested) (50% thought this very important; 25% thought it important; and 25% were neutral on the issue). Another related value to the rural lifestyle was the quiet; 75% ranked this as very important. With no municipal government structure to support, participants commented that the lower tax schedule is attractive, with 56% indicating it is very important and 25% remaining neutral on the value.

When asked how public lands impact these values, the group suggested that public lands are necessary open space so hikers, bikers, and horseback riders have a place to go. There was a strong theme throughout the entire Loma-Mack focus group about the uncontrolled development that they perceive as happening in the neighboring community of Fruita. They are glad that public lands limit this in their area. The lands themselves are not developed and thus offer a break/retreat from this development. Participants believe that the whole area is great for recreation, but care must be taken to keep ATV users and equestrian users from crossing paths on the trails. There were several other comments on recreation offered by the group at this point. They are concerned that the trails are mostly closed to ATV use, but open to mountain biking. They do not think there are many mountain bikers in the area (“this is not Fruita, they are all over there”). Despite some concerns about recreation planning, they think the landscape is perfect for recreation as Loma is the entrance to the canyon lands and the Kokopelli Trail and has tremendous potential for recreation if “the BLM handles their management well.” It was noted at this point that recreation has a positive impact on the economy through sales and supplies, which in turn gives more opportunity to run the government on sales tax, which will further reduce property taxes (previously indicated as a good thing). Loma is also benefiting from Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) payments, which help them keep their taxes lower. The theme of taxes kept appearing throughout the focus group conversation in Loma and Mack and would have significant interest in the consideration of alternatives in the RMP process for these communities.

### **5.2.6 Mesa County**

When asked what they value about living in Mesa County, the participants focused their comments on the benefits of surrounding public lands. Residents discussed the diversity of outdoor activities, their proximity and access to public lands, and quiet use recreation. When asked to select the appropriate intensity level they felt for these values (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant), every participant believed that the diversity of outdoor activities was “very important,” while 75% felt that the proximity and access to public lands was “very important” (the remaining 25% believed it was “somewhat important”). Support for quiet outdoor use was also valued (25% very important; 50% somewhat important; and 25% neither important nor unimportant). Other values included the premise that Mesa County is big, but not too big (75% very important; 25% somewhat important) and that the community’s culture is grounded in the surrounding landscape (50% very important; 25% somewhat important; 25% neither important nor unimportant).

The participants’ comments solidified the important role public lands play in Mesa County. Participants said that public land “is the reason why I live here” and public land “impacts where I choose to live.” The participants believe that public lands have several real impacts, including enhancing the quality of life for children by connecting them to reality and providing educational opportunities. Public lands are also thought to limit population growth and sprawl while attracting business interests.

### **5.2.7 Palisade**

As a result of scheduling complications, two separate focus groups were held with leaders in Palisade, Colorado. The first meeting was held on March 2, 2009 (group A), and the second meeting was held on March 16, 2009 (group B). This section analyzes both focus groups together while separating them into

their respective groups (group A and group B). This way, the results are neither treated independently, nor are they viewed as synonymous.

When the participants were asked what they like about living in Palisade, both groups discussed access to outdoor recreation. Group A specifically discussed the quality of life in Palisade because of its relatively small size, density of people, small and friendly businesses, adequate infrastructure for tourism, and beautiful scenery and viewscape. This group also discussed the friendly, active, and vibrant population that creates a sense of community different from other towns in the Grand Valley. The participants also discussed the plethora of festivals and community events. Comparatively, group B discussed the stunning scenery and unique agricultural resources such as Palisade orchards and wineries. This group discussed the remoteness of Palisade, the amount of public land in the region, the amount of shopping, and the culture/history/heritage. The participants also discussed the fact that Palisade is well positioned as a crossroads to the Rocky Mountain corridor with its mountains, deserts, and rivers.

Both groups indicated the importance of the viewscape and access to public land values. Group A ranked viewscape (100%= very important) and access to public lands (50%= very important; 50%= somewhat important) as being of high importance. Group B also found viewscape (75%= very important; 25%= neither important nor unimportant) and recreation (100%= very important) to be very important values. Other measures for group A include festivals (25%= very important; 75%= somewhat important), small-town feel/quality of life (100%= very important), and tourism (100%= very important). Comparatively, group B ranked agriculture (66%= very important; 33%= somewhat important), recreation (100%= very important), and shopping (25%= very important; 25%= somewhat important; 25%= neither important nor unimportant; 25%= unimportant).

When asked how the surrounding public lands impact the values listed above, both groups believe the presence of public lands are “huge” or “integral.” Group A said that the vistas have a strong psychological impact. Therefore, public lands should be managed appropriately. Participants also said that they bring a sense of security to the community because they are surrounded by public lands. The lands maintain a small-town feel, for example, because they limit sprawl. They did note, however, that their security depends on how the lands are managed. If managed poorly, participants fear the security they feel from public lands would be threatened. The lands were also recognized to offer recreational opportunities to residents, which is important because there are few entertainment options available to Palisade residents. However, how public lands are “used” is critical to their quality of life. Finally, public lands have an impact on tourism and the quality of water in the region.

Group B mentioned the benefits public lands have on mental health, as well as their positive impact on tourism (including international tourism). The participants said that public lands contribute to the physical health of residents because approximately 95% of recreation is done on public lands. The lands were also recognized to provide an opportunity for discovery by residents and visitors. Because the participants said they were drawn to Palisade because of the public lands, they are frustrated by public land policies and public land management.

### **5.2.8 Gateway**

The residents were asked why they like living in Gateway and several responses were offered, including small-town feel, sense of community, and heritage connected to family that has lived in the area for

generations. Other comments focused on the access to the night sky without light pollution, open spaces, the nature of the landscape and wildlife in the area, the lack of crowds, and access to public lands on all sides. Several of these responses were then measured for intensity of importance through the use of i>clicker technology (where 5= very important; 4= somewhat important; 3= neither important nor unimportant; 2= of little importance; and 1= unimportant), with the results that over 60% felt the proximity to wildlife was very important and 75% indicated that open spaces were very important to them. Fewer felt the small-town community was very important (although more than half still selected this as an option), and the same number polled access to public lands as very important.

When asked a more open-ended question about how public lands affect these values, it was suggested that they have a huge impact on these values. There was a strong sense of ownership of public lands and a sense of privilege to have such uncrowded access to public lands. This access and connection to the land enhances the sense of community as long as others do not trash the lands through littering, off-trail driving, and congregating in previously isolated places. They were also clear that the public lands provide traditional use economic opportunities for miners, timber workers, guides, hunters, ranchers, and river rafting. Despite the strong sense of ownership on the public lands, it was remarked that public lands offer people the opportunity “to experience public lands even if they do not own it.”

## 6. Concerns

Concerns refer to the 20-year vision participants have for their community, their vision for public lands, and the most important economic, social, and environmental concerns that they believe must be addressed to meet their 20-year vision. The aggregate analysis (all participants' responses) is first discussed, followed by the community results (data divided by community).

### 6.1 Concerns: Aggregate Results

As illustrated in Table 5, there were 36 concerns identified and ranked by importance in the focus groups. These issues were first raised in an open-ended question asking participants to list the most important economic, social, and environmental concerns over the next 15 to 20 years. Participants then assigned an importance value to select issues. Compared to the values section, there are fewer issues that span multiple communities and participants. Only one issue (health of public lands) was discussed by three communities. This indicates that residents are more likely to focus their attention on similar values but diverge when asked to identify concerns.

### 6.2 Concerns: Community Results

There was little consensus across the communities relating to social, environmental, and economic concerns related to achieving their vision of public lands. This section discusses the 20-year vision of each community and their concerns that would inhibit them from achieving their vision. It also discusses each community's vision for public lands. Table 6 lists the average value each community assigned to each concern.

#### 6.2.1 De Beque

When asked what they would like to see the community look like in 20 years, one participant called for a lake and hydro power plant on Roan Creek, another called for a golf course, and still others wanted to see preservation of agricultural land as an economic measure. Many thought the town would be much larger in 20 years, but that it is important to control growth. While it might be nice to have a few more businesses around, the town "does not want to be Clifton." One way to avoid this is to build buildings that are structurally sound and designed well, not just endless rows of metal buildings.

The biggest concerns facing De Beque in the next 20 years according to this focus group are that they do not want to be a waste station for oil and gas development. This issue has social implications for the stigma attached, as well as economic and environmental implications. They continued to think big, with the desire for a waterfront park that could become a place to host an event such as a rodeo or motocross cycling event (45% felt this was very important; 27% said it was important). They believe this would have huge economic implications as well. Related to the concerns about becoming a waste station for the gas industry, they are very concerned about the wastewater ponds installed outside of town (92% said this was very important to them). Most of the concern was due to the proximity of the public relating to aesthetics and potential public health issues. Finally, there was some concern that the wild horse adoptions might end in the town of De Beque and moved somewhere else (58% felt it was a very important concern; 33% felt it was an important concern).

**Table 5**  
**Concerns: Aggregate Focus Group Results**

Issues	Participants N	Community N	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Health of Public Lands	17	3	2	3	5	4.71
Social Spaces	17	2	2	3	5	4.12
Water	16	2	1	4	5	4.81
Trash	14	2	1	4	5	4.93
Oil and Gas Development	14	3	2	3	5	4.40
Jobs and Economic Growth	14	2	2	3	5	4.29
User Balance of Public Lands	13	2	1	4	5	4.92
Waste Ponds	12	1	1	4	5	4.92
Access	12	2	2	3	5	4.50
Wild Horse Adoptions	12	1	2	3	5	4.50
Air Quality	11	2	1	4	5	4.45
Sustainable Ranching	10	1	1	4	5	4.80
Economic Diversity	10	1	2	3	5	4.60
McInnis National Conservation Area (NCA)	10	1	1	4	5	4.30
Agriculture	9	1	1	4	5	4.89
Closed Trails	9	1	1	4	5	4.78
Wilderness Study Area Proposals	9	1	1	4	5	4.67
Enforcement	9	1	2	3	5	4.67
Mining and Shale as Economic Help	9	1	3	2	5	4.56
Noxious Weeds	9	1	4	1	5	4.33
Solitude	8	1	2	3	5	4.13
Working on Public Lands	7	1	3	2	5	4.43
Physical Growth	6	1	1	4	5	4.83
Education	6	1	2	3	5	4.67
Stewardship	6	1	1	4	5	4.50
Regional Hub Status	6	1	2	3	5	4.33
Social Events	6	1	2	3	5	4.00
Downtown Core	5	1	1	4	5	4.60
Integration	5	1	1	4	5	4.60
Transportation	5	1	2	3	5	4.40
Green Energy	5	1	2	3	5	4.40
Federal Government Listen to Local Community	4	1	0	5	5	5.00
Place Identity	4	1	1	4	5	4.75
Housing Options	4	1	1	4	5	4.50
Wildlife	4	1	2	3	5	4.50
Attract Young Talent	4	1	0	4	4	4.00

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

**Table 6**  
**Concerns: Results by Community**

Issues	De Beque	Fruita	Grand Junction	Glade Park	Loma Mack	Mesa County	Palisade	Gateway	Total
Waste Ponds	4.92								4.92
Social Spaces	4.18					4.00			4.12
Horse Adoptions	4.50								4.50
Oil and Gas Development		3.80	4.60				4.90		4.40
Health of Public Lands		4.60	4.50			5.00			4.71
Trash		4.80			5.00				4.93
Green Energy		4.40							4.40
Jobs and Economic Growth		4.25	4.33						4.29
Economic Diversity			4.60						4.60
Attract Young Talent			4.00						4.00
Housing Options			4.50						4.50
Place Identity			4.75						4.75
User Balance of Public Lands			4.75		5.00				4.92
Sustainable Ranching				4.80					4.80
McInnis NCA				4.30					4.30
WSA Proposals				4.67					4.67
Water				4.90		4.67			4.81
Agriculture							4.89		4.89
Wildlife							4.50		4.50
Federal Government Listen to Local Community							5.00		5.00
Air Quality						4.50	4.40		4.45
Social Events						4.00			4.00
Education						4.67			4.67
Regional Hub Status						4.33			4.33
Physical Growth			4.83						4.83
Enforcement					4.67				4.67
Noxious Weeds					4.33				4.33
Closed Trails					4.78				4.78
Mining and Shale as Economic Help					4.56				4.56
Transportation							4.40		4.40
Downtown Core							4.60		4.60
Integration							4.60		4.60
Access		5.00						4.33	4.50
Working on Public Lands								4.43	4.43
Solitude								4.13	4.13
Stewardship								4.50	4.50

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

Looking forward, the challenges that need to be addressed by the community of De Beque in respect to public lands took a very specific character. There was a request for more signage to help people know where to go. Another request was for gathering places on area public lands for horse watching, as well as in the Goblin area. A request was made to keep the existing ATV trails and to add to them, making several into loops of different lengths. There should also be stopping and resting areas in less-sensitive habitat to keep people off more-sensitive habitat. In general, there were several requests voiced for greater access opportunities to public lands.

### **6.2.2 Fruita**

#### ***Fruita Community***

In describing their community vision for the future, the participants emphasized the need for smart growth both inside Fruita and on public lands. When addressing smart city growth, participants are concerned that continued growth will drown out those aspects that drew them to Fruita in the first place. For example, one participant said he/she would like to see Fruita remain the same size, but recognizes this will not happen. As such, community leaders need to be proactive in planning for an expected doubling of the population.

Other participants focused on smart planning for the surrounding public lands. Proactive planning is necessary if the growing population is to wisely use public lands. Without planning, users will engage in de facto planning through the building of their own trails and access points. The need for greater cooperation between user groups and land managers was also highlighted as an important point for smart public lands planning.

In identifying the most important social, environmental, and economic concerns for their community, residents raised a number of issues. In dealing with social issues, participants expressed a desire to preserve the elements that make Fruita a desirable locale (80%= very important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant), which includes maintaining outdoor recreation in the area. Economic concerns included the development of green energy (60%= very important; 20%= somewhat important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant), oil and gas development (20%= very important; 40%= somewhat important; 40%= neither important nor unimportant), adequate jobs and job training that allows people to meet their employment needs (80%= somewhat important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant), and mitigating the impact of boom and bust economics. Environmental concerns included cleaning up trash and burnt cars in the desert (80%= very important; 20%= somewhat important) and becoming more aware of the damage the oil and gas industry has created. In the end, the vision for the future of public lands is to maintain access while mitigating the effects of heavy use (such as trash removal).

#### ***Fruita Leaders***

In describing their 20-year vision for their community, the group noted that Fruita had just completed its community plan. They noted that after significant public input, enhancing the small-town atmosphere

while providing for economic vitality were the two major desires of the plan. The plan is available on Fruita's Web site.<sup>6</sup>

The participants' vision for public lands includes issues such as an improved trail system, preserving open space, and connectivity to public lands. Participants recognized the "gateway" status Fruita has to the open lands through the BLM and US Forest Service. Maintaining the open space is important to the gateway community because it is tied to the economic engine of the region. Their wish was to prevent the BLM closing access because of increased on-the-ground administration that growth will require. There was also a desire to see more ways for citizens to get to public lands by walking, riding, and driving.

The participants identified a number of social, environmental, and economic challenges Fruita faces over the next 15 years. Social challenges include maintaining the small-town atmosphere, building strong neighborhoods, building neighborhood parks, and maintaining a diversity of housing. In discussing environmental challenges, making public lands accessible while preserving them (very important=100%) was very important to the participants, who noted that access is a dominant issue in community meetings as well. They also noted that access was important to the economic health of the community as they are inextricably linked. A second environmental challenge was to examine the role of rural space in the community. Economic challenges that were discussed included economic development (very important=100%), maintaining downtown Fruita and growing outwards, managing growth, and maintaining a diverse housing supply. Although many of the responses to this question do not deal with public lands or the BLM RMP process, it was clear from the focus group that public lands play a large role in the community's vision nonetheless.

### **6.2.3 Grand Junction**

#### ***Grand Junction Community***

In describing their 20-year vision of Grand Junction, some residents expressed a desire to see the maintenance of open space and ensure public lands remain as primitive as possible. One way to do this would be to prevent the development of roads. Another resident said that the community will continue to grow and that this growth may be too much for the city. It was acknowledged that growth will put pressure on public lands, as public lands will become more important to the growing population. It was also important to be able to access public lands in 10 to 15 minutes as growth continues. Other residents discussed the importance of maintaining agriculture in the area, especially vineyards and orchards. Discussion linked the desire to become a destination center by promoting the area's agricultural resources and public lands through winemaking tours and mountain biking. It was also expressed that the community would prefer tourism dollars over oil and gas dollars. Finally, participants expressed the desire to maintain community businesses and independent and distinct communities such as Fruita.

In describing their vision for the surrounding public lands, participants focused on limiting the oil and gas development to small areas. Residents felt that oil and gas interests have received what they needed in the past. Another issue dealt with finding a way to implement grazing so it is sustainable and limited to

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<sup>6</sup> Throughout the focus group Fruita city officials referenced the "City of Fruita Community Plan 2008" report available at [http://www.fruita.org/planning\\_&\\_zoning.htm](http://www.fruita.org/planning_&_zoning.htm).

certain areas. Other visions included the protection of riparian rights, increased resources to the BLM (more employees, including scientists) to meet its needs, a more active management plan to handle the impact of regional growth on public lands, diversification of the ecosystem, greater use of public lands to meet the educational needs of public schools, and greater law enforcement to combat population pressures, litter, and vandalism.

When asked to list social, economic, and environmental concerns, residents primarily focused on economic and environmental concerns. Among the economic issues, 67% thought that the overdevelopment of oil and gas was a very important concern, while 33% felt it was somewhat important. There was a desire for decision makers to consider the long-term impact of oil and gas development and to look for regional planning for this development, rather than the piecemeal system that currently exists. Another 66% felt that economic diversity in the region is very important, 17% felt it is somewhat important, and 17% felt it is neither important nor unimportant. As part of economic diversity, agriculture, retail, tourism, and mineral extraction should be examined. Finally, 33% of participants felt that economic growth is very important, while 67% felt it is somewhat important. Sixty-six percent of the participants felt environmental issues are very important, while 17% think they are somewhat important and 17% believe they are neither important nor unimportant.

### ***Grand Junction Leaders***

In explaining their 20-year vision, the leaders emphasized the impact anticipated growth will have on the community, surrounding public lands, and surrounding communities. As Grand Junction grows it will become an even more important regional destination defined by a denser population, thereby increasing the value of public lands to residents. This growth, however, should not come at the expense of surrounding communities. Finally, if Grand Junction will be the most livable city west of the Rockies by 2035 (as the participants desired), a transportation infrastructure must be developed, including the airport and roads bordering BLM-managed lands.

When thinking about their vision for public lands, participants raised a number of diverse issues. First, a desire for a more local and community-focused management was expressed. Participants would like to see fewer national mandates and greater incorporation of citizen views in public lands decision making. Participants also wished to see greater accommodation for a variety of user interests and greater access to certain sections of lands by improving the urban interface with public lands. There was also a desire for greater and easier land disposal between the community and BLM to accommodate the growing population. Finally, a focus on the role of fees in accessibility to public lands should also be examined.

Challenging this vision are several economic, social, and environmental factors. The message of the group was the need for diversity. Economic challenges include attracting young talent/professionals (100%= somewhat important), which can be done by promoting the surrounding public lands and maintaining a diverse economy. Social challenges include maintaining diversity in the community (75%= very important; 25%= somewhat important), providing attainable housing (50%= very important; 50%= somewhat important), maintaining a sense of place and identity (75%= very important; 25%= somewhat important), and maintaining public safety. Environmental concerns include finding a way to balance user groups on public lands such as grazers and energy developers (75%= very important; 25%= somewhat

important), maintaining the agricultural roots of the area by stemming the loss of farmland, and recognizing the geographical features that make Grand Junction unique.

#### **6.2.4 Glade Park**

Community members were asked their vision of the community 15 to 20 years into the future. Several members expressed that they would like it to “see it the same.” When asked to elaborate on what that might mean, one participant suggested that an emphasis on conservation and minimal public lands development would retain the current character that is important to him. Another suggested it could be kept the same by keeping housing restrictions to a minimum so “everyday people can afford to live here.” Another followed up on the need to keep open space and not subdivide 40-acre parcels because of the lack of available water (coming mostly from wells in the area). Limiting access from the Grand Valley (only two points of access through the Colorado National Monument were mentioned) will also keep the rural character. A few members commented that they do not see much oil and gas development or ski resort development in the Glade Park community in the future, which they remarked is a good thing.

Following up on this question, participants were asked what they think are the most important social, environmental, and economic issues Glade Park will face over the next 15 to 20 years. They were reluctant to divide the issues based on these categories because all of the issues they mentioned cut across all three categories. The most important issue raised according to their intensity responses was the issue of water and irrigation, with 90% indicating that this issue is very important to them and the remaining 10% indicating it is somewhat important. Another salient issue for the community is the sustainability of ranching in the area, with 80% indicating this is very important and the rest indicating it is somewhat important. It was remarked that ranching had made Glade Park what it is today and that the area had been singled out as one of the five areas in the state targeted for “saving ranching.” This concern was also linked to the Wilderness proposed areas around the community for fear that it would negatively impact ranching. The McInnis Canyons NCA’s proximity to the community was also linked to this fear of negative impacts on ranching. When the intensity of these concerns was measured, 60% indicated that it is a very important concern and the remaining participants ranked it as somewhat important.

When asked to think ahead to how public lands in the area would affect this vision, participants responded by addressing the issue of access to public lands. While it was recognized that some roads should be closed seasonally to protect the resource, the maintenance of the road network in the community and the preservation of a range of access (easy for those who need it and tougher for those who want it) should be a top priority. It was noted that the diversity of access contributed positively to the sense of isolation. The comments supported the multiple-use concept of public lands, with a value placed on the intermix of public and private land in the area. While participants were concerned that changes would be driven by land management decisions, clearly the most concerning issue was land swaps. It was suggested that technology could help inform the public of these changes, and a local Web site was offered as a means to keep the community informed about land swaps.

#### **6.2.5 Loma and Mack**

Looking into the future, the communities of Loma and Mack have a draft 20-year plan that was released in April of 2009.<sup>7</sup> They have been developing the plan for over a year. The plan development was contracted to a Nebraska firm. The community of Loma also went before the county government for sewer improvements and a chance to incorporate. Loma needs to have a certain number of rooftops to incorporate, so it will be combining with Mack to use Mack's sewer services. They further suggested that they would like to see the area stay the way it is, agricultural and affordable. However, they recognize that the area is likely to grow in the next 15 to 20 years. One participant showed a great deal of concern that the area would become overrun with recreational users because of recent travel management decisions in the BLM Moab Field Office that closed a number of trails. Closure of trails to motorized and mechanized travel means that people will be coming to the Loma and Mack area to recreate, and we "ought to get ready for it."

