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CHAPTER 2
ALTERNATIVES

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter details the proposed Alternatives A through D that are considered in the draft RMP/EIS and maps (**Appendix A**, Figures) to show where actions are applicable. The alternatives respond to identified issues and concerns, resolve problems with management, and explore opportunities for enhancing or expanding resources or resource uses. (The McInnis Canyons and Dominguez-Escalante NCAs, while within the planning area, are not included in this draft RMP/EIS.)

Under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, the BLM is the agency responsible for the administration of leasing and development of the federal mineral estate. In the planning area, subsurface mineral estate administered by the BLM (federal mineral estate) totals 1.2 million acres. The mineral estate acres are greater than BLM surface acres (1,061,400 acres) because the BLM manages federal mineral estate underlying some privately owned lands, state-owned lands, and National Forest System lands.

Appendix B, Stipulations Applicable to Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-disturbing Activities, applies to fluid mineral leasing on BLM lands overlying federal mineral estate. Where appropriate, stipulations also apply to other surface-disturbing activities (and occupancy) associated with land use authorizations, permits, and leases issued on all BLM lands. The intent of these stipulations is to consistently mitigate impacts by applying the same stipulation to land use authorizations across the board. It is the BLM's intent to incorporate the same level of restrictions, to the extent practicable, on agency proposed projects. Stipulations also apply to federal mineral estate underlying privately owned lands or state-owned lands. Acreages in Chapter 2 and Appendix B reflect federal mineral estate overlain by BLM, private, and state-owned land.

Stipulations may be applied to land managed by other federal agencies at the leasing phase, based on coordination with the agency. Acreages for alternatives in this chapter and stipulations in Appendix B are calculated based on current information and may be adjusted in the future through RMP maintenance, as conditions warrant.

Data from geographic information systems (GIS) have been used in developing acreage calculations and for generating many of the figures in Appendix A. Calculations are dependent upon the quality and availability of data and most calculations in this RMP are rounded to the nearest one hundred acres. Given the scale of the analysis, the compatibility constraints between datasets, and lack of data for some resources, all calculations are approximate and serve for comparison and analytic purposes only. Likewise, the figures in Appendix A are provided for illustrative purposes and subject to the limitations discussed above. BLM may receive additional GIS data; therefore, acreages may be recalculated and revised at a later date.

In all instances, stipulations proposed under Alternatives B, C, and D (the action alternatives) would apply only to new fluid mineral leases. Within the GJFO planning area, approximately 389,700 acres are available for leasing but are not yet leased. New stipulations from this RMP would not apply to existing leases, but the BLM would develop Conditions of Approval (COAs) for Applications for Permit to Drill to achieve resource objectives of the RMP (see the BLM's Land Use Planning Handbook H-1601-1 at Appendix C, part H), when they are determined reasonable and consistent with valid existing rights.[1]

Three types of stipulations could be applied to fluid mineral leasing or other land use authorizations, except for those authorized under the realty program: 1) no surface occupancy (NSO) or other no surface-disturbing activities; 2) controlled surface use (CSU); and 3) timing limitation (TL). ROW authorizations are governed by avoidance and exclusion area restrictions.

> NSO/No Surface-disturbing Activities: Allows fluid mineral leasing, but surface-disturbing activities cannot be conducted on the surface of the land unless an exception, waiver, or modification is granted (**Appendix B**, Section B.2). Access to fluid mineral deposits would require directional drilling from outside the boundaries of the NSO/No Surface-disturbing Activities areas.
>
> CSU: Allows some use and occupancy of public land, while protecting identified resources or values. A CSU stipulation allows the BLM to require special operational constraints, or the surface-disturbing activity

[1]See also 43 CFR 1610.5-3(b): "…the Field Manager shall take appropriate measures, subject to valid existing rights, to make operations and activities under existing permits, contracts, cooperative agreements or other instruments for occupancy and use, conform to the approved plan or amendment within a reasonable period of time."

can be shifted more than 200 meters (656 feet) to protect the specified resource or value.