The most significant concerns expressed in the next 15 to 20 years dealt with abuse of the land from excessive population and lack of enforcement of current rules, as well as user conflicts that might arise. When polled, 85% of the participants suggested enforcement of regulations was a very important concern to them. The participants hope for cooperation among user groups on trail building projects and trash cleanup, as all user groups produce trash. There was concern that the signage in the area has been severely damaged, and that there are not enough signs for people to know where they are going on public land in the area. There was concern expressed over ATV and dirt bikes riding off-trail and destroying habitat. The signs could help more clearly mark this.

Other issues of significant concern include access to public lands both for vulnerable population groups such as the elderly and the economic impacts of limiting access. All participants ranked trail closure and its negative economic impact as important or very important to them. Comments indicate that they would prefer one user group to be favored over another. A Utah example of the loss of rock crawler traffic was used to illustrate the point of closures and the negative effect of those closures on the local economy. All participants agreed that we ought to keep the lands as multiple-use. They were also concerned that the BLM help maintain the economic base by supporting mining, oil, and oil shale. Seventy-seven percent of the participants found this to be a very important concern, while 12% suggested that it is of little importance. The control of noxious weeds was mentioned by 66% of the group as being a very important issue, while 12% suggested that it was not important.

Looking to the challenges that lay ahead for their communities, the focus group indicated that a key issue is the need for consistency in policy and application of BLM regulations on different populations. More concerns were expressed on the dependence of the community on BLM lands for traditional livelihoods such as hunting and ranching. There is some concern that the BLM has not opened up enough land to hunting to help the economy. There is a great deal of concern that the new administration will have too much of an impact on public lands policy. Such concerns are important to the community, but largely outside the RMP planning process. It is clear there is a great deal of frustration and distrust of government, particularly the federal government in this community. The same sentiments are found in De Beque and other rural communities we talked to during this focus group process.

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<sup>7</sup>The draft plan can be found at <http://www.oaplanning.com/lomaplan/>.

### 6.2.6 Mesa County

When asked to describe their vision for Mesa County, the participants focused heavily on the impact of public lands. The participants believe that public lands will play a big role in shaping the future of Mesa County. Participants' vision of Mesa County is one where population is healthy and defined by smart planning and limiting sprawl; where the community is economically diverse and replete with high-paying jobs; where agriculture maintains a large role in the economy; where residents embrace land stewardship; and where a community embraces its past and remains optimistic about its future by developing a "can-do" spirit. Public lands have an impact on this vision by providing a natural barrier to sprawl, by assisting in attracting business ventures and young professionals, by providing an opportunity for agriculture interests, and by defining the culture of the region by tying the community to the lands.

Despite optimism for the future, participants expressed a number of economic, social, and environmental concerns that may impede their vision. When discussing social concerns, 83% of the participants felt that education is a very important concern, while 17% felt it is neither important nor unimportant. Maintaining social places such as casual gathering places in downtown Grand Junction and walking paths is very important to 50% of the respondents and somewhat important for the remaining 50%. Developing social cohesiveness through social events was warmly supported with 33% of the participants believing it is very important, somewhat important, and neither important nor unimportant.

Topping the list of environmental concerns was maintaining the health of public lands, with 100% of the participants believing this to be very important. Additional concerns include water rights (67% very important; 33% somewhat important), air quality (50% very important; 50% somewhat important), environmental education, the health impact of winter inversions, and increased wilderness areas. Economic concerns include the continued development of Mesa County as a regional hub (50% very important; 33% somewhat important; 17% neither important nor unimportant), educational standards in the region for a developed workforce; economic diversity and sustainability, the development of a viable agricultural industry; and economic opportunities so young adults do not leave the region. Education spanned social, environmental, and economic concerns.

Participants feel that in order for Mesa County to achieve its vision and overcome the aforementioned challenges, public land management will need to emphasize diversity. This includes diverse and multiple access to public lands, diverse use of public lands (ranging from recreation to grazing), and diverse management of public lands where the land is not overregulated. Participants also discussed their willingness to see how diversity will impact sensitive areas, such as wildlife.

### 6.2.7 Palisade

In describing its community's vision, group A described a larger community (with approximately 5,000 residents), with a diverse business environment, a healthy tourism base, a high-end agricultural industry, and a compact community with residential housing units and walkable streets. Other participants wished to retain the small-town feel without being anti-growth. In addition to these visions, others discussed a more diverse racial and cultural group, a more mature and educated society that accepts and supports the community vision, better integration of international residents, and strong buy-in for the community vision. Group B's vision also discussed a healthy agricultural industry, a healthy downtown core, and a

small-town feel. The residents also discussed improved access to recreational amenities through pedestrian and bicycle access points and high air quality to maintain visibility and viewscape.

In identifying the most important social, environmental, and economic issues that will arise over the next 15 to 20 years, the groups discussed the following issues. For social issues, both groups discussed the need to integrate the migrant population, specifically the Latino population, into the community. In fact, 60% of group B ranked integration as very important, while the other 40% said it is somewhat important.

When discussing environmental issues, group A participants expressed a concern that they have been run over by the federal government when it comes to gas development. They said that 98% of the population is outraged at gas drilling, and official protests have not received a response. They believe that gas drilling was pre-determined despite the process that was taken to solicit input. The data from the focus group supports the contention that oil and gas development is very important, with 100% ranking it as very important. They believe that an oil and gas town can have positive and negative connotations. While oil and gas can provide jobs, it does not fit the vision of the town of Palisade. In addition to threatening the watershed, 100% of the participants were also very concerned that drilling rigs would hamper the viewshed. Group A participants also discussed the amount of money that is brought into the region through hunting and fishing. They believe that hunting and fishing is important to the family. In fact, wildlife is thought to be very important to 75% of the participants and neither important nor unimportant to 25% of the participants. Finally, 100% of group A participants feel that the protection of agricultural land is very important.

Group B participants discussed air quality and transportation systems as environmental concerns. Transportation was thought to be a very important concern to 60% of the participants, while the other 40% were split between somewhat important and neither important nor unimportant. Specifically, transportation can have huge impacts on the environment depending on how it is addressed. This ranges from pedestrian access to irrigation canals, the interstate system, and potential light rail lines.

Group A did not focus on any economic concerns, but group B did focus its economic concerns around maintaining a core downtown that provides entertainment opportunities and essential services (60%= very important; 40%= somewhat important) and a healthy agricultural industry that provides an abundance of unique products (80%= very important; 20%= somewhat important).

In describing their vision for public lands group A participants discussed a variety of issues, including the desire to cooperate with the BLM on creating bike trails; increasing access points to public lands while maintaining existing access points; providing access for diverse activities and trails for diverse activities such as ATV and horses; exhibiting sensitivity to watersheds and ecological areas (while not abolishing access to those areas); working to limit the impact oil rigs, roads, and homes can have on the viewscape of residents; minimizing the extraction of oil and gas; focusing on hydrology; and realizing that the community does not want recreation to overrun the community, but rather to provide access to opportunities that would stimulate the economy and improve the quality of life for residents.

Group B, when answering the same question, expressed a desire for greater customization to the management of public lands. Because different communities have different needs and interests, the

management of public lands should reflect individual communities. The participants also discussed the idea of multiple-use. One participant expressed concern that multiple-use is a “cop-out” and wants to see greater prioritization of space and resources because multiple uses are in direct conflict with each other.

### **6.2.8 Gateway**

When asked to describe their vision for Gateway’s future, most participants acknowledged that change will happen, but stressed that they would like to retain the “small-town feel” and they hope it will not all be “resort.” Most participants seemed to be comfortable with managed growth and new amenities coming into the area. There was also concern that the BLM will start enterprising with the resort through land swaps to change the character of public lands in the area, or that land will go to those with money without the average person having an opportunity to buy it as well.

Over the next 15 to 20 years the participants foresee a number of concerns that planners should keep in mind. The most intense concern according to polling by i>clickers was the ability for people to continue to work and make their livelihoods on public lands (71% of the respondents considered this very important, with only 14% indicating this is not that important). All participants indicated that proper stewardship of the land, so that groups do not abuse it, is important or very important to them. Almost all participants (88%) felt that it was important or very important that habitat and open space is maintained for wildlife. Finally, there was a concern expressed that people responsibly use the land. This was specifically related to everything from trash on public lands to land swaps.

Although most of the responses to the previous question related to public land, when asked directly how their vision relates to public lands, the participants indicated a strong preference for the multiple-use mandate of the BLM. They also suggested that to maintain the value and experience of solitude, there needs to be more enforcement of vehicle restrictions, etc. This was particularly related to the seasonal closure of routes due to winter range and sensitive habitat for wildlife. Wildlife preservation and habitat protection was a particularly strong theme throughout the Gateway community meeting.

## 7. Outcomes

Outcomes refer to changes in the community that would result from BLM adoption of various resource management alternatives, the beneficial outcomes of participants' visions, and the best way to produce beneficial outcomes. The aggregate analysis (all participants' responses) is first discussed, followed by the individual community results.

### 7.1 Outcomes: Aggregate Results

When asked an open-ended question about their desired outcomes, participants listed 26 issues (Table 7). The issue of heritage was raised in seven communities consisting of 55 participants. Moreover, the improved physical, social, and mental health of the community was raised in 5 communities consisting of 33 participants. Combined, these data show that greater consensus was reached among the communities on a few narrowly focused outcomes than was reached on values and concerns.

### 7.2 Outcomes: Community Results

In measuring outcomes, participants were asked to consider the impacts of an energy-heavy, resource protection-heavy, and recreation-heavy RMP in their visions. Participants were also asked to list any beneficial outcomes their vision would produce and then rank their importance using the aforementioned Likert Scale (see Table 8). Finally, participants were asked what characteristics they would maintain or change to achieve their visions for public lands and produce their desired outcomes.

#### 7.2.1 De Beque

When asked what effects their community would feel if the BLM emphasized recreation, energy development, or resource preservation in the RMP revision, most of the responses related to the energy development scenario. A few participants suggested that it would be a boon to the local economy, while doing no harm to the environment. To illustrate this, a discussion ensued about seeing wildlife coming right up to the rigs and interacting on cleared land. If there was a heavy emphasis on recreation in the area, a new road would be needed because the town roads could not handle the increased volume of traffic. It was agreed that the increased volume of visitors to public lands would help out local stores with customers. There were few comments about the resource protection alternative beyond a general comment on the nutritious value of native plant species for grazing by horses or cattle. The suggestion was made to plant grasses with a higher nutritional value so more livestock could be grazed on it.

When asked what beneficial outcomes to themselves, their community, or the environment could be derived from their vision, they highlighted the mental and physical health benefits (82% rated this very important), and reduced stress levels (58% rated this very important, while an additional 33% rated it important). Other beneficial outcomes to their vision include connections to the past (55% rated this very important, the rest ranked it as important) and family time (67% rated this very important and another 25% called it important). There were also a few less tangible outcomes such as a sense of pride (73% ranked this as very important), hope for the future, and a realization of "how lucky you are to live in God's country."

**Table 7**  
**Outcomes: Aggregate Focus Group Results**

<b>Issues</b>	<b>Participants N</b>	<b>Community N</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Mean</b>
Heritage	55	7	4	1	5	4.53
Health (Physical, Social, Mental)	33	5	4	1	5	4.55
Jobs/Economic Opportunities	18	3	2	3	5	4.56
Sense of Community	15	2	0	5	5	5.00
Responsible Use of Land	15	2	1	4	5	4.93
Family Time	12	1	2	3	5	4.58
Decrease Stress	12	1	2	3	5	4.50
Pride	11	1	1	4	5	4.73
Open Space/Privacy	10	1	0	5	5	5.00
Freedom	10	1	3	2	5	4.60
Balanced Use	10	1	3	2	5	4.60
Education About Ranching	10	1	1	4	5	4.50
Nice Place to Live	9	1	0	5	5	5.00
Multiple-Use	9	1	0	5	5	5.00
Consistency for Planning	9	1	2	3	5	4.78
Diversity	9	2	2	3	5	4.11
Economic Stability	6	1	1	4	5	4.67
Attract Talent	6	1	2	3	5	4.17
Relationships	6	1	3	2	5	4.00
Healthy Water Resources	5	1	0	5	5	5.00
Biodiversity	5	1	1	4	5	4.80
Clean Outdoors	5	1	2	3	5	4.60
Rabbit Hunting	5	1	4	1	5	3.60
No Fences	5	1	4	1	5	3.20
Small Town Life	4	1	0	5	5	5.00
Access	4	1	1	4	5	4.50

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

**Table 8**  
**Outcomes: Results by Community**

Issues	De Beque	Fruita	Grand Junction	Glade Park	Loma Mack	Mesa County	Palisade	Gateway	Total
Health (Physical, Social, Mental)	4.82	4.25	4.50			4.50	4.55		4.55
Pride	4.73								4.73
Family Time	4.58								4.58
Heritage	4.82		4.00	4.40	4.89	4.33	4.60	4.30	4.53
Decrease Stress	4.50								4.50
Rabbit Hunting		3.60							3.60
Jobs/Economic Opportunities		4.00	4.75		4.78				4.56
Diversity		4.20	4.00						4.11
Clean Outdoors		4.60							4.60
No Fences		3.20							3.20
Access			4.50						4.50
Sense of Community				5.00			5.00		5.00
Education About Ranching				4.50					4.50
Open Space/Privacy				5.00					5.00
Small Town Life							5.00		5.00
Relationships						4.00			4.00
Economic Stability						4.67			4.67
Nice Place to Live			5.00						5.00
Responsible Use of Land			5.00		4.89				4.93
Attract Talent			4.17						4.17
Biodiversity			4.80						4.80
Consistency for Planning					4.78				4.78
Multiple-Use					5.00				5.00
Healthy Water Resources							5.00		5.00
Freedom								4.60	4.60
Balanced Use								4.60	4.60

Note: 1= Unimportant, 2= Of Little Importance, 3= Neither Important nor Unimportant, 4= Somewhat Important, 5= Very Important

In response to a question about what landscape characteristics and settings participants would maintain or change to achieve their vision, the primary focus was access to public lands. Participants want access, but “not too much access.” They would like more places to gather, but they definitely do not want more management that interferes with personal freedoms.

### **7.2.2 Fruita**

#### ***Fruita Residents***

When asked what their community would look like if the BLM emphasized recreation, energy, and resource protection in its upcoming RMP, the participants generally leaned towards emphasizing all three. In terms of recreation, concerns were raised that one user-group would become so dominant that recreation would become unbalanced. The group recognized that all things being equal, recreation would improve the quality of life in the area. Participants noted that overemphasizing any of these would threaten his/her vision. Finally, there was concern that prices would increase in the area if recreation and energy development were too heavily emphasized.

There are several beneficial outcomes that their vision provides in the region. Among these, clean outdoors (80%=very important; 20%= unimportant), the mental and physical health of residents (80%= very important; 20%= unimportant), diversity (40%= very important; 40%= somewhat important; 20%= unimportant), open space unimpeded by fences (40%= very important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant; 20%= little importance; 20%= unimportant), and jobs (20%= very important; 60%= somewhat important; 20%= neither important nor unimportant) were discussed.

To achieve their vision, participants expressed the concern that the administrative side of land management is making it difficult for individuals to enjoy the surrounding lands. There was a desire for a more streamlined management and permit process through the BLM, thereby eliminating burdensome paperwork requirements. There was also a desire to see more individual-government relationships. The discussion pointed to the premise that government is good when dealing with businesses, but when it comes to individuals, the government believes them to be incapable of making informed decisions. There was a concern that the BLM simply plays individuals lip service while forging ahead with predetermined policies. Finally, participants wished to see open land that is unrestricted to guns and hunters. The desire for cooperation between hunters and other recreationists was expressed.

#### ***Fruita Leaders***

Of the three options (recreation, energy, and resource protection), the participants clearly preferred a recreational emphasis in the new RMP. They believe an emphasis on recreation matches the community identity, would draw more people to Fruita for vacations, and would make Fruita a regional destination. Out of the three options, the benefits to Fruita are most clear, and the downfalls minimized, if recreation were to be emphasized.

On the other hand, energy has the potential for clear benefits, but it must be implemented properly. The risks, according to the group, far outweigh the benefits. Preservation also poses some problems because it is the exact opposite of access, something the community highly values. In the end, the participants believed that a clear line should not be drawn between these alternatives because it will just divide the population into battling camps. The best way is to make them work together.

The participants believed that their vision would make Fruita a “cool place to live and play” (very important=100%), promote a healthy lifestyle (very important=66%, neither important nor unimportant=33%), rev the economic engine of the community through economic development (not to be confused with economic expansion), all while maintaining preservation and access to the lands.

### **7.2.3 Grand Junction**

Because the question was added after these focus groups, Grand Junction residents were not asked to explore the impact an RMP emphasizing recreation, energy, and resource protection would have on their community. As such, this section focuses solely on the question of beneficial outcomes.

#### ***Grand Junction Residents***

In describing the beneficial outcomes of their vision, the following topics were mentioned: nice place to live (100%= very important), sustainable management (100%= very important), biodiversity (80%= very important; 20%= somewhat important), health of the community (67%= very important; 33%= somewhat important), and attracting talent (33%= very important; 50%= somewhat important; 17%= neither important nor unimportant).

To achieve their vision, the residents suggested a more active public lands management as population increases. This includes better points of departure, signage on the trails, reserving marked trails for heavy-use trails, outhouses in heavily used areas, greater collaboration between user groups, and retention of primitive landscapes.

#### ***Grand Junction Leaders***

Some desired outcomes of leaders’ vision include economic opportunities (75%= very important; 25% somewhat important), recreational accessibility (50%= very important; 50%= somewhat important), mental and physical health (50%= very important; 50%= somewhat important), social diversity (25%= very important; 50% somewhat important; 25%= neither important or somewhat important), and heritage (25% very important; 50% somewhat important; 25% neither important nor unimportant). Other beneficial outcomes include the feeling of safety and ability to get outside and exercise, and connecting children to the land.

To achieve their vision for public lands, participants suggested more interactive discussions with the community about which/how lands are used given population growth; increased enforcement of infractions on public lands such as illegal dumping; increased dialogue between federal and local BLM agencies so the local voice is clearly heard; ramping up the amount of collaborative ways in which the changing urban interface of public lands is dealt with; and the recognition that every interest cannot be satisfied.

### **7.2.4 Glade Park**

When asked to consider the impact to the community if the RMP plan emphasized recreation or resource development or resource preservation, most comments centered around the recreational emphasis. It was suggested that recreation would increase the use of public lands unless the “BLM cracks down.” A recreational emphasis would negatively impact the quality of roads if mountain biking is encouraged, due to erosion and ruts in the roads. Recreation is likely to impact ranching as well, but this was not clarified as to how. There was a concern that recreation will lead to more trespassing issues and

an increased strain on the volunteer fire department's ability to respond. This is due to the higher demand on rescue services if recreation increases. More education was suggested as a solution to the growth of the population and the increased impact on public lands. Increased recreation use is also likely to lead to more trash on public lands. This was an important concern for many. One suggested solution was to increase the presence of BLM rangers in the area. The participants did not believe an emphasis on energy development would have much of an impact on the community because there are not very many energy resources in the area. There was a fear expressed that the resource protection emphasis would negatively affect hunting and ranching if it entailed closing access to public lands.

When asked about the desired benefits and outcomes their vision would have, the participants indicated that proper management would limit traffic. It was suggested that wildlife in the area is a personal benefit and that cattle drives can be educational. Privacy and solitude was again mentioned as a positive benefit, and participants also reacted favorably to the sense of community despite diversity. It was noted that they are resolving these issues as they build a school in the community. Participants were concerned that there was too wide a range of wealth in the community. When measured for intensity, 100% of the respondents indicated that the sense of community in the area is of greatest concern to them as a beneficial outcome. The same number also indicated that the outcome of open space is very important to them. Other outcomes mentioned and measured included heritage and educating the public about ranching and protecting the ranching heritage in the area. In both cases the group was evenly divided between those who indicated it is very important and those who indicated it is somewhat important. A brief discussion ensued after intensity was measured for the heritage outcome on concerns about the value of ranching in the area. The group's greatest concern was that growth in the area might limit ranching and negatively impact wildlife and agriculture if access is denied. There are many benefits to ranching expressed, including open space and wildlife preservation. It was feared that new members of the community might not be able to see the value of ranching for the community.

The next question asked what characteristics of BLM-managed lands they would specifically maintain or change to achieve their vision. The first and strongest response centered on the issue of access and roads, and a related concern about the mapping of the roads. Maps can be useful, but the roads on the map must be maintained, and if the map calls a route closed it should be closed. Maps and a presence of BLM personnel would both be helpful to educate the public about the roads, and where they can and cannot travel. These maps can also be linked to the Glade Park Web site, if available, to address these concerns regarding trespass and degradation of the resource when people travel where they are not supposed to.

### **7.2.5 Loma and Mack**

When asked what would happen to their community if the RMP had a heavy emphasis on recreation, energy development, or resource protection, the focus group participants seemed to react most strongly to the emphasis on recreation. If there is too much emphasis on recreation at the cost of energy development or other uses, Loma will suffer economically. BLM should honor current energy commitments, including oil shale. The focus on recreation would lead to more people coming to the area and more start-up businesses. This might lead to increased sales and tax revenue, but it will cost the community in terms of loss of solitude and the decline of agriculture (two values ranked very high earlier in the focus group). On the positive side, an increase in population would help the economy through

building and home repairs. The housing theme carried over to the conversation about an energy development scenario. This is especially relevant to these communities due to their close proximity to the new coal mine and other energy resources. This would impact not only the demand for housing but the wear and tear on infrastructure such as roads. Despite these costs, it was believed that energy development would help protect the economic base of these communities. If there is a significant emphasis on energy development, it was suggested that the BLM would have to surrender some of its lands to accommodate the growth in the area as a result of the development. Finally, there were a few that favored a resource protection alternative because they saw it as an increase in regulations on the land (already seen as burdensome). They also believed that resource preservation would limit access (especially if new Wilderness areas were designated). Access was a key issue here, particularly “consistent” access.

The beneficial outcomes that they felt would be derived from their vision included consistency for planning (85% very important), multiple-use public lands (100% very important), a sound economic base (75% very important; 25% important), heritage connections (85% very important), and the responsible use of the land (85% very important).

#### **7.2.6 Mesa County**

When asked to speculate what impact an energy-heavy, recreation-heavy, and resource protection-heavy RMP would have on Mesa County, the respondents eschewed the idea that an RMP should emphasize any single issue over another. Because they believe that energy, recreation, and resource protection cannot be disentangled, they would prefer to see all three issues emphasized in an RMP.

In the end, the participants believe that their vision for the community would produce several beneficial outcomes. Among these, economic stability and maintaining the mental/physical health of the community are the most important outcomes to the participants, with 66% believing these two issues are very important. Other outcomes include protecting Mesa County’s heritage (50% very important; 33% somewhat important; 16% neither important nor unimportant), the health of interpersonal relationships and social connections (50% very important; 16% somewhat important; 16% neither important nor unimportant; 16% of little importance), more lifestyle choices, and balanced and expanded opportunities for Mesa County residents.

To achieve their vision for public lands, participants believe that land use managers should focus their efforts on maintaining a healthy and stable ecosystem; limit the number of users in certain areas of public lands; educate the public on the proper use of public lands, including etiquette and endangered species; and provide more interpretative opportunities for users.

#### **7.2.7 Palisade**

When asked to describe the impact of a recreation, energy, and resource protection emphasis in the RMP on their community, group A participants expressed an interest in balancing all three. However, they recognized that recreation or resource protection would benefit the town and wise energy development would also be acceptable. For recreation, a non-motorized emphasis would be preferable because motorized activities increase noise, pollution, and deterioration of trails and have an impact on area wildlife. Participants said that a recreation emphasis would attract a younger, less affluent population. An energy emphasis would increase the size of the community, while increasing land values and housing

prices. Resource protection, despite being a positive emphasis, would lead to slower growth of the community. Overall, there was recognition that any decision the BLM makes can have an impact on Palisade and that the BLM should work with the community when making these decisions.

Group B participants believed that recreation would provide a sustainable, year-round, economically appealing emphasis that would not inhibit the viewscape. Energy, on the other hand, would harm the watershed, be susceptible to the boom and bust cycle of the industry, harm the viewscape of the area, and negatively impact the wildlife habitat of the area. It was expressed that residents do not like the idea of an energy-heavy RMP. Resource protection would help the scenery and preserve the past by preserving archaeological resources, but it could also decrease use and access and lead to more users creating their own unauthorized trails.

The benefits of group A's vision includes improved physical health (50%= very important; 50%= somewhat important), mental health (75%= very important; 25%= neither important nor unimportant), social health through social interaction (75%= very important; 25%= somewhat important), and the maintenance of small-town life (100%= very important).

Group B participants discussed the impact their vision has on the physical and mental health of the community (100%= very important), self sustainability, uniqueness (having own little place in the valley), a well-rounded community that provides a variety of recreational opportunities, businesses such as orchards, wineries, and agritourism (100%= very important), cultural heritage through interpretations and (ideally) a museum displaying the historic resources of the area (60%= very important; 40%= somewhat important), a well-positioned agricultural industry, and healthy and adequate water resources, especially for the agriculture industry and recreation (100%= very important).

To achieve their vision, group A participants would provide more defined attractions to further their goal of agritourism while creating a stronger management focus to help mitigate the negative impacts increased tourism has on public lands. This stronger management focus would require the BLM to define who the users of public lands are, define what the users expect from the BLM, and create a transparent process for making reasonable decisions.

### **7.2.8 Gateway**

The focus group was asked what might happen to the Gateway community if the RMP revision took a particular emphasis such as recreation, energy development, or resource protection. In response to the recreation scenario, there were concerns that it would seriously cost the community because "livestock operations, hunting, mining or anything that is profitable on public lands would disappear." Participants also believe that a recreation emphasis would increase the demand for services that the community would have to provide, including emergency services and law enforcement, but it would also increase the number of businesses in the community. They are concerned that there would be a loss of wildlife as a result of increased traffic, especially those traveling fast early and late in the day. The increased volume of recreation activity would also have a detrimental effect on habitat and cause the game to be hesitant to venture into open space to graze. Other concerns expressed with a recreation emphasis include the clash with other uses such as energy development, and the need for the BLM to increase its administrative commitment to the area for trail construction and maintenance as well as signage. There was a concern that this would stretch the limited resources of the BLM for the entire field office. Most of the concerns

relating to the energy development emphasis center around planning for the development. It was the opinion of several that if energy development was done “the right way” there would be little or no impact. Others suggested that they would prefer uranium energy development to oil and gas because of its minimized impact and traditional association with the area. If the RMP has a resource protection emphasis in the area, it was suggested that it would help recreation as the area would become a destination point, especially with additional Wilderness designation. On the other hand, if trails are closed to protect resources, this might negatively affect livestock jobs and recreation in the area.

Next, participants were asked what beneficial outcome emerges from their vision of their community and public lands. The overwhelming concern based on their comments seems to be freedom and the multiple-use of public lands. When polled, 80% suggested that promoting the value of freedom is very important to them, and 80% also placed the strongest emphasis possible on balanced use of land. It was suggested that different users would check each other. There was also a strong sentiment (60% very important and 30% important) attached to the idea of a connection to the history and lifestyle of the area. It is feared that too much Wilderness creates limited access, which threatens or goes against these strongly held goals.

When asked to be more specific about what character settings for the landscape participants would maintain or change, they suggested that the BLM not advertise public lands as much because it attracts too many people. They also recommended allowing wood cutting to help healthy stands of trees, which led to a side discussion on the difficulties and restrictions on vehicles in the current tree cutting permit process.

### **7.3 BLM Actions**

As listed in Appendix 10, a number of action items were requested by the communities. Some action items fall under the jurisdiction of the BLM while others do not. This report lists all action items listed by the communities and indicates if the action item falls under the jurisdiction of the BLM and RMP revision. If an action item falls under the jurisdiction of the GJFO, the action item is categorized into the most relevant planning issue category. Approximately 90% of the action items are coded as being relevant to the BLM’s jurisdiction and revision of the RMP.

## 8. Collaboration

A final component of the focus groups was to identify the appropriate collaborative role of local governments, businesses, the tourism industry, and community residents in the planning and management of public lands.

### 8.1 Collaboration: Aggregate Results

As illustrated in Table 9, the results show significant support for community involvement in both planning (Mean= 4.41) and management (Mean= 3.49). Overall, participants were more receptive to the idea of collaboration in planning rather than management.

**Table 9**  
**Role of Collaborative Partners in Planning and Managing of Public Lands**

Question	N	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Local Government Planning	72	4	1	5	3.97
Business Planning	73	4	1	5	3.49
Tourism Planning	73	4	1	5	3.49
Community Residents Planning	73	4	1	5	4.41
Local Government Management	73	4	1	5	2.93
Business Management	73	4	1	5	2.62
Tourism Management	72	4	1	5	2.47
Community Residents Management	71	4	1	5	3.49

Question: "What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLM's land managing partners in managing and planning for federal public lands?"

Note: 1= Never, 2= Rare, 3= Occasional, 4= Frequent, 5= Significant

Participants identified a number of additional potential collaborative partners, ranging from national citizenry to agricultural interests. These potential partners are shown in Table 10.

**Table 10**  
**Potential Collaborating Partners: Aggregate Results**

<b>Potential Collaborating Partners</b>	<b>Number of Communities that Mentioned Group</b>
Educational Institutions (local schools and Mesa State College)	4
Individual User Groups	4
National Citizens	3
States	3
Colorado Division of Wildlife	2
Organized Advocacy Groups	2
Agricultural Interests	1
Colorado National Monument	1
Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association	1
Counties	1
Emergency Services	1
Environmental Groups	1
Expert Groups (Sierra Club)	1
Extraction Industries	1
Federal Agencies	1
Friends of the Mustang	1
Groups with Conditional Use and Special Permits	1
Nonprofit Groups (e.g., Boy Scouts)	1
Other Government Agencies	1
Powderhorn Resort	1
Professional Associations	1
Public Interest Groups	1
Riverfront Commission	1
Scientists	1
Senior Citizens	1
Small Communities	1
Tribal Interests	1
United States Forest Service	1
Urban Trails	1
Visitors to the Region	1
Volunteer Fire Department	1
Western Slope ATV	1
Wild Horse Council	1
Wildlife Groups	1
Youth	1

## 8.2 Collaboration: Community Results

Data in Table 11 show the preference of each community for the types of collaborating partner should be involved in BLM planning and management of public lands. Participants showed the most support for involving community residents during the planning process.

**Table 11**  
**Collaborating Partners: Results by Community**

Collaborating Partner	De Beque	Fruita	Grand Junction	Glade Park	Loma Mack	Mesa County	Palisade	Gateway	Total
Local Government Planning	3.64	4.13	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.67	4.56	3.67	3.97
Business Planning	4.00	3.25	2.70	2.60	4.78	2.67	3.56	4.10	3.49
Tourism Planning	3.33	3.71	3.60	2.80	3.56	3.67	4.11	3.40	3.49
Community Residents Planning	4.82	3.88	4.30	4.30	5.00	4.00	4.33	4.40	4.41
Local Government Management	2.25	3.00	2.70	3.40	3.11	3.00	3.44	2.78	2.93
Business Management	3.08	2.50	1.60	2.00	4.00	2.17	2.44	3.00	2.62
Tourism Management	2.25	2.86	2.10	2.00	2.33	3.17	2.78	2.78	2.47
Community Residents Management	3.60	3.50	2.50	3.67	4.56	3.83	2.56	3.90	3.49

### 8.2.1 De Beque

The De Beque focus group participants were asked to rate their preferences for collaborative partner roles in the planning and management of public lands. Participants thought that the greatest role in planning should go to community residents, with 91% of the respondents indicating that the role for residents should be significant (the highest rating). This can be compared to the significant percentages for the other groups, including local government (36%), businesses (45%), and tourism (17%). Curiously, 18% indicated that local government should never be involved in planning, and 9% said business should never be involved in planning. In the area of management, residents once again expressed support for involvement (30% significant and 20% frequently, with 10% suggesting they should never be involved in management). Nevertheless, the average support for involvement in management of public lands fell. Only business received support for significant involvement in management of public lands (17%). Local government is not expected to be involved in management according to 42% of the respondents (which is the most common response). Tourism also had negatives, but it was far less likely to show up in the

“never participate” column (25%). When asked why it is so important to have citizen involvement, participants replied that “we know what we want to have happen out there, and if we have a say, then we will get what we want.” Other groups not polled but mentioned include Western Slope ATV, the Friends of the Mustang, and the Wild Horse council.

### **8.2.2 Fruita**

#### ***Fruita Residents***

When asked who should be involved in the planning and management of public lands, the participants leaned heavily towards community residents. In fact, 60% of the participants said that community residents should play a “significant role” in planning, while the other 40% believe they should have a “frequent role.” When compared to the other groups (local governments, businesses, tourism industry), only local governments showed as much support to be involved in the planning process (40%= significant; 40%= occasional). However, when it comes to managing the land, participants are not as supportive of community involvement. Only 20% believe community residents should be “significantly” involved in management, with 40% believing they should have frequent and occasional involvement. On the other hand, 100% of the participants believe local government should be “occasionally” involved in the management of public lands. Other groups that the participants identified include visitors to the region and organized advocacy groups.

#### ***Fruita Leaders***

The results show that local governments should be the most active in planning (significant=66%; occasional=33%), followed by tourism (significant=33%; frequent=66%), community residents (significant=33%; frequent=33%; occasional=33%), and businesses (significant= 33%; occasional= 33%). In managing the lands, no single group stands out. Businesses and the tourism industry have the same support (frequent=66%; occasional=33%) followed by local government (frequent= 33%; occasional=66%) and community residents (frequent=33%; occasional=33%; rare=33%). One participant said that the democratic process requires that community residents become highly involved in planning, but that management is a different function. Moreover, it was stated that the definition of “community” is difficult to define and that the BLM should place a stronger emphasis on defining the communities it serves.

Other groups the participants noted should be included in these discussions include national citizens, states, counties, individual user groups (such as rafters and bikers), and professional associations (such as the City Managers League and the National Parks and Recreation Association). Participants believe that in the end, more input is always valuable.

### **8.2.3 Grand Junction**

#### ***Grand Junction Residents***

For involvement in planning, community residents received the most support (67%= significant; 33%= frequent), followed by local governments (17% significant; 67%= frequent; 17%= rare), tourism industry (83%= frequent; 17%= occasional), and business (50%= occasional; 50%= rare). Community residents were also thought to play the largest role in managing public lands (17%= significant; 50%=occasional;

33%= rare). Other groups include local governments (50%= occasional; 50%= rare), business (67%= rare; 33% never), tourism industry (33%= frequent; 67%= rare), and community residents.

Other groups that were mentioned as collaborating partners include scientists (especially in land management), state government (land management), agricultural interests, the national population, other government agencies, environmental groups, and educational groups such as Mesa State College and public schools.

### ***Grand Junction Leaders***

The results show that Grand Junction leaders exhibit the greatest level of support for local governments. The results show that 50% of the participants think local governments should have a “significant” level of involvement in planning, while 50% feel it should be frequent. Comparatively, the results show lukewarm support for planning by other sectors: business (25%= frequent; 50% occasional; 25% rare), tourism (25%= significant; 50% occasional; 25% rare), and community residents (75%= frequent; 25% occasional). As for management, local government also leads in level of support, with 100% believing it should have an “occasional” role. Comparatively, the other groups received little support: business (50%= rare; 50%= never), tourism industry (25% rare; 75% never) and community residents (25% never; 75% rare). The participants feel that it would be difficult to get the community involved.

Other collaborating partners the participants identified include nonprofit groups such as boy/girl scouts, Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association and other organized user groups, tribal interests, extraction industries, educational institutions such as Mesa State College and public schools, and senior citizens. Residents also suggested that the BLM revise the way it collects information because people simply do not have the time for lengthy meetings.

### **8.2.4 Glade Park**

Most think there is a frequent role for local government in the planning process, less so for the local business community. This term “business community” confused the group as it lacked context in the area, so it was operationalized to represent ranchers. This led to a separate set of assessments for the ranching community. There was a strong feeling that they should be involved in the process significantly (60% of respondents) or frequently (40% of respondents). Unlike the other queries that indicate a diminishment between participation in planning and participation in management, the values for ranching participation in management remained strong (40%= significant) and (30%= frequently). Other interesting results of the participation question in planning and management came from responses to the proper role of community residents in these areas. Eighty percent suggested that the role of community residents in the planning process should be significant, and 30% suggested the role of community citizens in the management of public lands should be significant while another 30% suggested that it should be frequent. When asked about these results, it was suggested that community involvement should be strong because they are the ones on the land every day. Participants seemed to be more interested in providing input in planning rather than day-to-day management activities. Other collaborating partners mentioned by the participants include Colorado Division of Wildlife, Glade Park Volunteer Fire Department, the US Forest Service, and the Colorado National Monument.

### **8.2.5 Loma and Mack**

In Loma and Mack, business was defined by the participants in this focus group to be agriculture and energy industries. Every participant rated the role of business as significant (75%) or frequent (25%) in the planning process. While 70% maintained these rankings for business' role in management, the emphasis and frequency of its role decreased across the board. The role of the tourism industry was less defined in the planning and management of public lands. There was at least a 10% decrease in each choice, with a greater emphasis on less involvement of the tourism industry in the management process. Most notable was the response to the role of community residents in the planning and managing of public lands. All nine participants think that residents should be significantly involved (the highest rating) in planning, and that support remained at 70% for having a significant role to play in managing public lands by community residents. When asked, participants indicated that they know the land as well as anybody. Follow-up questions to better understand what participants meant when they indicated that there should be a significant role for community residents in the actual management of public lands suggests that activities such as trail-building, clean-up, conservation, and policing of the area as well as oversight and evaluation of BLM managers are important roles for citizens to play.

The last question was intended to capture any partnerships in planning and management that might have been missed by earlier discussion. Immediately it was suggested that the BLM needs to start partnering better with local schools. The BLM needs to reach out to the younger generation, but must do so from a variety of perspectives. It was noted that there are no younger people at the meetings, and participants would like to see them more involved in the process. There was some concern expressed that if too many interests were represented at "the table" it would be unmanageable as the BLM tried to please all. User groups should be consulted for collaboration in both planning and management.

### **8.2.6 Mesa County**

The participants were most favorable of community involvement in planning (33%= significant; 33%= frequent; 33%= occasional). Other results show support for the role of tourism (16%= significant; 50%= frequent; 16%= occasional; 16%= rare) and local government (16%= significant; 33%= frequent; 50%= occasional) being involved in planning. Less support was shown for the role of business in planning (66%= occasional; 33%= rare).

Participants expressed a desire for the community to be involved in the management of public lands (16%= significant; 50%= frequent; 33%= occasional). Support was also shown for the tourism industry (16%= significant; 66%= occasional; 16%= rare). Receiving less support was local government (16%= frequent; 66%= occasional; 16%= rare) and business (16%= occasional; 83%= rare).

### **8.2.7 Palisade**

When looking at the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLM's land managing partners, the two groups expressed the opinions shown in Table 12, below.

**Table 12**  
**Palisade Collaborating Partners Results**

	<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>
<b>Local Government</b>		
Planning	50%= significant 25%= frequent 25%= occasional	80%= significant 20%= frequent
Management	75%= occasional 25%= rare	40%= significant 20%= frequent 40%= occasional
<b>Businesses</b>		
Planning	100%= occasional	20%= significant 60%= frequent 20%= occasional
Management	50%= rare 50%= never	40%= frequent 40%= occasional 20%= rare
<b>Tourism Industry</b>		
Planning	25%= significant 25%= frequent 50%= occasional	60%= significant 20%= frequent 20%= occasional
Management	50%= occasional 25%= rare 25%= never	40%= frequent 50%= occasional 25%= rare
<b>Community Residents</b>		
Planning	25%= significant 50%= frequent 25%= occasional	60%= significant 40%= frequent
Management	25%= occasional 50%= rare 25%= never	20%= significant 40%= occasional 40%= rare

Other partners listed by the two groups include the state, expert groups such as the Sierra Club, or other organized groups (such as motorized groups and Trout Unlimited) because all groups need to have the opportunity to participate and the results need to be transparent. Other groups include small communities such as Mesa, Powderhorn Resort, youth groups (although not necessarily the school district), wildlife groups, and nonprofit groups that are not aimed at wildlife (such as Urban Trails and the riverfront commission).

### **8.2.8 Gateway**

Fifty percent of the group indicated that citizens should be significantly involved in the planning process, while another 40% thought citizens should be frequently involved in the planning process. Fewer (only 20%) thought citizens should be significantly involved in management, but 50% thought that

involvement should be frequent. When further pressed to explain how they interpreted “management” or why there was such a need for citizen involvement, participants indicated that because the plans are always evolving, the people must stay connected to the decision making because the people are the ones that have to live with decisions made. They also felt that residents are closer to the issues and understand them better than a decision maker in a distant area, such as New Jersey, who might not know the land. Participants expressed a note of caution on citizen management because the citizens change over time and this may have a significant impact on management. Responses to the other categories of collaborative partners indicate lukewarm support for local government’s role in planning (only 50% indicated it should be frequent or more often) and even less support for local government’s role in management (only 30% indicated it should be frequent or significant). Response for business involvement was marginally better, with 80% indicating that it should be frequent or significant in the planning stage, but only 30% indicating that it should be frequent and 10% indicating that there is no role at all for business in management of public lands. The greatest division in the group came when asked about the role for the tourism industry in planning and management of public lands. Forty percent thought it should be significantly involved in planning, while 20% said it should have no role at all. This division continued when asked about tourism’s involvement in management, with every choice from significant involvement (10%) to no involvement (20%) being selected by some members of the group.

When asked about other collaborating partners that could or should be involved in either planning or management, the group had several suggestions. They suggested that the general public, not just community residents, should be involved. In keeping with the emphasis on wildlife in the Gateway group, Colorado Division of Wildlife was suggested as an important partner in both planning and managing public lands. Groups with conditional use and special use permits as well as other federal agencies and schools were also mentioned. The desire to include schools (both K-12 and higher education) surfaced in over half of all the focus groups in the area. This might be an untapped or underutilized potential partnership. Other groups mentioned as potential partners include recreation clubs, public interest groups, and emergency services.

## 9. Findings

The community assessment process resulted in the following eight findings:

- 1. The Value of Public Land:** Public lands are a vital component of what citizens enjoy about living in their respective communities. The most frequently discussed values of wildlife, access, small-town atmosphere, quiet/isolation, open space, and recreation are all related to public lands. The same is true of the concerns that were identified: health of public lands, social spaces, water, trash, oil and gas development, jobs and economic growth, and user conflict on public lands. While some connections to public lands may not be as readily apparent as others, they are nonetheless visible. For example, the small-town atmosphere of many communities is protected by surrounding public lands, as these lands prevent significant population increases. It is clear that public lands both attract and maintain residents by increasing the quality of life for residents of the communities found in the BLM GJFO planning area.
- 2. The Need for a Tailored Approach to Managing Public Lands:** In most cases, the character of a community is shaped by its surrounding public lands. Because citizens are attracted to the character of their communities, they have a strong desire to maintain that character. The result is a lack of consensus among the communities for how public lands should be managed. The different interests and intensity preferences among the communities suggest that a tailored management approach for each community is preferable to a one-size-fits-all management approach. For example, there is more support for oil and gas development in the northern part of the Roan Creek Area than in the Grand Valley Area. Agriculture is an emphasis in both the Glade Park and Grand Mesa Slopes Areas, but the preferred type of agriculture differs, with communities favoring ranching in the Glade Park Area, and higher-end fruit growing in the Grand Mesa Slopes Area. The individual community write-ups provide a more detailed discussion of community preferences.
- 3. Conflicting Viewpoints:** Even within communities, there are conflicts over what residents desire. For example, the experiences ATV users and quiet users seek are contradictory. Yet, because the participants believe that public lands should provide opportunities for multiple users, they expressed a desire for multiple-use management. Specifically, participants expressed a desire for a tailored multiple-use approach that reflects community values, addresses the concerns of community members, and helps the community achieve its outcomes. This might mean a greater emphasis on mountain biking in the Grand Valley and Grand Mesa Slopes Management Areas, with more OHV use in the remote areas of the Bangs Canyon, Glade Park, and Gateway Management Areas.
- 4. Economic Opportunities:** Given the diversity of public lands in the GJFO, there are a diverse range of economic opportunities directly tied to public lands. These include agritourism (in the Grand Valley and Grand Mesa Slopes Management Areas), ranching (in the Glade Park Management Area), extractive resources development (in the northern portion of the Roan Creek Management Area), tourism (in the Gateway Management Area), attracting business (in the Grand Valley Management Area), recreation services (in the Bangs Canyon Management Area), and hunting (in the Bookcliffs and Glade Park Management Areas), to name just a few. Not all of

these economic opportunities appear in each community. In fact, the uniqueness of the local economic opportunities on public land contributes to the unique characteristics of the distinctive communities. There can be conflict among these opportunities, and the BLM should tailor the management of their lands to prevent and/or manage conflict.