TL: Closes an area to fluid mineral exploration and development, surface-disturbing activities, and intensive human activity during identified time frames. This stipulation does not apply to operation and basic maintenance activities, including associated vehicle travel, unless otherwise specified. Construction, drilling, completions, and other operations considered to be intensive in nature are not allowed.

2.2 SUMMARY COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

Combined with the figures in **Appendix A**, **Sections 2.2.1** through **2.2.4** and **Table 2-1**, Comparative Summary of Alternatives, highlight the meaningful differences among alternatives relative to what they establish and where they occur. The details of each alternative are described in **Section 2.8**, including goals, objectives, management actions, and allowable uses for each resource program. The alternatives development process is described in **Section 2.3.**

2.2.1 Alternative A (No Action Alternative)

The no action alternative, Alternative A, is the continuation of present management direction and current prevailing conditions, based on existing planning decisions and amendments. This alternative meets the requirements of NEPA (40 CFR Part 1502.14) that a no action alternative be considered. This means that current management practices, based on the existing GJFO RMP (BLM 1987) and other management decision documents, would continue. Goals and objectives for BLM land resources and resource uses would be based on the existing GJFO RMP, RMP amendments, and activity- or implementation-level plans. The emphasis would be on maintaining the existing land management direction for physical, biological, cultural, and historic resource values, along with recreational, social, and economic land uses. The BLM would implement direction contained in laws, regulations, and BLM policies superseding provisions of the existing RMP and amendments.

The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, timber harvest, utility corridors, and livestock grazing) would stay the same. There would be no change in goals, objectives, allowable uses, or management actions that are allowed, restricted, or prohibited on BLM lands and mineral estate. The BLM would not establish additional criteria or change present criteria to identify site-specific levels for use.

2.2.2 Alternative B (Preferred)

Alternative B would balance resources among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resource values, while sustaining the ecological integrity of certain key habitats for plants, wildlife, and fish. It incorporates a balanced level of protection, restoration, enhancement, and use of resources and services to meet ongoing programs and land uses.

Goals and objectives focus on environmental, economic, and social outcomes achieved by strategically addressing demands across the landscape.

2.2.3 Alternative C

Alternative C emphasizes nonconsumptive use and management of resources through protection, restoration, and enhancement, while providing for multiple uses, including livestock grazing and mineral development. This alternative would establish the greatest number of special designation areas, with specific measures to protect or enhance resource values within these areas. Goals and objectives focus on environmental and social outcomes achieved by sustaining relatively unmodified physical landscapes and natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

Management direction would generally be ecologically based. Existing uses would be recognized but would likely be limited to ensure the protection of natural and cultural values, including intangible Native American landscape values encompassing plant communities, wildlife, viewsheds, air, and water. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses, such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, and livestock grazing, are contingent on meeting the essential conditions of natural and heritage resources.

2.2.4 Alternative D

This alternative emphasizes active management for natural resources, commodity production, and public use opportunities. Resource uses, such as recreation, livestock grazing, and mineral leasing and development, would be emphasized. Management would recognize and give precedence to existing uses and would accommodate new uses to the greatest extent possible, while maintaining resource conditions. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses would emphasize social and economic outcomes, while protecting land health.

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Wildlife Emphasis Areas		***Figure 2-1***	***Figure 2-2***	***Figure 2-3***	
Beehive		4,700	4,700		
Blue Mesa		9,300	9,300		
Bull Hill		4,800	4,800		
Casto			4,200		
East Salt Creek		26,100	26,100		
Glade Park		27,200			Managed as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) under Alternative C.
Hawxhurst			9,400		
Indian Point			11,400		

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Prairie Canyon		22,200	15,300		An additional 6,900 acres managed as an ACEC under Alternative C.
Rapid Creek		28,600	28,600		
Red Mountain			5,000		
Roan and Carr Creeks		17,700		33,400	33,600 acres managed as an ACEC under Alternative C.
South Shale Ridge		3,500	3,500		
Sunnyside		14,500	11,300		An additional 3,200 acres managed as an ACEC under Alternative C.
Timber Ridge		11,900	11,900		
Total	*0*	*170,500*	*145,500*	*33,400*	
Wild Horses	***Figure 2-4***				
Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range	35,200				
Visual Resource Management (VRM)	***Figure 2-5***	***Figure 2-6***	***Figure 2-7***	***Figure 2-8***	
VRM Class I	27,100	98,500	100,100	96,500	
VRM Class II	132,100	314,500	556,600	194,800	
VRM Class III	206,100	458,600	215,000	530,100	
VRM Class IV		189,800	189,700	240,000	
Undesignated	696,100				
Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics Outside Existing Wilderness Study Areas		***Figure 2-9***	***Figure 2-10***		
Bangs Canyon			20,400		
East Demaree Canyon			4,800		
East Salt Creek			17,000		
Hunter Canyon			32,200		
Kings Canyon			9,600		
Lumsden Canyon			10,100		
Maverick		17,800	20,400		
South Shale Ridge			27,500		
Spink Canyon			13,100		
Spring Canyon			8,800		
Unaweep		6,700	7,200		
West Creek (adjacent)		20	100		
Total	*0*	*24,400*	*171,200*	*0*	
Livestock Grazing[1]	***Figure 2-11***	***Figure 2-12***	***Figure 2-13***	***Figure 2-14***	
Open to livestock grazing (acres)	978,600	961,100	586,600	977,200	
Closed to livestock grazing (acres)	48,600	66,000	440,400	49,900	
Starting available Animal Unit Months (AUMs)	61,270	60,633	32,658	61,270	

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Extensive Recreation Management Areas	***Figure 2-15***	***Figure 2-16***		***Figure 2-17***	
34 and C Road		500		500	
Barrel Springs		10,300		10,300	
Castle Rock		4,400			
Dolores River Canyon		151,200		16,800	
Grand Junction ERMA	703,100				
Grand Valley		5,600			
Grand Valley Ranges				800	
Gunnison River Bluffs		800			
Palisade Rims		2,700			
South Shale Ridge				21,600	
Timber Ridge				11,900	
Total	*703,100*	*175,500*	*0*	*61,900*	
Special Recreation Management Areas	***Figure 2-18***	***Figure 2-19***	***Figure 2-20***	***Figure 2-21***	
Bangs	54,700	17,300	17,300	17,300	
Castle Rock				4,400	
Dolores River Canyon		16,900			
Gateway Intensive Recreation Management Area	120,700				
Grand Valley Intensive Recreation Management Area	119,600				
Grand Valley				9,700	
Gunnison River Bluffs				800	
North Fruita Desert	63,300	44,100	42,700	44,100	
Palisade Rims				2,700	
Total	*358,300*	*78,300*	*60,000*	*79,000*	
Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management	***Figure 2-22***	***Figure 2-23***	***Figure 2-24***	***Figure 2-25***	
Open to cross-country motorized use	445,400				
Open to motorized use	12,500	5,400		10,200	
Closed to motorized use	35,300	187,900	379,500	111,300	
Limited to existing routes for motorized use	342,700				
Limited to designated routes for motorized use	225,500	868,100	681,900	939,900	
Open to mechanized travel	12,500	5,400		10,200	
Closed to mechanized travel		158,500	367,000	98,000	
Limited to designated routes for mechanized travel	6,200	897,500	694,400	953,200	
Open to horse travel		1035,500	1,023,800	1,042,400	
Closed to horse travel		1,300	1,300	1,300	