5. **Presence of a Regional Hub:** Grand Junction is a regional hub and there is recognition that the management of public lands can impact the city and surrounding communities. This impact can be felt in numerous ways, from acting as a natural barrier to growth, to encouraging high-density development, attracting young talent to the region, and attracting businesses. In turn, because Grand Junction is the regional hub, what happens in Grand Junction has an impact on surrounding communities. As a result, the BLM should factor this into their decision-making process.
6. **The Need for Educational Outreach:** There was a desire by participants to see a conscientious effort by the BLM to engage in educational outreach. Educating citizens about public lands, the challenges of managing these lands, and stewardship were important to many communities. Beginning this process with children (in tandem with public schools) would help correct many of the problems witnessed on public lands such as dumping trash and ad-hoc trail building. In turn, this would lessen the burden on the BLM, which is perceived to be stretched as a result of inadequate funding. This would help ameliorate public relations problems that may persist in the GJFO, while giving communities a more focused understanding of how the BLM can appropriately help them achieve their vision.
7. **The Desire for Collaboration:** Beyond outreach, there is a clear desire for collaboration between the BLM and various partners. The two groups that received the most support as collaborators are community residents and local governments. There was greater support for collaboration in the planning process than there was in the management of public lands. Also, a number of additional partners were identified as ones the BLM should consider during planning and management of public lands.
8. **The Process for Identifying Action Areas:** Because of budgetary concerns, as well as a defined jurisdiction, the BLM cannot address every action desired by focus group participants. As such, the BLM should be judicious when identifying areas of action. Its emphasis should be on collaborating with other jurisdictions and partners to ensure that its management actions can have the greatest impact in helping communities achieve their vision.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1. Values: Rural and Grand Valley Communities

Given the diversity among the communities in which focus groups were conducted, the above results are sorted into Grand Valley and rural communities. Grand Valley communities include Grand Junction, Palisade, Fruita, and Mesa County.

	Rural			Grand Valley Communities			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
Recreational Access	5.00	0	7	4.67	1	3	4.90	1	10
Small Town	4.32	3	19	4.42	4	12	4.35	4	31
Wildlife	4.80	1	30	4.00	3	5	4.69	3	35
Sense of Community	4.11	2	9	5.00	0	4	4.38	2	13
Access	3.86	4	7	4.81	1	26	4.61	4	33
Viewscape				4.31	4	13	4.31	4	13
Recreation				5.00	0	13	5.00	0	13
Regional Provider				5.00	0	4	5.00	0	4
Open Space	4.65	3	17				4.65	3	17
Quiet/Isolation	4.53	3	19	4.00	2	4	4.43	3	23
Family History	4.30	2	10				4.30	2	10
Ranching	4.60	3	10				4.60	3	10
Festivals				4.29	1	7	4.29	1	7
Tourism				4.50	1	4	4.50	1	4
Big But Not Too Big				4.67	1	9	4.67	1	9
Culture Guided by Landscape				4.25	2	4	4.25	2	4
Variety of Ecosystems				4.80	1	5	4.80	1	5
Non-Motorized Access				4.60	1	5	4.60	1	5
Not Grand Junction	4.25	2	8				4.25	2	8
Lower Taxes	4.38	2	8				4.38	2	8
Agriculture	4.78	2	9	4.67	1	3	4.75	2	12
Shopping				4.50	1	4	4.50	1	4
History/Heritage				3.67	1	3	3.67	1	3

**Appendix 2. Concerns: Rural and Grand Valley Communities**

	Rural			Grand Valley Communities			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
Waste Ponds	4.92	1	12				4.92	1	12
Social Spaces	4.18	2	11	4.00	2	6	4.12	2	17
Horse Sales	4.50	2	12				4.50	2	12
Oil and Gas Development				4.40	2	14	4.40	2	14
Health of Public Lands				4.71	2	17	4.71	2	17
Trash	5.00	0	9	4.80	1	5	4.93	1	14
Green Energy				4.40	2	5	4.40	2	5
Jobs and Economic Growth				4.29	2	14	4.29	2	14
Economic Diversity				4.60	2	10	4.60	2	10
Attract Young Talent				4.00	0	4	4.00	0	4
Housing Options				4.50	1	4	4.50	1	4
Place Identity				4.75	1	4	4.75	1	4
User Balance of Public Lands	5.00	0	9	4.75	1	4	4.92	1	13
Sustainable Ranching	4.80	1	10				4.80	1	10
McInnis Canyons NCA	4.30	1	10				4.30	1	10
Wilderness Study Area Proposals	4.67	1	9				4.67	1	9
Water	4.90	1	10	4.67	1	6	4.81	1	16
Agriculture				4.89	1	9	4.89	1	9
Wildlife				4.50	2	4	4.50	2	4
Federal Government Listens to Local Community				5.00	0	4	5.00	0	4
Air Quality				4.45	1	11	4.45	1	11
Social Events				4.00	2	6	4.00	2	6
Education				4.67	2	6	4.67	2	6
Regional Hub Status				4.33	2	6	4.33	2	6
Physical Growth				4.83	1	6	4.83	1	6
Enforcement	4.67	2	9				4.67	2	9
Noxious Weeds	4.33	4	9				4.33	4	9
Closed Trails	4.78	1	9				4.78	1	9
Mining and Shale as Economic Help	4.56	3	9				4.56	3	9
Transportation				4.40	2	5	4.40	2	5
Downtown Core				4.60	1	5	4.60	1	5
Integration				4.60	1	5	4.60	1	5
Access	4.33	2	9	5.00	0	3	4.50	2	12
Working on Public Lands	4.43	3	7				4.43	3	7
2AI Solitude	4.13	2	8				4.13	2	8
2AJ Stewardship	4.50	1	6				4.50	1	6

**Appendix 3. Outcomes: Rural and Grand Valley Communities**

	Rural			Grand Valley Communities			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
Health (Physical, Social, Mental)	4.82	1	11	4.42	4	22	4.55	4	33
Pride	4.73	1	11				4.73	1	11
Family Time	4.58	2	12				4.58	2	12
Heritage	4.60	4	40	4.33	2	15	4.53	4	55
Decrease Stress	4.50	2	12				4.50	2	12
Rabbit Hunting				3.60	4	5	3.60	4	5
Jobs/Economic Opportunities	4.78	1	9	4.33	2	9	4.56	2	18
Diversity				4.11	2	9	4.11	2	9
Clean Outdoors				4.60	2	5	4.60	2	5
No Fences				3.20	4	5	3.20	4	5
Access				4.50	1	4	4.50	1	4
Sense of Community	5.00	0	10	5.00	0	5	5.00	0	15
Education About Ranching	4.50	1	10				4.50	1	10
Open Space/Privacy	5.00	0	10				5.00	0	10
Small Town Life				5.00	0	4	5.00	0	4
Relationships				4.00	3	6	4.00	3	6
Economic Stability				4.67	1	6	4.67	1	6
Nice Place to Live				5.00	0	9	5.00	0	9
Responsible Use of Land	4.89	1	9	5.00	0	6	4.93	1	15
Attract Talent				4.17	2	6	4.17	2	6
Biodiversity				4.80	1	5	4.80	1	5
Consistency for Planning	4.78	2	9				4.78	2	9
Multiple-Use	5.00	0	9				5.00	0	9
Healthy Water Resources				5.00	0	5	5.00	0	5
Freedom	4.60	3	10				4.60	3	10
Balanced Use	4.60	3	10				4.60	3	10

**Appendix 4. Collaboration: Rural and Grand Valley Communities**

	Rural			Grand Valley Communities			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
Local Planning	3.82	4	39	4.15	3	33	3.97	4	72
Business Planning	3.85	4	40	3.06	3	33	3.49	4	73
Tourism Planning	3.27	4	41	3.78	3	32	3.49	4	73
Community Planning	4.63	4	40	4.15	4	33	4.41	4	73
Local Management	2.85	4	40	3.03	3	33	2.93	4	73
Business Management	3.00	4	40	2.15	3	33	2.62	4	73
Tourism Management	2.33	4	40	2.66	4	32	2.47	4	72
Community Management	3.92	4	38	3.00	4	33	3.49	4	71

## Appendix 5. Values: Group Type

	Resident			Leader			Mixed Group			Total	
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range
1A Recreational Access				4.67	1	3	5.00	0	7	4.90	1
1B Small Town	3.60	4	5	5.00	0	7	4.32	3	19	4.35	4
1C Wildlife	4.00	3	5				4.80	1	30	4.69	3
1D Sense of Community				5.00	0	4	4.11	2	9	4.38	2
1E Access	5.00	0	10	4.67	1	12	4.18	4	11	4.61	4
1F Viewscape	3.60	4	5	4.75	2	8				4.31	4
1G Recreation	5.00	0	5	5.00	0	4	5.00	0	4	5.00	0
1H Regional Provider				5.00	0	4				5.00	0
1I Open Space							4.65	3	17	4.65	3
1J Quiet/ Isolation							4.43	3	23	4.43	3
1K Family History							4.30	2	10	4.30	2
1L Ranching							4.60	3	10	4.60	3
1M Festivals				4.29	1	7				4.29	1
1N Tourism				4.50	1	4				4.50	1
1O Big But Not Too Big	4.60	1	5				4.75	1	4	4.67	1
1P Culture Guided by Landscape							4.25	2	4	4.25	2
1Q Variety of Ecosystems	4.80	1	5							4.80	1
1R Non-Motorized Access	4.60	1	5							4.60	1
1S Not Grand Junction							4.25	2	8	4.25	2
1T Lower Taxes							4.38	2	8	4.38	2
1U Agriculture				4.67	1	3	4.78	2	9	4.75	2
1V Shopping				4.50	1	4				4.50	1
1W History/Heritage				3.67	1	3				3.67	1

## Appendix 6. Concerns: Group Type

	Resident			Leader			Mixed Group			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
2A Waste Ponds							4.92	1	12	4.92	1	12
2B Social Spaces							4.12	2	17	4.12	2	17
2C Horse Sales							4.50	2	12	4.50	2	12
2D Oil and Gas Development	4.20	2	10	4.90	0	4				4.40	2	14
2E Health of Public Lands	4.55	2	11				5.00	0	6	4.71	2	17
2F Trash	4.80	1	5				5.00	0	9	4.93	1	14
2G Green Energy	4.40	2	5							4.40	2	5
2H Jobs and Economic Growth	4.09	2	11	5.00	0	3				4.29	2	14
2I Economic Diversity	4.50	2	6	4.75	1	4				4.60	2	10
2J Attract Young Talent				4.00	0	4				4.00	0	4
2K Housing Options				4.50	1	4				4.50	1	4
2L Place Identity				4.75	1	4				4.75	1	4
2M User Balance of Public Lands				4.75	1	4	5.00	0	9	4.92	1	13
2N Sustainable Ranching							4.80	1	10	4.80	1	10
2O McInnis NCA							4.30	1	10	4.30	1	10
2P WSA Proposals							4.67	1	9	4.67	1	9
2Q Water							4.81	1	16	4.81	1	16
2R Agriculture				4.89	1	9				4.89	1	9
2S Wildlife				4.50	2	4				4.50	2	4
2T Federal Govt Listen to Local Community				5.00	0	4				5.00	0	4
2U Air Quality				4.40	1	5	4.50	1	6	4.45	1	11
2V Social Events							4.00	2	6	4.00	2	6
2W Education							4.67	2	6	4.67	2	6
2X Regional Hub Status							4.33	2	6	4.33	2	6
2Y Physical Growth	4.83	1	6							4.83	1	6

2Z Enforcement							4.67	2	9	4.67	2	9
2AA Noxious Weeds							4.33	4	9	4.33	4	9
2AB Closed Trails							4.78	1	9	4.78	1	9
2AC Mining and Shale as Economic Help							4.56	3	9	4.56	3	9
2AD Transportation			4.40	2	5					4.40	2	5
2AE Downtown Core			4.60	1	5					4.60	1	5
2AF Integration			4.60	1	5					4.60	1	5
2AG Access			5.00	0	3	4.33	2	9	4.50	2	12	
2AH Working on Public Lands							4.43	3	7	4.43	3	7
2AI Solitude							4.13	2	8	4.13	2	8
2AJ Stewardship							4.50	1	6	4.50	1	6

## Appendix 7. Outcomes: Group Type

	Resident			Leader			Mixed Group			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
3A Health (Physical, Social, Mental)	4.20	4	5	4.47	2	11	4.71	2	17	4.55	4	33
3B Pride							4.73	1	11	4.73	1	11
3C Family Time							4.58	2	12	4.58	2	12
3D Heritage				4.33	2	9	4.57	4	46	4.53	4	55
3E Decrease Stress							4.50	2	12	4.50	2	12
3F Rabbit Hunting	3.60	4	5							3.60	4	5
3G Jobs/Economic Opportunities	4.00	2	5	4.75	1	4	4.78	1	9	4.56	2	18
3H Diversity	4.20	2	5	4.00	2	4				4.11	2	9
3I Clean Outdoors	4.60	2	5							4.60	2	5
3J No Fences	3.20	4	5							3.20	4	5
3K Access				4.50	1	4				4.50	1	4
3L Sense of Community				5.00	0	5	5.00	0	10	5.00	0	15
3M Education About Ranching							4.50	1	10	4.50	1	10
3N Open Space/Privacy							5.00	0	10	5.00	0	10
3O Small Town Life				5.00	0	4				5.00	0	4
3P Relationships							4.00	3	6	4.00	3	6
3Q Economic Stability							4.67	1	6	4.67	1	6
3R Nice Place to Live	5.00	0	6	5.00	0	3				5.00	0	9
3S Responsible Use of Land	5.00	0	6				4.89	1	9	4.93	1	15
3T Attract Talent	4.17	2	6							4.17	2	6
3U Biodiversity	4.80	1	5							4.80	1	5
3V Consistency for Planning							4.78	2	9	4.78	2	9
3W Multiple-Use							5.00	0	9	5.00	0	9
3X Healthy Water Resources				5.00	0	5				5.00	0	5
3Y Freedom							4.60	3	10	4.60	3	10
3Z Balanced Use							4.60	3	10	4.60	3	10

**Appendix 8. Collaboration: Group Type**

	Resident			Leader			Mixed Group			Total		
	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N	Mean	Range	N
Local Planning	3.82	3	11	4.56	2	16	3.80	4	45	3.97	4	72
Business Planning	2.73	1	11	3.44	3	16	3.70	4	46	3.49	4	73
Tourism Planning	3.60	1	10	3.94	3	16	3.32	4	47	3.49	4	73
Community Planning	4.27	4	11	4.13	2	16	4.54	4	46	4.41	4	73
Local Management	2.64	1	11	3.31	3	16	2.87	4	46	2.93	4	73
Business Management	1.82	2	11	2.38	3	16	2.89	4	46	2.62	4	73
Tourism Management	2.60	3	10	2.50	3	16	2.43	4	46	2.47	4	72
Community Management	3.36	3	11	2.44	4	16	3.91	4	44	3.49	4	71

## Appendix 9: Focus Group Script

### Introduction:

Good evening/afternoon, my name is Tim Casey, I am a professor of Political Science at Mesa State College and the field coordinator for The Natural Resource and Land Policy Institute at Mesa State. We have been asked by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to help them understand the hopes and vision of the communities in and around the Grand Junction Field Office as they relate to public lands. The BLM Grand Junction Field Office is currently undergoing a revision of its Resource Management Plan (RMP), this is the document that will guide management decisions on 1.2 million acres of public lands around us for the next 20 years. Your participation in this focus group is a critical part of this planning process. I want to thank you for your willingness to spend some time with us to better understand the community's needs regarding BLM public lands. Your participation in this focus group is entirely voluntary, and you are welcome to leave at any point, or simply choose not to answer a question if you don't want to. Your answers to these questions will remain anonymous, but the responses in this focus group will be part of the public administrative record of the RMP process. The entire focus group experience should take about an hour, and there are some snacks in the back that you are welcome to go and get at anytime. Are there any questions so far?

As part of the focus group process, we will be using the "i>clickers" that you were handed when you came in. Please turn your clicker units on at the top when we ask for you to record your input through the "i>clicker". You can do so by pressing the on/off button at the bottom of the clicker unit until the power light at the top of the unit stays on. When you push a letter choice (A-E) it will be recorded anonymously by the receiver unit plugged into my laptop. We can then display the results on the overhead to facilitate further discussion. You are free to change your selection until I close the voting, which I will announce before I do it. We will not be using the clickers on every question, but they are an effective tool for us to be able to assess the intensity of your concerns regarding issues that are raised. My assistant \_\_\_\_\_, is a student at Mesa State and I have asked him/her to join us today and take notes on your responses. Because your comments are important to us, we have also set up a microphone to record the conversation so that we can go back and make sure we didn't miss anything. Are there any questions over how we will proceed?

Okay, then let us begin.

Q1: What are the things you like about living in your community?

*(List these on the PowerPoint as they are mentioned, once many issues are raised, the facilitator will group similar responses for the follow-up clicker question)*

For this next set of questions we will be using the i>clickers, please turn your unit on.

Q1.5: Issue : \_\_\_\_\_ *(Repeat 3-5 times for clusters of issues identified above)*

On a scale of A-E, how important is this issue to you

- A= Unimportant
- B= Of Little Importance
- C= Neither Important nor Unimportant
- D= Somewhat important
- E= Very Important

Q2: How do public lands in the area affect the quality of life issues you just described?

Q3: Describe your vision for your community's future....the way it should be 20 years from now.

Q4: Communities and local governments are always being challenged to effectively manage the community's resources, the environment, and social and economic well-being. Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL and ECONOMIC values/concerns for public officials, residents, and stakeholders to recognize/address to achieve your community vision?

*(list answers on power point slide labeled "concerns")*

Once again, we will be using the clickers. Be sure your clickers are turned on. I will list one of the concerns you raised, and you will rate how important that concern is to you as it relates to your vision for the next 20 years in the area.

Q4.5: Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Repeat 3-5 times for clusters of concerns identified above)*

On a scale of A-E, how important is this concern to you?

- A= Unimportant
- B= Of Little Importance
- C= Neither Important nor Unimportant
- D= Somewhat Important
- E= Very Important

Q5: Thinking about: 1) your community vision and 2) the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead, describe your VISION FOR THE SURROUNDING PUBLIC LANDS administered by the BLM.

Q6: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes (social, environmental, economic etc.) that your vision provides?

*(list the outcomes mentioned on a power point slide titled "beneficial outcomes")*

Using the clickers to record your response, I will list a few of the outcomes you mentioned and you indicate how important those outcomes are to you in the next 20 years. Be sure your unit is turned on.

Q6.5: Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Repeat 3-5 times for clusters of outcomes identified above)*

On a scale of A-E, how important is this outcome to you?

- A= Unimportant
- B= Of Little Importance
- C= Neither Important nor Unimportant
- D= Somewhat important
- E= Very Important

Land managers produce different outcomes by maintaining or changing the landscape. Specifically the:

- 1) Physical characteristics of the landscape (natural-looking to highly modified)
- 2) Social characteristics of the landscape (includes the way people use the area and the amount of users), and
- 3) Administrative/managerial characteristics of how the land is managed (including active vs. passive management or the levels of regulations).

Q7: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands and produce your desired outcomes?

Q8: Keeping in mind the physical, social and administrative landscape characteristics you just mentioned, what management, marketing, administrative and monitoring actions need to be undertaken to create the landscape that will produce the desired outcomes you identified?

(These actions can include:

1. Actions to maintain/change the landscape characteristics or land health.
2. Allowable uses or allocations that are acceptable, restricted or prohibited on public lands and mineral estates.)

Q9: Finally, what do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLM's land managing partners in managing and planning for federal public lands?

1. Local Governments
2. Businesses
3. Tourism Industry
4. Community Residents
5. Others

Each should be assessed for a collaborative role in managing, planning or both. In order to do this efficiently, turn on your clickers again and for each select one of the following choices.

- A = Planning
- B = Managing
- C= Both planning and managing
- D= Neither planning nor managing
- E = I don't know

*(record these on a generic ppt slide titled "Collaborative Partner: \_\_\_\_\_" followed by the choices A-E listed above)*

Q10: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning:

1. Public Lands
2. The land use planning process, or
3. This small group discussion.

Thank you for your time and participation in our focus group. Your responses are vital to a successful RMP planning process that takes account of the hopes and concerns of the communities that are affected by public lands nearby. These responses will be compiled with the responses of other focus groups we are conducting in the area. We will report the results to the BLM, which will incorporate those responses into its development of alternatives. Later in the year, there will be a public process to review those alternatives, then a plan will be developed, followed by further public comment period and a record of decision implementing the new RMP in 2010. We encourage you to stay active in the process throughout. Our report on this community assessment will be available on the BLM's Website (GJFO RMP page). Thank you again for your time. Have a good day.