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Limited to designated routes for horse travel	6,200	24,600	36,300	17,700	
Open to foot travel		1,036,800	1,023,800	1,043,700	
Closed to foot travel			1,300		
Limited to designated routes for foot travel	6,200	24,600	36,300	17,700	
Lands and Realty	***Figure 2-26***	***Figure 2-27***	***Figure 2-28***	***Figure 2-29***	
ROW exclusion areas	234,900	204,200	365,800	104,100	
ROW avoidance areas	441,400	740,900	627,000	80,500	
Acres suitable for disposal *(Figures 2-30 through 2-33)*	16,100	12,500	2,600	18,000	
Coal Leasing	***Figure 2-34***	***Figure 2-35***	***Figure 2-36***	***Figure 2-37***	
Unacceptable for coal leasing	36,700	56,000	58,200	43,800	
Acceptable for coal leasing	300,700	253,400	251,200	265,600	
Fluid Mineral Leasing (in acres of federal mineral estate[2])					
Closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration	96,500	202,400	623,600	100,500	
BLM surface/federal minerals	96,500 *(Figure 2-38)*	182,700 *(Figure 2-39)*	554,700 *(Figure 2-40)*	100,000 *(Figure 2-41)*	
Private or State surface/federal minerals		19,700	68,900	500	
Open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration	1,134,600	1,028,800	607,600	1,130,700	
BLM surface/federal minerals	964,800 *(Figure 2-38)*	878,700 *(Figure 2-39)*	506,700 *(Figure 2-40)*	961,400 *(Figure 2-41)*	
Private or state surface/federal minerals	169,800	150,100	100,900	169,300	
Stipulations for Surface-Disturbing Activities (in acres of federal mineral estate[2]*; refer to Appendix B)*					
NSO stipulation for surface-disturbing activities	*(Figure 2-42)*[3]	614,000 *(Figure 2-43)*	858,000 *(Figure 2-44)*	497,800 *(Figure 2-45)*	
BLM surface/federal minerals		551,600	781,100	446,600	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		62,400	76,900	51,200	
CSU stipulation for surface-disturbing activities	*(Figure 2-46)*[3]	656,200 *(Figure 2-47)*	664,400 *(Figure 2-48)*	471,500 *(Figure 2-49)*	
BLM surface/federal minerals		618,100	627,000	458,700	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		38,100	37,400	12,800	
TL stipulation for surface-disturbing activities	*(Figure 2-50)*[3]	517,300 *(Figure 2-51)*	507,200 *(Figure 2-52)*	487,900 *(Figure 2-53)*	

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
BLM surface/federal minerals		457,300	447,200	455,100	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		60,000	60,000	32,800	
Open to leasing with NSO stipulation[4]	433,000 *(Figure 2-42)*	429,100	302,900	400,900	
BLM surface/federal minerals	433,000	382,200	266,300	349,700	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		46,900	36,600	51,200	
Open to leasing with CSU stipulation[4]	74,100 *(Figure 2-46)*	563,500	326,800	445,800	
BLM surface/federal minerals	74,100	527,500	303,500	433,000	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		3,600	23,300	12,800	
Open to leasing with TL stipulation[4]	233,000 *(Figure 2-50)*	401,600	241,600	438,700	
BLM surface/federal minerals	233,000	349,400	197,600	405,900	
Private or state surface/federal minerals		52,200	44,000	32,800	
Locatable, Salable, and Non-energy Leasable Minerals					
Open to locatable mineral exploration or development	1,047,100	1,047,100	1,047,100	1,047,100	
Withdrawn from mineral entry *(Figure 2-54)*	20,100	20,100	20,100	20,100	
Petition to withdraw from locatable mineral exploration or development		20,700 *(Figure 2-55)*	45,100 *(Figure 2-56)*	1,300 *(Figure 2-57)*	
Open for consideration for mineral material (salables) disposal on a case-by-case basis	787,100 *(Figure 2-58)*	809,000 *(Figure 2-59)*	609,400 *(Figure 2-60)*	906,100 *(Figure 2-61)*	
Closed to mineral material (salables) disposal	274,300 *(Figure 2-58)*	252,400 *(Figure 2-59)*	452,000 *(Figure 2-60)*	155,300 *(Figure 2-61)*	
Open for consideration of non-energy leasable mineral prospecting and development		567,500 *(Figure 2-62)*	298,600 *(Figure 2-63)*	925,400 *(Figure 2-64)*	
Closed to potash or other non-energy leasable mineral exploration or development		493,900 *(Figure 2-62)*	762,900 *(Figure 2-63)*	136,000 *(Figure 2-64)*	
ACECs	***Figure 2-65***	***Figure 2-66***	***Figure 2-67***	***Figure 2-68***	**ACEC Values**
Atwell Gulch		2,900	6,100		Cultural and paleontological resources, rare plants, scenic values, wildlife habitat
Badger Wash	1,700	2,200	2,200	2,200	Rare plants, use as a hydrologic study area