**Appendix 10: Action Items by Community**

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Access to public lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
ATV riding access	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Picnic access	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Access to show public lands to visitors	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Access to maps for public lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
More informational signs concerning public lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Keep ATV trails and develop more trails into different lengthened loops	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Develop pull-off areas on trails/roads to protect lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Maintain roads	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
More access to lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
More roads for recreational access	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Maintain and develop access but not too much access	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	1	Yes
Make public lands accessible while preserving them	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Maintain access to public lands	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Improve trail system to avoid off-trail activity	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Connect community of Fruita to public lands by trail system (diverse use, biking, hiking)	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Make Kingsview Road more connected to river for bikes	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley and McInnis Canyons NCA	1	Yes
Trail growth should match population growth	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Improve river access	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley and McInnis Canyons NCA	1	Yes
Do not close trails	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Diversify access to public lands	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Maintain easy access to public land by car from valley	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Increase trailheads	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Increase signage on trails close to town for new population	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Maintain some areas with limited signage and access	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	1	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Maintain roads for access to lands	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Maintain roads for elderly transportation	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Maintain access to public lands	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Close some roads during certain times of the year to prevent damage (i.e. wet roads)	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Provide range of access from easy to difficult	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Retain diversity of roads (ATV, pickup trucks, cars) as it contributes to isolation	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Analyze effects of mountain biking trail grooves on the environment because of erosion	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Minimize traffic to the area	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Provide maps of the BLM lands	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Maintain roads	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Maintain roads listed on the maps so public will know if they are travelable	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	1	Yes
Keep horse trails separate from ATV trails	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Work with user groups on building trails	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Provide access for the elderly	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Provide for better signage	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Fix broken signs	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Maintain access to public lands	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Complete riverfront walkway area	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Create more diverse access to public lands	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Maintain and improve access to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Connect pedestrians in Palisade to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes and Roan Creek	1	Yes
Increase pedestrian and bicycle access from community to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes and Roan Creek	1	Yes
Build trail system linking Palisade to De Beque	Palisade	Leader	Roan Creek	1	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Cooperate with communities when developing trails	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley and Grand Mesa Slopes	1	Yes
Increase access points to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes	1	Yes
More trail connectivity to public lands from communities	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Roan Creek	1	Yes
Develop bike trails from Palisade to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	1	Yes
Keep access to public lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	1	Yes
Maintain access to public lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	1	Yes
More management of lands by BLM through signs, trails	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	1	Yes
Consider realistically the impacts of oil and gas development	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley and Roan Creek	2	Yes
Consider the long-term impact of oil and gas development	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley and Roan Creek	2	Yes
Keep oil and gas development to a minimum	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	2	Yes
Maintain economic base by supporting mining, oil and oil shale	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	2	Yes
Respond to community concerns about gas development	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley and Roan Creek	2	Yes
Do not drill in viewshed	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley and Roan Creek	2	Yes
Nominal extraction of oil and gas	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	2	Yes
Smart Energy Development	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	2	Yes
Recreational Opportunities	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	3	Yes
More multiple-use opportunities	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	3	Yes
Recreational emphasis would have best effect on Fruita	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Consider multiple types of river users	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley and McInnis Canyons NCA	3	Yes
Preserve recreational element of area	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Be able to accommodate multiple users	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley and Bangs Canyon	3	Yes
Maintain remote settings	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley and Bangs Canyon	3	Yes
Maintain multiple-use management	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	3	Yes
Provide places to go for hikers, bikers and horseback riders	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley and McInnis Canyons NCA and Bookcliffs	3	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Maintain recreation opportunities	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Manage land wisely to provide for recreational opportunities given Loma's location	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley and McInnis Canyons NCA and Bookcliffs	3	Yes
BLM should look at the impact Moab BLM decisions have on the area, especially the restriction of recreation in Moab	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Manage for multiple-use	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Limit number of people in certain areas	Mesa County	Mixed	McInnis Canyons NCA and Bookcliffs	3	Yes
Increase recreational opportunities for families	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Roan Creek	3	Yes
Create opportunities to recreate on public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Roan Creek	3	Yes
Prioritize space and resources for conflicting user groups	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes	3	Yes
Non-motorized emphasis in Palisade area	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Roan Creek	3	Yes
Recreational emphasis in RMP would be most beneficial to Palisade	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Diversify recreational opportunities	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	3	Yes
Preserve solitude	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	3	Yes
Plan for multiple uses on public lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	3	Yes
Maintain solitude on public lands through stricter enforcement	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	3	Yes
Keep agricultural land	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	4	Yes
Do not trash the fringe of the community	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Acquire BLM lands for community growth	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Streamline the process of public lands disposal	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Minimize impacts of growth on public lands	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Promote more open space	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Maintain open space	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	4	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Educate the public about trading or selling public lands	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	4	Yes
Maintain open space on public lands	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Limit urban sprawl by containing it with surrounding public lands	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Pursue land disposal of public lands in "useless" land (esp. east of airport)	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Protect viewshed	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Bangs Canyon and Book Cliffs	4	Yes
Contain urban sprawl	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Maintain open spaces	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	4	Yes
Stop land swaps that allow development in viewshed	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley, Bangs Canyon, Roan Creek and Book Cliffs	4	Yes
Maintain open space	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	4	Yes
Minimize development of resort areas	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	4	Yes
Manage for population growth	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	4	Yes
Discourage BLM from selling land to "big money" unless average person has an opportunity for the land as well	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	4	Yes
Wildlife	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	5	Yes
Open land unrestricted to guns and hunting	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	5	Yes
Maintain wildlife	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	5	Yes
Preserve wildlife habitat	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	5	Yes
Maintain opportunities for hunting and fishing	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	5	Yes
Improve wildlife habitat	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	5	Yes
Keep rich wildlife	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	5	Yes
Maintain habitat for wildlife	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	5	Yes
Develop an area for events such as rodeo/motocross	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	Yes
More gathering places, especially for horses	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	Yes
Maintain Gobblins area	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	Yes
More gathering places	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	Yes
Develop picnic areas or shelters with collected fees	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Resource protection should be balanced within reason	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	6	Yes
Manage some areas for community (local) use	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley and Bangs Canyon	6	Yes
Develop SRMA for Grand Mesa Slopes	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes	6	Yes
Maintain existing roadless areas	Grand Junction	Resident	Bangs Canyon and Bookcliffs	7	Yes
Proposed wilderness areas would have an adverse impact on area because of impact on ranching	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	7	Yes
No more wilderness	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	7	Yes
More WSAs	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	7	Yes
Minimize wilderness areas because it cuts off access	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	7	Yes
Like to see a lake	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	8	Yes
Protect riparian areas	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	8	Yes
Provide public education about how to behave in wild thereby reducing need for emergency services	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	8	Yes
Maintain water quality in watershed on public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	8	Yes
Increase sensitivity to watershed issues	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes	8	Yes
Do not drill or build roads in watershed	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes	8	Yes
Manage energy development to avoid water pollution	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes and Roan Creek	8	Yes
Educate population on threatened and endangered species	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	9	Yes
Address noxious weeds	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	10	Yes
Allow woodcutting to maintain health of trees	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	10	Yes
Maintain air quality standards	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	11	Yes
Use grasses on public lands that are more nutritious for livestock	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	12	Yes
Allow presence of agriculture on public lands to remain	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	12	Yes
Manage grazing for sustainability	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	12	Yes
Maintain ranching	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	12	Yes
Management plan should include grazing	Mesa County	Mixed	All units	12	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Heritage is linked to public lands	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	13	Yes
Maintain agricultural roots of the area	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	13	Yes
Maintain heritage through ranching	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	13	Yes
Connect to heritage through ranching	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	13	Yes
Preserve archeological resources	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	13	Yes
More interpretive displays for heritage resources	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	13	Yes
Maintain lifestyle and history of area	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	13	Yes
Attract/develop business	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	14	Yes
Provide for economic vitality	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Rely more on tourist dollars than energy resource development	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Do not give away the tax base	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Maintain link of public lands to economy (ranching, recreation)	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	14	Yes
Maintain agriculture	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley and Bookcliffs	14	Yes
Open hunting lands because it is important to economy	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley and Bookcliffs	14	Yes
Maintain rural atmosphere while managing for a good recreational area to support economic base of community	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Increase opportunities for social interaction	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	14	Yes
More diverse agricultural base	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Maximize resources available to community	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Diversify economic activity	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Increase racial and cultural diversity	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Support agriculture (esp. fruit-growing)	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	Yes
Allow land to provide income to sectors (miners, timber, trail guides, hunters, ranchers, river rafters)	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	14	Yes
Allow for continued economic benefits of land (mining)	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	14	Yes
Do not want to be disposal area for oil and gas industry	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	15	Yes
No oil and gas disposal ponds near the public	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	15	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Regulate natural gas development with focus on water quality and public health	Palisade	Leader	Grand Mesa Slopes and Roan Creek	15	Yes
Minimize management in area by BLM because it takes away personal freedom	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	96	Yes
Fees should be fair	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	96	Yes
Improve democratic process of decision-making	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Eliminate burnt cars and trash in desert	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Balance approach to recreation, energy development and resource preservation	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Streamline the permit process	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Minimize fencing	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Potential user fees	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Avoid lengthy public meetings by focusing meetings on specific issues	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Notify people ahead of time of the content and length of the meetings	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Consider animals and plants not just people in decision-making process	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Increase scientific staff at BLM	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Increase enforcement of rules on public lands	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Increase active management of resources based on increased populations	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Build outhouses in heavily used areas	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Assist community with roads that butt up to public land	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	96	Yes
Analyze the impact of BLM lands on the volunteer fire department	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	96	Yes
Send BLM ranger to the area intermittently	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	96	Yes
Provide for law enforcement on public lands, especially for illegal ATV/dirt bike trail building	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Trash cleanup	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Do not show preferential treatment to a single user-group	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
BLM should be consistent in its decisions	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Do not change vision every 9 years; need consistency and planning	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Minimize regulations	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Balance approach to recreation, energy development and resource preservation	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Reduce adversarial nature of public lands decision-making on BLM lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Greater customization of approach to public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Balance approach to recreation, energy development and resource preservation	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Increase well-defined attractions on BLM lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Develop a more transparent process for decision-making	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
More clearly define user groups	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Manage lands according to RMP, not according to exceptions	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Cleanup trash on public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Create a citizen's commission for public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	96	Yes
Prevent land abuse (trash, illegal roads)	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
Prevent abuse of land	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
Assist local fire, police and ambulance departments which respond to public lands emergencies	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
More resources devoted to BLM to manage lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
Freedom to use public lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
Better synchronization of BLM regulations and permits (get tree cutting permit but cannot drive to bring it back once cut)	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	96	Yes
BLM explain rules and regulations	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	97	Yes
BLM engage in public education about how managing public land	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	97	Yes
Increase communication with communities	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Post changes to the management of public land (such as land swaps) through new technologies such as gladepark.com	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	97	Yes
Public education on public lands stewardship (trash, proper trail use)	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	97	Yes
Educate public about the importance of ranching and ranching heritage	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	97	Yes
Increase public land stewardship	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Educate people on how to use public lands	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	97	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Develop more interpretive opportunities	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Promote a public land use ethic	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Communicate BLM plans to communities	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Educate youth to understand stewardship of public lands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	97	Yes
Develop proper land stewardship	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	97	Yes
Include Western Slope ATV as a collaborating partner	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	98	Yes
Include Friends of the Mustangs as a collaborating partner	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	98	Yes
Include Wild Horses Council as a collaborating partner	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	98	Yes
Greater opportunity for collaborative partnerships with local government and organizations	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
More cooperation between user groups and land managers	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Listen to the public not just business and government leaders	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage larger public (not just locals) in the planning process	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	98	Yes
More regional decision-making ability	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Having the community have more of an impact on the decision making of the BLM	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Increase the amount of collaborative ways to deal with the changing interface of public-private land	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
BLM ought to be talking with the tourism industry	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Letting the people who are recreating have input in the process	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage organized groups in planning process	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Develop senior citizen volunteer opportunities on public land	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Encourage user groups to work together	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage citizens beyond the local area in the planning process	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Include CDOW as a collaborating partner	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	98	Yes
Include Colorado National Monument as a collaborating partner	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	98	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Include the Forest Service as a collaborating partner	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	98	Yes
Include the Volunteer Fire Department as a collaborating partner	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	98	Yes
Include schools as collaborating partners	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Too many collaborators can put pressure on the BLM to satisfy all groups	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Include environmental groups, farmers, and ranchers as collaborating partners	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Include user groups as collaborating partners	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Include youth as collaborating partner	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Include interest groups as collaborating partners	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage more people in public lands management process	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Develop volunteer programs	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Develop more partnerships with education providers K-12 and colleges	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage ranching community in planning process	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Increase partnerships with other agencies and experts to better meet public demands	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Involve a wide variety of groups in the management/decision-making process	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Give organized groups an opportunity to participate	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage wildlife groups in planning process	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Engage other nonprofit organizations (i.e. Riverfront Commission) in planning process	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	98	Yes
Allow community to help manage public lands	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include CDOW as a collaborating partner	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include groups with conditional use permits as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include other federal agencies as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include schools as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include recreational clubs as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Include public interest groups as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Include emergency services as collaborating partners	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Better communication between BLM and community on meetings	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	98	Yes
Recognize the unique geographical diversity of the area	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	99	Yes
Protect diversity of ecosystems	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	99	Yes
Maintain a healthy ecosystem	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	99	Yes
Develop transportation in valley	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	1	No
Develop airport resource	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	1	No
Develop a light rail system for the valley	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	1	No
Have a hydro plant	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	2	No
No development of ski areas	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	3	No
Control growth of town	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	4	No
Not controlled but smarter growth (i.e. taller buildings downtown)	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	4	No
Maintain rural lifestyle	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	4	No
Limit urban sprawl by concentrating growth in urban cores	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	4	No
Grow community of Palisade to about 5,000 people	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	4	No
Increased use of conservation easement to protect agriculture	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	4	No
Smart-development of the city	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	4	No
Golf course	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	No
Develop a waterfront park	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	6	No
Maintain ownership of water rights in the valley	Mesa County	Mixed	Grand Valley	8	No
Job training that allows people to meet their needs	Fruita	Resident	Grand Valley	14	No
Promote local businesses rather than national chain stores	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	14	No
Retain the community feel that currently exists	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	14	No
Maintain affordability of the area	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	14	No
Integrate racial and cultural diversity (esp. migrant population)	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	No
Better integrate Latino community	Palisade	Leader	Grand Valley	14	No

Action Items	Community	Group	Management Unit	Planning Issue Category*	Can be Addressed in RMP Revision?
Develop a regional plan rather than a piecemeal approach	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	96	No
More consistency in the Department of Interior so one President of the U.S. cannot impact policies	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	96	No
More amenities and better housing	De Beque	Mixed	Roan Creek	99	No
Enhance small town atmosphere	Fruita	Leader	Grand Valley	99	No
Expand Mesa State College	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	99	No
Provide adequate housing	Grand Junction	Leader	Grand Valley	99	No
Take steps to preserve orchards	Grand Junction	Resident	Grand Valley	99	No
Keep housing restrictions to a minimum for affordable housing	Glade Park	Mixed	Glade Park	99	No
Prevent Loma from turning into Fruita, especially dense housing	Loma & Mack	Mixed	Grand Valley	99	No
Build nursing home	Gateway	Mixed	Gateway	99	No

\* Planning Issue Category: 1= Travel Management; 2= Energy Development; 3= Recreation Management; 4= Lands & Realty/Community Growth and Expansion; 5= Fish and Wildlife; 6= Special Designation Areas; 7= Wilderness Study Areas and Lands with Wilderness Characteristics; 8= Water, Soil, and Riparian Areas; 9= Special Status Species Management; 10= Vegetation Management; 11= Air Quality; 12= Livestock Grazing; 13= Cultural, Heritage, and Paleontological Resources and Native American Religious Concerns; 14= Social and Economic Considerations; 15= Public Health and Safety; 16= Noise; 17= Drought Management/Climate Change; 96=BLM Administrative Actions; 97= Education and Outreach; 98= Collaborating Partners; 99= Miscellaneous.

## Appendix 11: Focus Group Notes by Community

### Grand Junction Leaders Notes

**Date: February 23, 2009**

**Location: Grand Junction Municipal Building**

**Number of Attendees: 5**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntary.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Having public land near the city.
  - Access to open space and recreation.
  - Mild weather.
  - Overall size of community.
    - Large enough to have what you need.
    - Not so large that you commute long distance.
  - Having college here.
    - Adds culture and education.
    - Adds to knowledge base.
  - Strong medical community.
  - Shopping and retail.
  - Something for everyone.
  - Family friendly.
  - Generally feels safe.
  - Economic driver.
  - Gateway to Colorado/adventure.
  - *Regional provider:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Sense of community:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Access to public land:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Public lands sort of frame us due to the compactness.
  - Has a bearing on who moves here.
    - Outdoor enthusiasts more likely to move here.
    - Like people tend to move here.
  - Economic opportunity brings people here.
  - Extractive industries help to define community.
  - To summarize, public lands help to define the community.
  - You could not have a Grand Junction in another area.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future.*
  - Importance as a regional center will grow.
  - We will become more compact.
  - We anticipate an influx in population.
    - While we accommodate that population, the public lands become even more important.
      - As a place to just get out.
      - To sustain the community and to maintain the quality of life.
  - Grand Junction will become the most livable city west of the Rockies by 2035.
  - It is important not to trash the fringe of our communities because of potential growth.
  - It is important for transportation to grow with the community.
    - Provides connection to outside the world.
      - Our airport and roads border BLM land, thus they will have an impact.
      - College will have to grow with it.
    - Needs a balanced approach.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic?*
  - *Economic*
    - Diversification.
    - Attraction of young talent.
      - What does it take to attract young professionals?
  - *Social*
    - Public safety.
    - Increasing polarization of view points that does not lead to constructive outcomes.
      - Sort of reduces cultural diversity.
    - Providing adequate housing.
  - *Environmental*
    - Coexisting uses of public resources.
      - Mineral extraction, recreation, grazing, etc.
    - Ability to maintain agricultural roots of the area.
    - Recognizing geographical features that make us unique.
  - *Measurements*
    - *Q1: Diversity in Community:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=25%

- E. Very Important=75%
  - *Q2: Attracting Talent:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q3: Housing:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q3: Sense of Identity:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=75%
  - *Q4: Balancing User Groups:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=75%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead:*
    - More regional decision making ability.
      - Individual field offices having a stronger input.
    - Having the community have more of an impact on the decision making of the BLM.
    - Be able to accommodate multiple users.
    - Being able to potentially acquire BLM lands for community growth.
      - Potentially streamlining this process.
    - Land disposal issues.
    - That there is diverse accessibility to the lands.
      - Urban interfacing.
      - As the communities grow, how will this change and be managed?
    - Potential for fee by use.
      - Will BLM institute these?
      - Will the fees remain here?
  - *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes?*
    - Recreational accessibility would help with health.
      - Both mentally and physically.
      - Improve economic diversity.
        - Provides opportunities for supporting businesses.
    - Feeling of safety.
      - You want to feel safe on public agency.

- Increase diversity of community.
  - Attracting younger people.
  - People with more diverse interests.
- Wild land/urban interface.
- Cultural preservation.
  - So that new residents can understand how this community got to where it is.
- The ability to get outside.
  - Exercise.
  - Connecting to nature/outdoors.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1: Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important nor Unimportant=25%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=25%
  - *Q2: Health:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q3: Economic opportunity:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=75%
  - *Q4: Social diversity:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=25%
  - *Q5: Access:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
  - More interactive discussion with community about which lands used in what fashion.
    - There have to be parcels for all experiences.
    - Will become more important as population grows
  - How do you mix all these together and still make it work?
  - Ramp up the amount of collaborative ways we deal with the changing interface.
  - Clearly you cannot make everyone happy.

- However...
  - If I know that I have places I can engage in the types of activities I will be much happier overall.
- *Measurements:*
- *Local Governments*
  - Planning
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=0%
    - D. Frequent=50%
    - E. Significant=50%
  - Management
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=100%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Businesses*
  - Planning
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=25%
    - C. Occasional=50%
    - D. Frequent=25%
    - E. Significant=0%
  - Management
    - A. Never=50%
    - B. Rare=50%
    - C. Occasional=0%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Tourism Industry*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=25%
    - C. Occasional=50%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=25%
      - The BLM ought to be talking with the tourism industry.
      - Letting the people who are recreating have input in the process.
  - Management
    - A. Never=75%
    - B. Rare=25%
    - C. Occasional=0%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Community residents*
  - Planning
    - A. Never=0%

- B. Rare=0%
  - C. Occasional=25%
  - D. Frequent=75%
  - E. Significant=0%
    - I do not think you can get community to be significantly involved in the process.
    - It is also a national thing.
- Management
  - A. Never=25%
  - B. Rare=75%
  - C. Occasional=0%
  - D. Frequent=0%
  - E. Significant=0%
    - Feels that it becomes sort of self policing.
    - Occasionally call for volunteers.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLM's land managing?*
  - Nonprofit groups:
    - Boy scouts/Girl scouts
    - COPMOBA.
    - Stakeholders.
    - Organized groups.
    - See these groups as more in the planning process.
    - Tribal.
      - Because of heritage issues.
  - Educational.
    - College and public schools.
  - Extraction industries.
    - How it interfaces with learning.
  - Seniors Citizens.
    - As potential volunteers.
    - As users.
    -
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - What is the possibility of getting the results from this study?
  - There has to be a better way to get information from people than committing them to 3 and 4 day public meetings.
    - Perhaps do more specific targeting of the issues.
    - People just do not have the time.
    - Perhaps parceling this information to the public so they can go to the specific meeting.

## Grand Junction Community Meeting

**Date: February 23, 2009**

**Location: Grand Junction Municipal Building**

**Number of Attendees: 5**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Easy access to outdoor recreation
  - Variety of ecosystems
  - Non-motorized public access
  - Amenities, but not over-crowded
- *Measurements:*
  - Big, but not too big:
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - Access to outdoor recreation:
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - Variety of ecosystems:
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=80%
  - Non-motorized public access:
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=60%
- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Availability of solitude.
    - Not necessarily crowded.
  - Wilderness.
    - Unimproved land.

- Accessibility of the land.
- Self discovery.
  - Land not necessarily signed.
  - Allows for the individual to find his own path.
- Public land constrains urban sprawl.
- Sense of self.
  - Allows for a connection with nature.
  - Land = big...I = small.
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - From a public lands perspective, I would like to see it remain roadless.
    - No new development.
  - Perhaps some development into the public lands.
    - Allows for a presence of agriculture to remain.
  - I would like to see it look like it did 10 years ago.
    - Less growth.
    - The growth is becoming too much.
  - I hope that I can still drive 10-15 minutes and access public lands.
  - I would like to see distinct communities...Palisade, Fruita, Grand Junction, etc.
    - Like the idea of seven distributed areas.
    - Different areas keep their character.
    - Local businesses rather than national chain stores.
    - Kind of cool to be a destination to some extent.
    - Wine making, mountain biking.
    - Steps need to be taken to preserve the orchards.
    - The Redlands used to have good orchards and now it is nothing.
    - Would rather have tourist dollars than oil and gas dollars.
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social*
  - *Economic*
    - Oil and gas over-development
    - Diversity
    - Consider long term impacts
    - Regional plan rather than piece meal system
    - Do not give away tax base
    - Growth pays its own way
  - *Environmental*
    - Do not be people centered (Also animals & plants)
    - Open space
    - Loss of farmland
    - Manage growth
  - *Measurements*
    - *Q1 Physical Growth*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%

- D. Somewhat Important=17%
  - E. Very Important=83%
- *Q2 Economic Growth*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=67%
  - E. Very Important=33%
- *Q3 Oil & Gas Development*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=33%
  - E. Very Important=67%
- *Q4 Economic Diversity*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
  - D. Somewhat Important=17%
  - E. Very Important=66%
    - It is important that agriculture is a part of it.
    - Also retail, tourism, mineral, etc.
    - Agriculture includes everything (winery, grazing, etc.)
- *Q5 People not the only focus - landscape matters*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
  - D. Somewhat Important=17%
  - E. Very Important=66%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead describe your vision for the surrounding public lands:*
  - Grazing.
    - A place for it but it has to be done right.
    - Has to manage so that it is sustainable.
    - Prevent overgrazing.
    - Does not have to be everywhere.
  - Protection of riparian areas.
  - Oil & gas has been a 90/10 balance.
    - It seems that they get what they need.
  - More people = more pressure on resources.
    - Increased need for more/better management.
  - Overall diversity for the entire ecosystem.
  - More employees at the BLM.
    - Need scientists that are studying rather than managers that are reacting.
  - More enforcement.
    - Due to population pressures.
    - Overuse has resulted in litter and destruction of areas.
  - Public lands become an opportunity for public education.

- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes?*
  - A nice place to live.
  - Sustainably managed lands.
  - Healthy community.
  - Public lands work to draw professionals/talent.
  - Biodiversity
    - Intact habitat
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1 Nice place to live:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
    - *Q2 Sustainable management:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
    - *Q3 Health of the community:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=33%
      - E. Very Important=67%
    - *Q4 Attracting talent:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
      - D. Somewhat Important=50%
      - E. Very Important=33%
    - *Q5 Biodiversity:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=20%
      - E. Very Important=80%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for public lands?*
  - Adequate routes currently exist for the recreating that I like to do.
  - As more people begin to use the area, more active management will be needed.
    - Points of departure.
    - Signage on the trail.
      - For new people and to keep people on the trail.
    - Maybe have places closer to town/heavier used areas have marked trails while places less used are left unmarked for those who want to explore.
    - Important to have areas that are less accessible.

- Outhouses in heavily used areas.
- Intensively manage heavily used/close to town lands.
  - But do not forget the areas that are not near human interaction.
- We cannot keep adding a new user group every 10-15 years.
  - Rather than take it from wildlife make it work with other groups.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLM's land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=17%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=67%
      - E. Significant=17%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=50%
      - C. Occasional=50%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses*
    - *Planning*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=50%
      - C. Occasional=50%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never=33%
      - B. Rare=67%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=17%
      - D. Frequent=83%
      - E. Significant=0%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=67%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=33%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Community Residents*
    - *Planning*

- A. Never=0%
  - B. Rare=0%
  - C. Occasional=0%
  - D. Frequent=33%
  - E. Significant=67%
- Management
  - A. Never=0%
  - B. Rare=33%
  - C. Occasional=50%
  - D. Frequent=0%
  - E. Significant=17%
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - Scientists
  - State government
  - Agriculture
  - Larger residents-national community
  - Other agencies
  - Environmental groups
  - Educational groups
    - Mesa State College & Public Schools
  - Like the idea of the smaller focus group.
    - Allows a conversation to develop.

## Fruita General Public Meeting

**Date: February 24, 2009**

**Location: Fruita Civic Center**

**Number of Attendees: 5**

- *Introduction*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker.*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Tons of wildlife around the area
    - I love to hunt.
  - 1.2 million acres of open land.
  - Variety of outdoor activities.
    - Rafting
    - Shooting
    - Fishing
  - Access to open/public land.
  - Multiple uses of the land.
  - It is not Grand Junction.
    - Yet it is close to Grand Junction.
  - Un-observed views.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1 Access:*
      1. Unimportant=0%
      2. Of Little Importance=0%
      3. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      4. Somewhat Important=0%
      5. Very Important=100%
    - *Q2 Wildlife/Hunting:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=20%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=40%
      - E. Very Important=40%
    - *Q3 Small-town atmosphere:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=60%
      - E. Very Important=20%
    - *Q4 Views:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%

- D. Somewhat Important=20%
  - E. Very Important=40%
- *Q5 Variety of outdoor activities:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=0%
  - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - They allow you to get away from it all.
  - Penultimate thing.
    - It provides a geographic restriction to excessive growth.
    - Pivotal to our small-town atmosphere.
  - At the same time it has contributed to growth.
    - Through tourism and such or so forth
    - Given everything we like about it, it is sort of silly to not expect everyone else to like it.
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - Not controlled growth, but smarter growth
    - You could build taller buildings downtown.
  - My vision would be to keep it the same size, but I know this won't happen.
  - I do not want to see areas close down.
  - There has to be some smart planning for the public lands.
    - They need to be proactive, which leads the users to do their own planning.
    - Population in the area is going to double again, yet land managers have no desire to double the amount of available trails, which leads to users making their own trails/access
  - It is awesome that they want to hear this, but does anybody at the BLM care?
  - There needs to be more cooperation between user groups and land managers
  - River access.
    - We need to think about the different types of users of the river.
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social*
    - Preserve those elements that make Fruita desirable
      - Recreation
  - *Economic*
    - Oil and gas
    - Boom and bust economics
    - Green energy
    - Having job training that allows for people to meet their needs
    - Wind energy
  - *Environmental*
    - Trash
      - Burnt cars in desert
      - Trash in desert
    - Be more aware of the damage the oil and gas industry has created

- *Measurements*
  - *Q1 Oil & Gas*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=40%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=20%
  - *Q2 Preserve the Elements*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=80%
  - *Q3 Trash on Public Lands*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=80%
  - *Q4 Green Energy*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - *Q5 Jobs & Training*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
    - D. Somewhat Important=80%
    - E. Very Important=0%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead describe your vision for the surrounding public lands:*
  - The same, enjoyed and appreciated.
    - Without the refrigerators and trash.
  - No closure.
    - This is not management.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - *Recreation*
    - It is scary because one group can get so dominant that it can lobby and get the access it desires.
      - I also like the idea of having our lands for recreation.
    - This is not about management.
      - I cannot only run my business. I also have to be a part of the community, develop trails.
      - It needs to be balanced. Rather than only leaning one way or the other.
    - It threatens my vision if anyone of these is overemphasized.

- Cost of everything goes up as a result of increases in recreation and energy development.
- All things being equal, recreation generally improves the quality of life for the area.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes?*
  - Health.
    - Mental, physical and otherwise.
  - Clean outdoors.
  - Jobs.
  - Growth we like.
  - Diversity.
  - Rabbit dinners.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1 Jobs:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
      - D. Somewhat Important=60%
      - E. Very Important=20%
    - *Q2 Health:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=80%
    - *Q3 Diversity:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=40%
      - E. Very Important=40%
    - *Q4 Clean Outdoors:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=80%
    - *Q5 No Fences:*
      - A. Unimportant=20%
      - B. Of Little Importance=20%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=40%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
  - Heavy management through the permit process.
    - All the paper work-Perhaps streamlining the process.
  - The administrative side of the land is getting too complicated to enjoy the lands.

- More activities means more jobs.
- Government is good at dealing with businesses.
  - However, the individual or the general public has very little say.
  - Most of what it does provide is a dog and pony show.
  - It feels that the general public is incapable of the decisions needed.
- Open land unrestricted to guns and hunting.
  - Hunters and recreational users can coexist-they are smart enough to figure it out.
  - Fences restrict hunters, particularly rabbit hunting.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=60%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=40%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional =100%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses*
    - *Planning*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=100%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never= 20%
      - B. Rare=60%
      - C. Occasional=20%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=75%
      - D. Frequent=25%
      - E. Significant=0%
    - *Management*
      - A. Never=20%
      - B. Rare=20%
      - C. Occasional=60%
      - D. Frequent=0%

- E. Significant=0%
  - *Community Residents*
    - Planning
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=60%
    - Management
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=40%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=20%
  - *Others*
    - Visitors (it's not just our public land, it belongs to everyone).
    - Every sport has an organized advocacy group.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - Using the land to its best potential while keeping in mind social, environmental, and economic factors.
  - Geological uniqueness.

## Mesa County Leaders Meeting

**Date: February 27, 2009**

**Location: Mesa County Annex Building**

**Number of Attendees: 6**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Big enough, yet not too big.
  - Huge diversity of outdoor activities.
    - You can be at 5,000 ft and in the same day be at 10,000ft.
  - Remote locations.
  - Walk out your back door and be in an area that is set aside for hiking and/or fishing.
    - Close proximity to open space.
  - Community and culture is very much grounded in the landscape.
  - The area has a lot of potential for quiet use recreation.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1 Big but not too big:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=75%
  - *Q2 Diversity of outdoors:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q3 Community grounded in landscape:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q4 Access/proximity:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=25%
    - E. Very Important=75%
  - *Q5 Quiet Use/Wilderness Area:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%

- B. Of Little Importance=0%
- C. Neither Important nor Unimportant=25%
- D. Somewhat Important=50%
- E. Very Important=25%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - They are the reason I live here.
    - Because I have access to those lands.
    - They impact both where I choose to live and where my house is.
  - They enhance the value of living here.
  - Enhance the quality of life for our children.
  - They connect us to reality.
    - Whereas video games are not real.
  - They offer wildlife habitat.
    - They are very important to our economic and social aspects of being here.
  - They play a significant role in attracting businesses to locate here.
    - This is our main pitch.
  - They are an educational tool.
  - They place a limit on sprawl.
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - Big but not too big.
  - Economically diverse.
  - A place where there are more job opportunities.
    - Better paying.
  - Maintain much of the traditional feel of the area.
  - Hope that agriculture is a major part of the economy.
  - A can-do place, a place that figures out how you can do things.
    - An example is skateboarding in the community.
  - We want to be in a place where we are in control of our own fate.
  - It would be nice if agriculture was the predominant money maker.
  - Having public lands managed in a way that preserves wildlife habitat.
  - It would be nice to see more public land stewardship.
    - It would be nice to see the general public more engaged.
  - Looking at sprawl.
    - Limit it.
    - Concentrate in urban cores.
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social:*
    - Education.
    - More opportunities for social interaction.
    - Social cohesiveness.
    - Maintaining small town character while still being a major metropolitan area.
    - Self-sufficient.
    - Having a casual gathering place.
      - Downtown for example.
    - Completing river walkway area.

- *Environmental:*
  - Education.
  - Winter inversions.
    - Cause repertory problems.
  - Maintain ownership of our water rights in the valley.
  - State and health of our public lands.
  - Would like to see more Wilderness Areas.
- *Economic:*
  - Education.
  - Work on how we can make agriculture more viable.
  - Diversity and sustainability is critical.
  - More economic opportunities so kids can make a good living here.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1 Air Quality:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q2 Water:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%
    - E. Very Important=67%
  - *Q3 Social Events:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=33%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%
    - E. Very Important=33%
  - *Q4 Social Places:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q5 Education:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=83%
  - *Q6 Regional Hub:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%

- E. Very Important=50%
- *Q7 Health of Public Lands:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=0%
  - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead:*
  - Diverse access to public lands.
  - Important to think about multiple access.
    - Improves diversity.
  - It is important to look at how diverse access will affect wildlife.
  - Would like to see public lands managed to include grazing.
    - This provides a significant economic boost to the area.
  - Have some areas managed for community use.
    - Places the locals know.
  - Not overly regulated.
  - The areas of public lands that are basically useless should be turned over to private uses.
  - The area east of the airport could be a great place to expand.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - If you emphasized any one of these it would upset balance and sensibility.
  - With regard to the economy it is hard to say how it would be affected.
  - Need to ask how we can do these things together.
  - We have the ability to do much more in all three of these categories.
  - Would like to see integrating these and finding a balance between them.
  - It has to have an emphasis by geographical areas.
    - The alternatives should be focused on an area.
  - *Recreation:*
    - Will make the community more attractive.
  - *Energy:*
    - If the coal mine opened in Fruita, you could still have trails and recreation use.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - Balanced and expanded opportunities.
  - Stable economic structure.
    - If we really work on maintaining the land and wildlife, this provides a stable economic structure.
  - Sustainable way of life.
  - Health.
  - Protection of our heritage.
  - More lifestyle choices.
  - Health of interpersonal relationships.
    - Social connections from a diverse place.

- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1 Health:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=17%
    - D. Somewhat Important=17%
    - E. Very Important=66%
  - *Q2 Relationships:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=16%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=16%
    - D. Somewhat Important=16%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q3 Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=16%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q4 Economic Stability:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%
    - E. Very Important=66%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
  - Maintain a healthy ecosystem.
    - Stable.
  - Limit number of people in certain areas.
  - Education on how to use public lands.
    - Etiquette.
    - Recreation users and energy development.
    - How to have low impact behavior.
  - Have more interpretative opportunities.
  - Improvements might have developmental impact, but they have also reduced the impact.
  - The agency should promote a public land use ethic.
  - Education of threatened and endangered species.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements*
  - *Local Governments:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=50%
      - D. Frequent=33%
      - E. Significant=16%

- Management:
  - A. Never=0%
  - B. Rare=16%
  - C. Occasional=66%
  - D. Frequent=16%
  - E. Significant=0%
- *Businesses:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=33%
    - C. Occasional=66%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=83%
    - C. Occasional=16%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Tourism Industry:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=16%
    - C. Occasional=16%
    - D. Frequent=50%
    - E. Significant=16%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=16%
    - C. Occasional=66%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=16%
- *Community Residents:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never= 0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=33%
    - D. Frequent=33%
    - E. Significant=33%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=33%
    - D. Frequent=50%
    - E. Significant=16%
    - There is a need for volunteers.
    - Taking ownership.
    - Emotional ownership.

- *Others:*
  - User groups.
  - Academia.
    - Scientific community.
  - Local schools.
    - K-12 schools.
  - Ranching community.
  - State & federal government.
  - Mining, oil and gas industry.
    - Capture the businesses from outside the area that have an impact on the area.
  - Tourists themselves.
  - Airport.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - What other kinds of focus groups have you put together?

## Glade Park Community Meeting

**Date: March 3, 2009**

**Location: Glade Park Community Center**

**Number of Attendees: 10**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Isolation
  - Ranching
  - Open Space
  - Wildlife
  - Loyalty and affection to the community through family history
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1: Open Space:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=10%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=90%
  - *Q2: Isolation:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q3: Wildlife:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=80%
  - *Q4: Family History:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=30%
    - D. Somewhat Important=10%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - *Q5: Ranching:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=10%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=10%

## E. Very Important=80%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - “Minimize parts of it.” If you want to move here there may be no place to buy because a lot of public land.
  - Business depends on public land.
    - There are ranchers that graze on the public lands.
    - The multiple uses concept is important on public lands.
    - Recreation is important, outfitting.
  - The roads issue is important; there is talk about closing things off, keeping access to areas for recreation.
    - For humans to have use of lands depends on roads.
  - A lot of older people use the roads and lands to get out of town.
  - The people that live up here get to use the public lands.
  - Access to public lands improves public lands.
  - There is a large percentage of BLM land around here.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community’s future:*
  - Would like to see it the same.
    - With emphasis on conservation and public lands development will be kept to a minimum and there is a good chance it will look the same.
  - In keeping it the same, hopes that the housing restrictions will be kept to a minimum so everyday people can afford to live here.
    - This is a very friendly community.
  - There are a lot of limits on water, which is why there is a 40-acre limit that can’t be split.
    - It deals with the wells.
  - There are two access points to the monument, which will keep the area the same because of the access.
    - The north, west, and south of town is bounded by public lands.
  - Does not see much gas and oil development here, which is a plus.
  - No ski areas coming in either.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social:*
  - *Environmental:*
    - Water
      - This is also an economic issue
    - Ranching should remain because it has made Glade Park the community it is today. This issue covers all three values (social, environmental and economic).
      - This is one of the five areas in the state that was targeted for saving ranching.
    - McGinnis Canyons will change things in all three areas. This type of land makes this area what it is because we won’t see many changes in Glade Park.
    - There are several proposed Wilderness Areas that would have an adverse impact on this area because it would impact ranching. This would cut across all three areas.
      - This would hurt ranching, hunting and recreation.
        - Recreation cuts across all three areas as well because of outfitting, guiding, social, etc.

- *Economic:*

- *Measurements:*

- *Q1: Sustainable Ranching*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=20%
  - E. Very Important=80%
- *Q2: McGinnis Canyons NCA*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=70%
  - E. Very Important=30%
- *Q3: WSA Proposals*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=33%
  - E. Very Important=66%
- *Q4: Water Wells/Irrigation*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=10%
  - E. Very Important=90%

- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead:*
  - Would support multiple use.
  - There are some roads that should be closed during certain parts of the year because they can be damaged because they become too wet, etc.
  - There should be a range of access such as easy access for people that need it, tougher access for those who want it.
  - Talking about access, maybe some help with roadwork if community butts up to public land.
  - Public land is intermixed with the community.
  - People are used to the status quo and there is fear after things in the past that something will sweep through and there will be big changes.
  - With technology, there would be a way to post changes to public land through things such as land swaps.
    - These swaps happen and it takes off land we can hunt on.
      - A participant has “gladepark.com” where these decisions can be posted.
  - Regarding the roads, different levels of access. Some are maintained for pickup trucks, some are maintained for four wheelers. She likes the diversity of roads because it contributes to the isolation. This will allow people to get to the level of isolation they wish because not everyone can hike.

- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize recreation, energy development, and resource protection?*
  - Recreation will be an increasing use of the land unless the BLM cracks down.
    - Resource protection should be balanced within reason.
    - Energy is not likely because not much here.
  - Emphasizing any of the three would change the character of Glade Park.
  - Resource protection would hurt ranching, hunting recreation.
    - Resource protection can help hunting.
    - Resource protection deals with access. This may hurt or diminish access but may also improve the isolation.
  - One participant is curious about the long-term effects of mountain biking because it creates grooves. In a few years will this create an environmental challenge?
    - This can increase erosion
      - ATVs
  - Recreation can strain fire department.
    - This is a volunteer department and would strain the service
      - People come and recreate and use the services which strains the budget.
  - Recreation is impacting ranching.
  - More trespassing.
    - Private land is not marked here.
  - Recreation would decrease isolation.
  - Public education about how to behave in the wild.
  - A BLM ranger would be nice every once in a while
    - It has been a while since one was been here.
  - More education on how not to tear the roads up, the trash...
    - Trash is a big issue.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - Traffic is minimized.
  - Wildlife at elevation is good for you.
  - Some people like cattle drives and they can be educational.
  - Privacy, solitude, and space.
  - Sense of community despite its diversity. The community is working on building a school.
  - There is a huge range of wealth and income in Glade Park.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1: Sense of Community:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q2: Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=10%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=50%
      - Viability of ranching can hurt the heritage.

- Ranching is an important component to the community.
    - Wildlife will be impacted.
    - Development will be impacted.
    - Access issues to public lands would hurt agriculture.
    - There is a huge amount of pressure that is not here tonight, that does not really understand the importance of ranching for an area. Grazing has a positive environmental effect, ranching keeps the land open to wildlife.
    - Elk and wildlife use to come here but then houses were built and stopped their migration to this area.
      - Ranching preserves open space.
  - *Q3: Educating Public about Ranching and Ranching Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=50%
    - E. Very Important=50%
  - *Q4: Open Space and Privacy:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for public lands?*
  - The biggest thing is access.
  - Road issues.
  - Maps would be useful in educating the public.
  - The link to the resource map on The Glade Park Web site goes away because BLM does not have a big budget. People should have maps of the area so people know where to go and the lay of the land.
    - How do you enforce if people are just wandering around?
  - BLM ranger can enforce but also be a source of information.
  - If there is increased information about the area, need to help people with access issues because access may prove difficult to some.
  - If roads are maintained more people will come in, if not, fewer people will come. This can be a mixed blessing.
  - It would be nice if the roads on the maps were maintained so we knew if the roads are travelable. If the map shows a road is closed then it should be closed.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=20%
      - D. Frequent=60%
      - E. Significant=20%

- Management:
    - A. Never=10%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=40%
    - D. Frequent=40%
    - E. Significant=10%
- *Businesses:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=50%
    - C. Occasional=40%
    - D. Frequent=10%
    - E. Significant=0%
  - Management: A4;B2;C4
    - A. Never=40%
    - B. Rare=20%
    - C. Occasional=40%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
      - The definition of business is confusing to the group and the group does not know necessarily what it means. In town or out of town?
- *Tourism Industry:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=10%
    - B. Rare=20%
    - C. Occasional=50%
    - D. Frequent=20%
    - E. Significant=0%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=30%
    - B. Rare=40%
    - C. Occasional=30%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Community Residents:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=10%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=10%
    - D. Frequent=10%
    - E. Significant=70%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=11%
    - B. Rare=11%
    - C. Occasional=11%
    - D. Frequent=33%
    - E. Significant=33%

- They feel community should be strong because the residents are on the ground every day.
    - They want to provide input but not manage day-to-day activities.
    - One resident wants community to be defined as Glade Park community, not Mesa County community.
  - *Others:*
    - Ranching was voted on:
      - Ranching Planning Vote:
        - A. Never=0%
        - B. Rare=0%
        - C. Occasional=0%
        - D. Frequent=40%
        - E. Significant=60%
      - Ranching Management:
        - A. Never=0%
        - B. Rare=0%
        - C. Occasional=30%
        - D. Frequent=30%
        - E. Significant=40%
          - Ranchers are not experts in everything, but are experts in ranching.
          - Ranchers are the best stewards of the land.
    - Volunteer Fire Department.
    - CDOW.
    - Colorado National Monument.
      - This is important because access to GJ is through the monument.
    - Forest Service.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - How flexible is the RMP when new issues arise after it has been written?
  - What are the guidelines for trading or selling BLM land?
    - Do they let people know when they are going to dispose of land?
  - The newspaper is not the best way to get the information for public lands because some people live far away from the store.
  - Community offered to use its Web site to post BLM notices.

## Palisade Leaders Meeting

**Date: March 2, 2009**

**Location: Palisade Community Center**

**Number of Attendees: 4**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Quality of life.
    - This means the density of people, relatively small size, the juxtaposition of people and agriculture, small and friendly businesses, just enough infrastructures to house tourism and handy to be close to public lands, beautiful scenery, viewscape is important.
  - Active and vibrant population that is very friendly.
    - Proximity to outdoor recreation.
  - The sense of community is different than other towns in the valley.
    - The town is very welcoming.
  - Festivals and community events.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Festivals:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=75%
      - E. Very Important=25%
    - *Q2: Viewscape:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Unimportant=100%
    - *Q3: Proximity of accessing public lands:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=50%
      - E. Very Important= 50%
    - *Q4: Quality of Life –Small Town Feel:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%

- *Q5: Tourism:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=50%
  - E. Unimportant=50%
- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Public lands are an integral part of quality of life here; without them or managed differently, it would have a dramatic impact.
    - The vista has a positive psychological impact.
  - I do not live here, but work here so looking at it from a different perspective.
    - Public lands are a critical aspect of marketing tourism and maintaining the small-town feel because there are not sprawl issues because surrounded by public lands.
      - From a management and public services standpoint, they provide access to quality water.
  - Bring a sense of security to the community because surrounded by public lands.
    - However, assumption is that public lands will remain exactly as they are now, but not necessarily the case.
      - As a resource manager you want to maximize the resources available to the town.
        - Could say public lands have had a negative impact because the presence of natural gas has threatened the tourism market and the quality of the water.
  - The lands offer recreational opportunities to family. This is important because there are not a lot of other types of entertainment.
  - The idea of “use” of public lands is critical because, whether they are open to bikes, conservation, or otherwise they will have a huge impact on quality of life.
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community’s future:*
  - A larger community, somewhere in the 5,000 range; greater diversity of smaller businesses; healthier year-round tourist base; increased health; improvement in agricultural production especially high-end agriculture such as fruit and wine that fits the unique aspects of this geography and climate; more residential units; compact community; a community that is conducive to pedestrians; a community that can support necessary public infrastructure from a financial approach; retain small-town feel without being anti-growth.
  - More diversity in racial and cultural diversity.
    - Maintain easy access to public lands.
  - A lot of the first point is in the community plan.
    - Would like to see a more mature and educated society and one that accepts and supports the community vision.
      - Wants community cohesiveness to community vision.
  - This diversity issue is important because Palisade is thought to be backward in a homogenous way.
  - This community is diverse with visitor workers from other countries and would like to see them better integrated into the community.
  - Maybe the beginnings of a progressive leadership and the masses have not come together to adopt the progressive view.

- Did not know that the community had not bought into the community vision because his neighbors do.
- Maybe there is buy-in or simply consent or tolerance. Maybe there is not true buy-in. Rather it is benign tolerance.
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social:*
    - Integration of the migrant population because it will be necessary economically, important to agricultural industry.
  - *Environmental:*
    - The large majority feel as though they have been run over by the federal government especially with gas. Ninety-eight of population is outraged at gas drilling and one participant sent in official protest but never received a response.
      - This gas drilling was a pre-determined outcome at the start and they went through the process (which is fair) but the outcome was pre-determined. Feels as though trampled by the federal government.
        - Can fault the process because they are using a 20-year-old RMP that has conflicting goals for the watershed because it was mineral extraction and clean water which is contradictive.
    - The process surrounding federal lands decisions has been adversarial as opposed to other lands.
    - How much money is brought into the local economies, approximately 35 million a year is brought into Mesa County through hunting and fishing, but no one really talks about it.
      - This is also a social issue because hunting and fishing is important to the family.
    - Protection of agricultural land surrounding Palisade through conservational easements (MAY HAVE MISSED SOME OF THE LANGUAGE).
  - *Economic:*
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Agricultural Land:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
    - *Q2: Wildlife: (both heritage, environmental and economic driver)*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=75%
    - *Q3: How Important is Gas Development:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=50%
      - E. Very Important=50%



- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - Recreation or resource protection the town could survive well into the future, and a combination would be OK. Wise energy development would also be acceptable. A dominant energy plan and minimizing resource and recreation would be unacceptable.
    - Energy is not a crisis yet and if it becomes one then we can talk about it.
  - Non-motorized emphasis would be preferable because motorized detracts from non-motorized experience because of noise and pollution, startling animals, deterioration of trails.
  - This is fascinating question. If emphasize recreation, Palisade will get younger, less affluent because recreational industry brings the same kind of economics; if energy were emphasis, the community would be larger, land values increase, housing prices increase; resource protection on first glance is a positive thing, but not sure because it would lead to slower growth of the community.
    - What does resource protection mean? Like a wilderness area? This matters to the impact.
  - There must be a balance of the three.
  - The question is how impactful would any decision by the BLM have on Palisade? Small or large impact?
    - Let us say the emphasis on biking in Fruita changed the character of the town, but it did not stop Fruita from becoming a mini-suburb of Grand Junction (although this is not fair to say).
  - Federal resource protection changed, to a significant effect, what Palisade would look like with a White Water Park. If the park was created, but it did not get built because of resource protection, it would have changed the character of the town.
    - The park would have engendered a culture around the park.
  - I hope this is changing, but has impression that towns have found out about decisions after they were already made. Therefore, it does not pay to visualize the future unless you work with the BLM to frame the impact BLM decisions on your future.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - Socially it is a return to greater social interaction, knowing your neighbor, the antithesis of suburbia; it is denser development rather than sprawling development; economically the rural agriculture benefits the industry and downtown and individuals
    - We will truly have a small-town life. Other towns say this, but the town has made decisions to prevent growth. Palisade will only be as big as dictated by the comprehensive plan.
  - Active healthy lifestyle and friendly community.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Physical Health:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=50%
      - E. Very Important=50%
    - *Q2: Mental Health:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%

- C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
  - D. Somewhat Important=0%
  - E. Very Important=75%
- *Q3: Social Health:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=25%
  - E. Very Important=75%
- *Q4: Small-town Life:*
  - A. Unimportant: 0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=0%
  - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
  - More defined attractions would further goal of agriculture-tourism. Torn with this because it will attract people who will ruin it. For example, biking trails will attract more bikers but make the trails more densely populated.
    - A stronger management focus will help Palisade develop into what its vision is.
  - The BLM will be wise to help define what the users are. What do the users expect from the BLM? You cannot manage well if you say yes to everyone and must come up with a transparent process of making reasonable decisions.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=%
      - E. Significant= 66%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=25%
      - C. Occasional=75%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=100%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=0%
    - *Management:*

- A. Never=50%
  - B. Rare=50%
  - C. Occasional=0%
  - D. Frequent=0%
  - E. Significant=0%
- *Tourism Industry:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=50%
    - D. Frequent=25%
    - E. Significant=25%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=25%
    - B. Rare=25%
    - C. Occasional=50%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Community Residents:*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=25%
    - D. Frequent=50%
    - E. Significant=25%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=25%
    - B. Rare=50%
    - C. Occasional=25%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=0%
    - Interpreting results of All above Votes: Involving people in planning allows educating them and it allows for expertise to be introduced.
    - Began by thinking there was no reason for business to be involved in planning, but changed mind because different decisions may be made if business is more active.
- *Others:*
  - State.
  - Other sources of expertise such as the Sierra Club or other organized interest groups such as kayakers, motorized groups, Trout Unlimited, etc.
  - All groups need to have the opportunity to participate and results need to be transparent.

- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public lands and the use thereof?*
  - Curious about timeline of the process.
  - Mentioned Fruita in discussions several times; decisions in one part of the valley can have large impact such as increased rail traffic.
  - Quick comment on approach federal government takes to public lands. There is a sense that it is not partnering with the community during the planning process despite the lip service to partnership. BLM attempted to create a way to discuss gas development in the watershed, but need to push it further to find way to more aggressively mitigate the impacts of its decisions. There was no partnership in Whitewater Park decision and it was very adversarial.

## De Beque Community Meeting

**Date:** March 4, 2009

**Location:** De Beque Town Hall

**Number of Attendees:** 12

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Openness
  - Small town
  - Wildlife
  - Far from Grand Junction, but not too far
  - Knowing the majority of people
  - Sense of community
  - Recreational opportunities
  - Hunting
  - Wild horses
  - *Measurements*
    - *Q1 Recreational opportunities:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
    - *Q2 Small town:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=8%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=16%
      - D. Somewhat Important=8%
      - E. Very Important=64%
    - *Q3 Wildlife:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=9%
      - E. Very Important=91%
    - *Q4 Sense of community:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=22%
      - D. Somewhat=44%
      - E. Very Important=33%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - The public lands allow the lifestyle.
  - If public land were not accessible, would not be the same.
    - Loss of the other things mentioned.
  - Public lands allow:
    - Wild horse days.
    - ATV rides.
    - Picnics.
    - All of these allow a sense of community.
  - Pride of being able to show the surrounding area.
  - Many people come into town hall to get maps for public lands.
  - Being so close to the public lands adds to the character of the town.
  - Public lands are an important part of the heritage of the area.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future...the way it should be 20 years from now.*
  - I would like to see a lake.
  - Have a hydro plant.
  - I would like to see us keep our agricultural land.
  - Town will be much larger.
    - It is important to control the growth in some fashion.
  - It would be nice to have a few more businesses in the area.
  - Town does not want to be like Clifton.
    - A few more amenities, better housing.
    - Better plan for the community than other local areas.
  - Buildings that are structurally sound and designed well.
    - We do not just want metal building after metal building.
  - Golf Course.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social:*
    - We do not want to be the disposal for the oil and gas industry
    - This is social because the town doesn't want to have the identity of being labeled as this. It is also environmental and economic.
    - We would like to have a waterfront park.
    - We do not have a place where we can have an event.
      - This is also an economic factor.
    - This could also be a place for rodeo and motocross events.
  - *Environmental:*
    - No oil and gas disposal ponds.
    - If they have to have these, put them away from the public.
      - They are ugly and they are unhealthy.
  - *Economic:*
    - Architecture.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1 Waste ponds:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%

- C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=8%
  - E. Very Important=92%
- *Q2 Events space/ park:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=27%
  - D. Somewhat Important=27%
  - E. Very Important=45%
- *Q3 Horse sales:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=8%
  - D. Somewhat Important=33%
  - E. Very Important=58%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead, describe your vision for the surrounding public lands:*
  - More informational signs.
    - Where you are, where to go, and how to get there, for example.
  - Gathering places.
    - Linked to the horses.
  - It would be nice to see the Gobblins area maintained so it does not get destroyed.
    - Also gathering place.
  - I would like to keep our ATV trails.
    - More trails would be nice.
    - It would be nice if these trails were made into different-length loops.
  - It would be nice to have areas that are made for stopping.
    - This could aid in protecting the land by keeping people off sensitive areas.
    - They could rest/communicate in less sensitive areas.
  - The oil and gas industry has been pretty good about giving room for ATVs and other areas.
  - The roads are maintained better than they used to be.
  - More multiple-use opportunities.
  - Having more access to the lands.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, Resource Protection?*
  - *Recreation:*
    - We need another road.
    - Town's roads are not big enough.
    - Help for businesses if more folks were on the land.
  - *Energy Development:*
    - It could help local businesses.
    - What will it do to the open land out there?
    - It is not going to have a negative impact on the environment.
      - The wildlife comes right up to the rigs.
  - *Resource Protection:*
    - Native plants are not as nutritious as other plants.

- If they could use grasses that are more nutritious, then more livestock could be raised on it.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - Better mental health.
    - Lower stress level
  - A link to the past and nature.
  - Good for families.
  - Good for physical health.
  - If it is done right, there is hope for the future.
  - A sense of pride.
  - Makes you realize how lucky you are to live in God's country.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1 Health:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=18%
      - E. Very Important=82%
    - *Q2 Pride:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=27%
      - E. Very Important=73%
    - *Q3 Family time:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=8%
      - D. Somewhat Important=25%
      - E. Very Important=67%
    - *Q4 Connection to the past:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=45%
      - E. Very important=55%
    - *Q5 Stress:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=8%
      - D. Somewhat Important=33%
      - E. Very Important=58%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for public lands?*
  - Access to the area.
    - But not too much access.
  - It would be nice to have more places to stop and gather.

- We do not want to have a lot more management because it takes away from personal freedom.
- The area is going to change no matter what.
  - It is important to get ahead of it before it happens.
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=18%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=18%
      - D. Frequent=17%
      - E. Significant=36%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=42%
      - B. Rare=8%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=17%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=9%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=18%
      - D. Frequent=27%
      - E. Significant=45%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=8%
      - B. Rare=25%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=17%
      - E. Significant=17%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=25%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=25%
      - E. Significant=17%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=25%
      - B. Rare=33%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=8%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Community Residents*
    - *Planning:*

- A. Never=0%
  - B. Rare=0%
  - C. Occasional=9%
  - D. Frequent=0%
  - E. Significant=91%
- Management:
  - A. Never=10%
  - B. Rare=0%
  - C. Occasional=40%
  - D. Frequent=20%
  - E. Significant=30%
    - We know what we want to have happen out there.
      - If we have a say, then we will get what we want.
      - You cannot have 10,000 managers.
- Others
  - How big of a role should the BLM be in the planning process?
    - A. Never=27%
    - B. Rare=34%
    - C. Occasional=27%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=9%
  - Western Slope ATV.
  - Friends of the Mustangs.
  - Wild Horses council.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - Fees should be more fairly priced.
    - It would be nice to see some picnic areas or shelters that result from our fees.
  - BLM would be doing themselves a favor if they would start explaining their rules and regulations.
    - They need to do some more public education on how they are trying to manage the land.

## Gateway Meeting

**Date: March 10, 2009**

**Location: GJFO Planning Area**

**Number of Attendees: 10**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Responses:
    - It is home.
    - I was raised here and the whole area is home. When I go out, it is somewhere I have been before and have memories of.
    - Small town.
    - It is a community, which is different from being lost in the crowd in the big city.
    - Open space and elbow room.
    - Not crowded.
    - Access to public lands.
    - Abundant number of rocks and hills, brush, trees.
      - Rich wildlife.
    - Night sky that is not light polluted.
  - *Measurements*
    - *Q1: Open Space:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=14%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=14%
      - E. Very Important=71%
    - *Q2: Small Town Community:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=14%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=28%
      - E. Very Important=56%
    - *Q3: Access to Public Lands:*
      - A. Unimportant=14%
      - B. Of Little Importance=14%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=14%
      - E. Very Important=56%
    - *Q4: Wildlife:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%

D. Somewhat Important=33%

E. Very Important=66%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Response: You can leave your private property and go onto public land and you feel like you own it all.
    - You are allowed to access places that do not belong to anyone else.
  - You share the lands with the community:
    - This enhances the community feel as long as people do not abuse the land by leaving trash behind, driving where there is not a road, or congregating in places that were once isolated.
  - Provides income to miners, timber workers, trail guides, hunters, and ranchers.
    - Many people river raft.
  - Gives people the opportunity to experience lands even if they do not own them.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - It does not consist entirely of resort areas.
  - The atmosphere in the community would have a “small-town” feel to it.
  - Retain all the values that they mentioned when discussing the benefits of living here.
    - Would like to see more amenities, but still retain small-town feel.
  - The creation of a nursing home.
  - Much time has been put into making a community plan by property owners as of late.
  - Things will develop but they want development but for things to be the same.
  - The management for population growth.
  - Hope not to see all of the BLM land given to “big money” unless the average person has an opportunity for the land as well.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns:*
  - *Social*
    - Preserving what the community is attracted to, such as solitude.
    - Abuse of land can ultimately lead to the closure of the land (this is an environmental and economic concern as well).
  - *Environmental*
    - Responsible use of land (this is a social and economic concern as well) through trash and land swaps.
    - Proper land stewardship so public lands can be used and groups do not abuse the lands.
    - Maintaining the habitat and the open land is important for wildlife.
  - *Economic*
    - People can continue to get economic benefits from the land (example is mining).
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Habitat:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=11%
      - D. Somewhat Important=44%
      - E. Very Important=44%
    - *Q2: People can work on public land:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%

- B. Of Little Importance=14%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=14%
  - E. Very Important=71%
- *Q3: Solitude:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=13%
  - D. Somewhat Important=62%
  - E. Very Important=25%
- *Q4: Stewardship:*
  - A. Unimportant=0%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=50%
  - E. Very Important=50%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead describe your vision for the surrounding public lands:*
  - People will still be able to use them.
  - The lands need to stay in multiple-uses.
  - To maintain solitude there needs to be more enforcement of vehicles.
    - When people can access certain lands is a big issue, such as now when wildlife are down from high country grazing and people disturbing them.
      - This comes back to good stewardship.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - *Recreation-*
    - This would cost the community because livestock operation, hunting, mining, or anything that is profitable on public lands would disappear.
    - Increase the demand for services.
    - Increase the number of businesses.
    - Loss of wildlife as a result of more traffic because people tend to drive fast late at night and early in the morning.
    - More people in the woods means the game will be more hesitant to venture into the open lands.
    - It could alter the habitat.
    - It could impact energy development because recreation and energy would knock heads.
    - Place a big demand on ambulance and fire department, which is already struggling for help.
    - Increase need for law enforcement.
    - Would require a larger commitment from BLM on managing the lands through trails and signs, which will stress the resources of the BLM.
  - *Energy Development*
    - Recreation people would complain.
    - If the wrong emphasis is placed on energy development, it could destroy the area. If it is developed correctly, there is nothing wrong with it.

- This could hurt the small town feel if not done wisely, but could help the community by providing demand for support services.
        - The development needs to be responsible.
    - Depending on the type of energy that is being developed, such as uranium, which has a small impact as opposed to oil and gas.
  - *Resource Protection*
    - This would increase recreation by creating the area as a destination point.
    - Depends on the type of closures because it could hurt livestock, jobs and recreation.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - If you keep it multiple use, it represents what the country is all about.
  - The BLM is trying to cut people out and my vision would emphasize freedom.
  - Different people will check the other.
  - This area is full of history; gives people who don't have the Gateway lifestyle the chance to see the lifestyle.
    - People need to see the openness.
  - Wilderness eliminates people from accessing an area, whereas multiple use allows access for all areas.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Freedom:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=10%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=10%
      - E. Very Important=80%
    - *Q2: Balanced Use:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=10%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=10%
      - E. Very Important=80%
    - *Q3: Connection to History:*
      - A. Unimportant=10%
      - B. Of Little Importance=00%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=30%
      - E. Very Important=60%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
  - Not advertise public lands as much.
  - Allowing wood cutting would help the health of the trees.
  - Multiple-use lands.
  - If you want to get a tree permit from the BLM there are many regulations on driving vehicles to get the tree.

- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=44%
      - D. Frequent=44%
      - E. Significant=11%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=33%
      - C. Occasional=55%
      - D. Frequent=11%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses in the area*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=20%
      - D. Frequent=50%
      - E. Significant=30%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=11%
      - B. Rare=11%
      - C. Occasional=44%
      - D. Frequent=33%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=20%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=40%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=40%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=22%
      - B. Rare=11%
      - C. Occasional=44%
      - D. Frequent=11%
      - E. Significant=11%
  - *Community Residents*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=10%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=50%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%

- B. Rare=0%
- C. Occasional=30%
- D. Frequent=50%
- E. Significant=20%
  - Because plans evolve, community residents must help.
  - People have to live with their decisions.
  - Need to be careful with community management because communities change and this could have an impact on the management.
  - Decisions of what happens in Gateway should not be made in New Jersey.
- *Others*
  - The general public as opposed to the community residents as required by law.
  - Division of wildlife.
  - Any groups that have conditional use permits for public lands.
  - People who have special use permits.
  - Other federal agencies.
  - People who have mining claims, which may be classified under special use permits.
  - Schools.
  - Recreational clubs.
  - Public interest groups.
  - Emergency services.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*
  - Better communication that the meetings are going on. The trails and roads meeting was poorly attended and this one was poorly advertised.
    - Now that the newspaper isn't delivered to rural areas, it is more difficult to advertise.
      - Signs in post office sometimes work but some people in canyon have mail delivered elsewhere or at home.
        - Mailings and phone calls work.

## Palisade Leaders Meeting

**Date: March 16, 2009**

**Location: Palisade Community Center**

**Number of Attendees: 6**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Stunning scenery.
    - Agricultural aspects, both from an orchard and winery standpoint, there are some unique things here that make Palisade unique, in the Grand Valley and Colorado in general.
  - The Grand Valley is a wonderful crossroads that the Rocky Mountain corridor has to offer from mountains, desert, and rivers.
  - Remoteness as SLC and Denver and Las Vegas are at a great distance.
  - Access.
  - Amount of public land in the region.
    - Agreed
  - Shopping.
  - Culture, because it is an agricultural community with much history and heritage that is being tapped into.
  - Recreation.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Agriculture:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=33%
      - D. Somewhat Important= %
      - E. Very Important=66%
    - *Q2: Scenery-Viewscope:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=75%
    - *Q3: Access to Public Lands:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
    - *Q4: Recreation:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%

- B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
  - D. Somewhat Important=0%
  - E. Very Important=100%
- *Q5: Shopping:*
  - A. Unimportant=25%
  - B. Of Little Importance=0%
  - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
  - D. Somewhat Important=25%
  - E. Very Important=25%
- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Public lands are huge. It seems that a majority of public is attracted to the area because of public lands.
  - Public lands are not a distraction to the people who are not drawn to the outdoors.
  - Huge for visitors and international visitors because they are fascinated by open space.
  - Public lands are positive because they are there for discovery for visitors and nearby residents.
  - Contribute to physical and mental health. About 95% of recreation by the respondent is done on public lands.
  - There is also a degree of frustration of public land policy and public land management.
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - Agricultural for certain with improved access to commercial and recreational amenities. This means more pedestrian and bicycle access.
    - Wants distinct feel of Palisade to emerge.
  - Want a healthy and vibrant core downtown.
  - It is critical that the air quality remain high because it affects things from visibility, viewscape, etc.
  - Hopefully Palisade still retains its small-town, agricultural atmosphere, which remains the draw of the community and attracts visitors.
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social*
    - Need to address the dichotomy that exists with the Latino community.
      - The Latino community is a critical part of the agricultural aspect but remained marginalized. There is not much in the way of integration of Latino community and he expects increased number of Latinos.
  - *Environmental*
    - Air Quality.
    - Transportation is huge from pedestrian access, canals, irrigation, links to De Beque, interstate systems. How the valley will deal with increased population in the future is a main concern.
    - A light rail line to connect the communities would keep traffic in line. This would also improve tourism.

- *Economic*
  - Core downtown that addresses social issues such as entertainment, necessary services.
    - One benefit Palisade has is Grand Junction is next door, which gives Palisade residents necessary/important amenities.
  - Agriculture is concerned to the green movement and the risks it poses to the agricultural community.
  - Palisade's abundance of unique products is important, from art, fruit, wine, etc.
- *Measurements*
  - *Q1: Transportation:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=20%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - *Q2: Air Quality:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=60%
    - E. Very Important=40%
  - *Q3: Downtown Core:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - *Q4: Integration:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=40%
    - E. Very Important=60%
  - *Q5: Agriculture:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=80%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead:*
  - Bike trails. Palisade cannot get cooperation with BLM to create the trails. It is an easy interface to link Palisade to public lands and they are not asking for millions of trails.
    - This is a source of frustration.
  - Access to the public land and usage of public land, which means increasing access points and keeping the ones they already have.
  - Hiking trails. Access to public lands through hiking, horse, ATV is important.
  - There must be sensitivity to watersheds and ecological areas, but access should not be stopped because of these.

- No oil rigs within view of residents to protect viewscape.
  - Roads could impact the viewscape as well.
  - Building homes can also impact the viewscape if BLM begins trading land.
  - Nominal extraction of gas and oil.
  - Hydrology is a huge issue in the watershed.
  - The motivation of the community is not to have recreation overrun the community, but some well designed access areas would stimulate the economy and improve the community.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
    - *Recreation:*
      - This would be more sustainable because recreation would not go away.
      - Recreation would provide year-round activities.
      - Recreation would increase certain businesses.
      - Recreation would be more visually appealing.
    - *Energy:*
      - Energy would destroy their watershed.
      - Energy would be a short-term gain as a boom and bust cycle.
      - Energy would trash the area.
      - Energy would impact the viewscape.
      - Energy could negatively impact wildlife habitat. On Grand Mesa Slopes there is an abundance of deer and elk wintering grounds.
      - Basically, the residents do not like the idea of energy-heavy RMP.
    - *Resource:*
      - Resource Protection would help scenery.
      - Resource Protection preserves the past by preserving archaeological resources.
      - Resource Protection could decrease use and access if it is made more difficult.
      - Resource Protection could close access points by allowing key areas to be cut off from the area thereby decreasing access.
      - There are a few who feel that Palisade is being fought on bike trails because Fruita users created own trails, which has hurt Palisade.
- *Question: Supplemental question from Tim Casey about the Grand Mesa Slopes and idea about it becoming a special recreation management zone or the watershed area:*
    - The BLM uses that land as if land is its own private playground.
    - Grand Mesa Slopes is a huge area and some people use it as their own backyard. The BLM has asked not to promote anything until interface is created between Palisade and BLM.
    - There is interest among Palisade residents about the Grand Mesa Slopes.
      - The needs of Palisade are small and request is modest.
      - Palisade residents are frustrated especially when they see the responsiveness of the BLM to Gateway because of Gateway's resort.
    - There is plenty of opportunity concerning recreation. Residents were in charge of Whitewater Park but were rejected.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
    - Physical and Mental health.
    - Self-sustainability, uniqueness, having own little place in the valley.
    - Well-rounded.

- Orchards, wineries, agriculture tourism, wine tastings, etc.
- To have diverse recreational opportunities is beneficial.
  - This will lead a well-rounded quality of life.
- Residents do not want the bust and boom anymore. Variety and diversity add to the sustainability of the region.
- Cultural heritage.
  - Interpretations are a very important aspect to the past.
  - Procurement of historic resources will hopefully lead to a museum.
- This area began with an emphasis on agriculture. The question, then, for the BLM, is what impact will it have on the agriculture of the area?
  - Considering agriculture uses 80% of the water in Colorado, if the BLM continues on pushing energy, the pollution of water and use by energy companies could destroy agriculture.
    - Economic development through the exploitation of resources, no checks and balances, and the energy companies desire to pump out resources as quickly as possible, will dry every farm in the valley.
- Healthy water will also help recreationists.
- *Measurements*
  - *Q1: Health:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q2: Healthy Water Resource:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q3: Cultural Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=20%
    - E. Very Important=80%
  - *Q4: Well Rounded Community:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*

- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=20%
      - E. Significant=80%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=40%
      - D. Frequent=20%
      - E. Significant=40%
  - *Businesses:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=20%
      - D. Frequent=60%
      - E. Significant=20%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=20%
      - C. Occasional=40%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Tourism Industry:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=20%
      - D. Frequent=20%
      - E. Significant=60%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=20%
      - C. Occasional=40%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Community Residents:*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=40%
      - E. Significant=60%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%

- B. Rare=40%
- C. Occasional=40%
- D. Frequent=0%
- E. Significant=20%
- *Others:*
  - The BLM should manage based on its plan.
  - Public lands are public and would like to see public do trash cleanup.
  - A citizen commission could get people involved as stakeholders and would feel more responsible to public lands.
  - Other groups include:
    - Other small communities such as Mesa and Powderhorn. There are many people in Mesa that use Palisade as part of their recreation opportunities.
      - A dream would be to have a hiking trail connect Palisade to Mesa (the community).
    - Youth, not necessarily a school district.
      - Can use school district, but more focused on getting youth to take stewardship of the land.
    - Wildlife groups.
    - Nonprofit groups that are not aimed at wildlife such as “Urban Trails” and the “Riverfront Commission.”
- *Questions: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public lands and the use thereof and this discussion:*

## Loma-Mack Meeting

**Date: March 19, 2009**

**Location: Loma Elementary School**

**Number of Attendees: 10**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily
    - Resident requested that we should leave a copy of the results in the library.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gauge intensity rate
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - Rural lifestyle.
    - Farming, ranching
  - Not under jurisdiction of Grand Junction people.
    - Not part of that mentality.
  - Not Fruita.
  - Lower taxation schedule.
  - Quiet.
  - *Measurements:*
    - *Q1: Quiet:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=11%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=11%
      - E. Very Important=77%
    - *Q2: Not GJ or Fruita:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
      - D. Somewhat Importance=25%
      - E. Very Important=50%
    - *Q3: Lower Taxes:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=25%
      - D. Somewhat Important=12%
      - E. Very Important=62%
    - *Q4: Rural/ Agriculture:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=11%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=88%

- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Public lands are open space
  - Hikers, bikers, horseback riders
    - Places to go
  - Hunting, fishing, a place to get away from the value
  - ATV restriction affects ATV riders.
    - Those with handicaps could be helped with access to public lands.
      - A lot of access is not ATV now, instead it is horses and bikes, and not a lot of people ride bikes here.
  - Public land is not developed.
  - Fruita now is nothing but houses, but must have room for everybody.
  - Likes that horse trails are separate from ATV trails.
  - The whole area is great for recreation.
  - Loma is the entrance to the canyon land and the Kokopelli trail and has tremendous opportunity for recreation and if BLM handles its management wisely, its management could have a strong impact on the area.
    - Recreation here impacts business in the valley through sales, supply.
    - The more opportunities to use sales tax to run the government, the more it alleviates property taxes.
      - Loma is getting PILT, which helps keep taxes down in the area.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - There is a plan in the making that will go before the planning commission on April 5<sup>th</sup>. It is a 20-year plan.
    - This plan has been going on over one year. The plan was contracted out to a Nebraska firm. The town went before the county for sewer improvements and a chance to incorporate. To incorporate you need to have a certain number of rooftops for taxes and support of a sewer district. Loma will try and incorporate with Mack and use its sewer services.
      - They are still getting feedback at this point.
        - So, improvement of infrastructure.
  - Would like to see the area stay the way it is, agriculturally based, and affordable.
    - Plan maintains the rural integrity while providing the number of necessary rooftops to pay back the county for its sewer.
  - The population is going to grow, unfortunately. Numerous Moab bikers are coming here.
    - Moab, according to one resident, says that the Moab BLM office is closing a significant amount of land to recreation. Foot or horseback will be primary recreation. People have stopped going to Moab because they cannot ride the trails. This means that Loma-Mack needs to do something now.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think that are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social:*
    - Cooperation on building trails between user groups is a social benefit.
      - On Grand Mesa, the snowmobilers pack the trails for cross country skiers.
    - Access for elderly.

- In 20 years would hate to see this area like Moab. Enforcement over the resources must be maintained. Dirt bikes and ATVs that do not stay on trails need to be enforced.
  - Signage is a big part of this because there are not enough signs.
    - Every single sign is broken.
      - If you fix signs, after a while, people will leave the signs alone.
        - If there are enough people to police the area it should happen.
- *Environmental:*
  - Need to protect the environment, does not want the land to be trashed. However, the land should not be restricted for a small few to use. Being a trails coordinator for an ATV club the participant sees groups leave trash. All user groups litter.
  - Noxious weeds. There are only two workers in the participants office in Mesa County to handle this.
- *Economic:*
  - Anytime you close an area to access, there is an economic impact.
  - The showing of preferential treatment to different user group must not occur.
    - This BLM office got a rude awakening at Granite - because this BLM office needs to maintain the area and must access the land through Moab.
      - The economic impact is huge because the rock crawler industry, which is huge, moved out of Utah to Nevada. This has a huge economic impact.
  - All want multiple uses.
  - Need to maintain economic base by supporting mining, oil, oil shale.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1 Trash:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
      - An example is in Gateway, where trash has been left out and it will soon look like Loma.
  - *Q2: Enforcement:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=11%
    - D. Somewhat Important=11%
    - E. Very Important=77%
  - *Q3: Noxious Weeds:*
    - A. Unimportant=11%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=22%
    - E. Very Important=66%

- *Q4: Closed Trails as an Economic Problem:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=22%
    - E. Very Important=77%
  - *Q5: Mining and Shale as Economic Help:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=11%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=11%
    - E. Very Important=77%
  - *Q6: Cooperation Among User Groups:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead:*
  - The prevailing attitude I run in to, there is a small group that wants no one on the lands, there is a small group that built a house on land and does not want to share, and there are groups that say a road has been here for years, but it is not a sustainable road, and they do not want to close it down. Do not close a whole area because one group wants something.
    - Consistency is an important issue.
      - This office is affected by national office.
  - Access to hunting lands has been a problem, and BLM needs to open up some hunting lands because hunting is a tremendous economic base for the area.
  - As a rancher, the four wheelers ride on land trespassing.
    - Law enforcement and signage would help cut it down.
      - When cattle prices were really low, hunters kept the ranchers in business.
        - The other side to this is that large groups of outfitters backed by corporations buy up land and restrict access to only that group.
          - This is a consistency issue again.
  - No more Wilderness.
  - Would like to see consistency through the Department of the Interior so a new president cannot impact policies. Would like more consistency in Department of the Interior. The BLM people would even like consistency because BLM has to change direction with new administrations and the public must push the government for consistency.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - *Recreation:*
    - It would hamper Loma economically without multiple uses, especially energy (shale). BLM must honor energy permits such as shale. Hunting and trails as well.
    - More people, more people starting a business; increased population; increase in sales; increase in development; agriculture will decline.

- Economics could be helped and we would see increased housing.
      - Homebuilding, repair would go up.
  - *Energy:*
    - Increased housing in Loma-Mack because of proximity; changes in infrastructure such as roads (which would require more cooperation among government agencies).
    - Need to protect economic base, and energy would help this.
    - The BLM needs to surrender some of its lands to accommodate potential growth in the area from energy development.
  - *Resource Protection:*
    - To fix an old reservoir today it is nearly impossible given all of the paper work. Resource protection would increase regulations on land.
    - Decreased access.
      - This is important because it must be consistent access.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - A sound economic base; a good recreational area while still keeping the rural atmosphere.
  - McGinnis Canyon used to be open to use, but now it isn't. Their vision would be helped by allowing responsible use of the land.
  - Multiple uses, such as ranching.
  - Connection to heritage through ranching.
  - Cannot change vision every nine years; needs consistency and planning (planned growth).
- *Measurements*
  - *Q1: Consistency for Planning:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=11%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=88%
  - *Q2: Multiple-Use:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=100%
  - *Q3: Heritage:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=11%
    - E. Very Important=88%
  - *Q4: Sound Economic Base:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=22%

- E. Very Important=77%
    - *Q5: Responsible Use of the Land:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=11%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=88%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for public lands?*
  - (skipped this section)
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=11%
      - C. Occasional=11%
      - D. Frequent=44%
      - E. Significant=33%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=11%
      - C. Occasional=66%
      - D. Frequent=22%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses (Agriculture and Energy)*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=22%
      - E. Significant=77%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=11%
      - C. Occasional=11%
      - D. Frequent=44%
      - E. Significant=33%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=11%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=33%
      - E. Significant=22%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=22%
      - B. Rare=44%

- C. Occasional=11%
  - D. Frequent=22%
  - E. Significant=0%
- *Community Residents*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=0%
    - D. Frequent=0%
    - E. Significant=100%
      - We know the land as well as anybody.
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=11%
    - D. Frequent=22%
    - E. Significant=66%
      - What would some of these roles look like?
        - Cleanup
        - Trail building
        - Conservation
        - Policing the area
        - Oversight and evaluation of the BLM
- *Others:*
  - BLM does not have a program to go into the schools. They may go to the college, but not the schools.
    - This includes all schools (including charter).
      - It needs to reach out to younger generation but cannot teach only one side of an issue.
  - Too many people at the table can complicate things and put too much pressure on the BLM to satisfy all groups.
  - Environmental groups, farmers, ranchers, could be used as categories of who to invite.
  - User groups.
  - There are no young people attending this meeting and would like to see some younger people attend these meetings.
  - Organized interest groups.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use thereof and this discussion:*

### Fruita Leaders Meeting

**Date: April 22, 2009**

**Location: Fruita Civic Center**

**Number of Attendees: 3**

- *Introduction:*
  - Participation is voluntarily.
- *Explanation of iClicker:*
  - Used to gage intensity rate.
- *Question: What are the things you like about living in your community?*
  - The small town atmosphere.
  - The outdoor recreation.
  - Like the idea of being close to the mountains and desert. This is the idea of a diverse terrain.
  - Way cool events such as the Fat Tire Festival.
  - Amenities are close. Within 10 minutes can be at the biggest mall within 500 miles or at an NCA.
  - The river.
  - History of the area.
    - Dinosaur remains.
- *Measurements:*
  - *Q1: Small Town Atmosphere:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important= 100%
  - *Q2: Outdoor Recreation:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=33%
    - E. Very Important=66%
  - *Q3Events:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - D. Somewhat Important=66%
    - E. Very Important=33%
  - *Q4 History:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=33%
    - D. Somewhat Important=66%
    - E. Very Important=0%

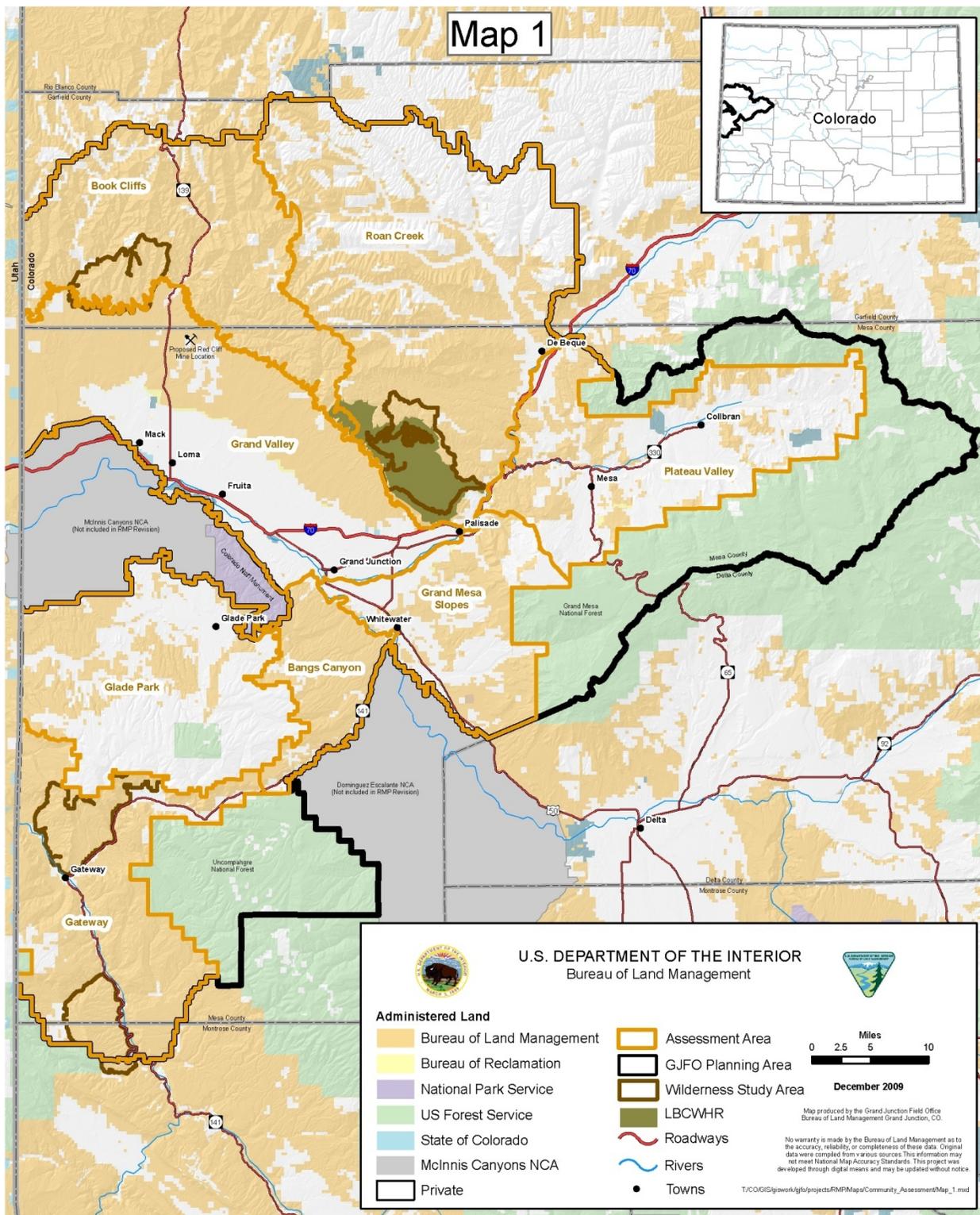
- *Question: How do public lands have an impact on the previously mentioned values?*
  - Having open land means you have a place to do recreation on open space, minimal traffic and the big-city feel.
  - That is what attracts people to this area; to be away from Denver and to have opportunities to mountain bike, hike, and be away. This is important for tourism as well.
  - If I am going to show off the area to friends I will show off the public lands and the ease of access to those lands impresses those you are showing the land off to.
  - Helps cut down on smog and keeps air clean.
  - Attracts people to live here, but that harms small-town atmosphere by threatening it.
  
- *Question: Describe your vision for your community's future:*
  - Just finished the community plan that had a lot of public input. Goals:
    - Enhance small town atmosphere; provide for economic vitality were two major cruxes.
    - People want to work, live, and play in Fruita.
      - The community plan is on the Web site under planning.
        - The community can accommodate about 35,000 people.
  
- *Question: Over the next 15-20 years, what do you think are the most important social, environmental and economic values and concerns?*
  - *Social*
    - Small town atmosphere.
    - Strong neighborhoods.
    - Neighborhood parks.
    - Diversity of housing so filthy rich are not sole residents.
  - *Environmental*
    - They are going through a parks plan now to examine rural space.
    - Making public lands accessible while preserving them.
  - *Economic*
    - Economic development.
    - Leave downtown as it stands no but grow outwards.
    - Managed population growth.
    - Diversity of housing fits here too.
  - *Measurements*
    - *Q1: Access to Open Space:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%
      - E. Very Important=100%
        - Maintaining access constantly comes up in community meetings.
        - Access is critical because the community uses the public lands and is therefore critical to the economic health of the community.
    - *Q2: Economic Development:*
      - A. Unimportant=0%
      - B. Of Little Importance=0%
      - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
      - D. Somewhat Important=0%

## E. Very Important=100%

- *Question: Thinking about your community vision and the social, environmental and economic challenges that lie ahead describe your vision for the surrounding public lands:*
  - Would like to see the trail system improved because it will prevent people from getting off the trails and destroying other land.
  - Fruita is identified as the official gateway community for the BLM to the NCA and to the Monument for the Park Service. As a gateway community Fruita is concerned with open space because it is the largest economic engine. Preserving it is important.
    - In North Fruita Desert Plan, mineral extraction is equally important as is recreation, which doesn't help the community, but hurts its economic engine (open space).
      1. On the ground for administration, the BLM responds to the increased demand for access by limiting it because it drains the BLM's limited services.
  - Connectivity is important for Fruita. Getting people who are in Fruita out to the lands is key for the area. A walkable area to the public lands would help.
    - For example, Kings View Road goes to the river but making it more connected through bikes would be beneficial.
- *Question: What would your community look like in the future if the BLM were to emphasize Recreation, Energy Development, and Resource Protection?*
  - *Recreation*
    - Of the three, this is the preferable option. It would be great for Fruita because it matches the community identity (mountain biking, hiking, rafting, and four-wheeling).
      - It would draw more people into the community for vacations.
      - Makes Fruita a regional destination.
    - It wouldn't affect the population all that much.
    - For any of the three, the benefits of recreation are clear and downfalls are difficult to identify and may not be that bad. Energy development, however, if done poorly, is easy to identify the negatives.
  - *Energy*
    - If done well, there are clear benefits; but if not done well it could have clearly negative effect.
  - *Resource Protection*
    - Access is important, but without preservation there is no demand for access. The manager's trick is to balance this.
    - Alternatives that are clearly one of the three (energy, recreation or preservation) would just divide participants into group with proponents and opponents, so it should not be that clear of a line.
- *Question: What are the desired or beneficial outcomes that your vision provides?*
  - Makes it a cool place to live and play.
  - Promotes active and healthy lifestyles.
  - Good economics because it brings outside dollars to the community.
  - Vision for community is economic development, not expansion.
  - A good balanced plan helps with preservation because it can keep people in certain areas.

- *Measurements*
  - *Q1: Healthy Lifestyles:*
    - A. Unimportant=0%
    - B. Of Little Importance=0%
    - C. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=33%
    - D. Somewhat Important=0%
    - E. Very Important=66%
  - *Q2: Cool Place to Live:*
    - 1. Unimportant=0%
    - 2. Of Little Importance=0%
    - 3. Neither Important Nor Unimportant=0%
    - 4. Somewhat Important=0%
    - 5. Very Important=100%
- *Question: What characteristics would you specifically maintain or change to achieve your vision for Public Lands?*
- *Question: What do you believe are the appropriate collaborative roles for each of the BLMs land managing?*
  - *Measurements:*
  - *Local Governments*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=66%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=66%
      - D. Frequent=33%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Businesses*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=66%
      - D. Frequent=0%
      - E. Significant=33%
    - *Management:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=33%
      - D. Frequent=66%
      - E. Significant=0%
  - *Tourism Industry*
    - *Planning:*
      - A. Never=0%
      - B. Rare=0%
      - C. Occasional=0%
      - D. Frequent=66%

- E. Significant=33%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=33%
    - D. Frequent=66%
    - E. Significant=0%
- *Community Residents*
  - Planning:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=0%
    - C. Occasional=33%
    - D. Frequent=33%
    - E. Significant=33%
  - Management:
    - A. Never=0%
    - B. Rare=33%
    - C. Occasional=33%
    - D. Frequent=33%
    - E. Significant=0%
    - One participant believes democratic principles should be highly involved in planning, but management is a different function.
      - The BLM does not listen to Fruita residents/city on the public lands that reside outside of their community, such as Gateway or Bangs Canyon. The respondent thinks this makes it difficult to identify who the “community” is and that the BLM should make this clear.
- *Others*
  - National citizens.
  - State.
  - Counties.
  - Individual user groups (rafters, bikers).
  - Professional associations (city managers league, National parks and recreation association as well as Colorado Parks and Recreation Association).
  - More input is always good.
- *Question: Other issues/comments/suggestions concerning public land, the use there of and this discussion:*





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