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Colorado River Riparian			880		Significant cottonwood and willow communities, fisheries and scenic values
Coon Creek			110		Riparian habitat, fisheries values
Dolores River Riparian		7,400	7,400		Riparian habitat, hydrology, scenic values, paleontological resources, fisheries and wildlife values
Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa			27,200		Occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat
Gunnison River Riparian			460		Riparian and fisheries values
Hawxhurst Creek			860		Riparian and fisheries values
Indian Creek		1,700	1,700		Wildlife and cultural values
John Brown Canyon			1,400		Old-growth pinyon-juniper woodlands
Juanita Arch		1,600	1,600		Rare plants, geologic values
Mt. Garfield		3,500	5,700		Scenic values
Nine-Mile Hill Boulders			90		Paleontological values
The Palisade	23,600	32,200	32,200	26,900	Rare plant populations, scenic values, special status wildlife
Plateau Creek			220		Fish
Prairie Canyon			6,900		Rare plants and wildlife habitat
Pyramid Rock	600	1,300	1,300	1,300	Rare plant habitat, cultural resources, paleontological resources
Reeder Mesa			470		Plant resources
Roan and Carr Creeks		15,700	33,600		Unique riparian habitats, core conservation populations of cutthroat trout
Rough Canyon	2,700	2,800	2,800	2,700	Geologic values, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, rare plants
Sinbad Valley		6,400	6,400		Rare plants, wildlife, cultural resources, geologic values, scenic values
South Shale Ridge		28,200	28,200		Rare plants, wildlife habitat, scenic values

Table 2-1
Comparative Summary of Alternatives

Resource or Resource Use	Alt A (acres)	Alt B (acres)	Alt C (acres)	Alt D (acres)	Notes
Unaweep Seep	80	85	85	80	Great Basin silverspot butterfly habitat, rare plants, riparian habitat, hydrologic values
Total	*28,900*	*106,000*	*168,000*	*33,200*	
Wilderness Study Areas	***Figure 2-69***				
Demaree Canyon	22,700				
Little Book Cliffs	29,300				
The Palisade	26,700				
Sewemup Mesa	17,800				
Total	*96,500*				
Wild and Scenic River Segments Eligible (Alternatives A and B) or Suitable (Alternative C) for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (in miles crossing BLM land)	***Figure 2-70***	***Figure 2-71***	***Figure 2-70***		**Classification**
Blue Creek	10.07		10.07		Scenic
Carr Creek	5.06		5.06		Scenic
Colorado River Segment 1	7.32		7.32		Recreational
Colorado River Segment 2	1.31		1.31		Recreational
Colorado River Segment 3	19.14		19.14		Scenic
Dolores River	18.62	11.53	18.62		Recreational
East Creek	8.96		8.96		Recreational
Gunnison River Segment 2	3.85		3.85		Recreational
North Fork Mesa Creek	2.05		2.05		Scenic
North Fork West Creek	3.31		3.31		Wild
Roan Creek	6.47		6.47		Scenic
Rough Canyon Creek	4.22		4.22		Scenic
Ute Creek	4.19		4.19		Scenic
West Creek	4.93		4.93		Recreational
Total Miles	*99.5*	*11.53*	*99.5*	*0*	

Source: BLM 2010a
Hatching indicates zero acres or miles under that alternative.
[1]Portions of some allotments are outside of the GJFO planning area, but are administered by the GJFO. The inverse is also true where portions of allotments are within the GJFO planning area but are managed by another BLM Field Office. Additionally, not all lands within the planning area are allotted.
[2]Federal mineral estate includes mineral estate underlying BLM lands, privately owned lands, and state-owned lands. As such, federal mineral estate acres are greater than BLM surface acres. Federal mineral estate totals 1.2 million acres in the planning area.
[3]Acreage for Alternative A applies only to areas open to fluid mineral leasing.
[4]Stipulations may be applied to additional acreage if new information is provided (e.g., biological or cultural surveys).

2.3 ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

Alternatives development is the heart of the RMP and EIS process. Land use planning regulations and NEPA require the BLM to develop a reasonable range of alternatives during the planning process. Alternatives must be within the established planning criteria (43 CFR, Section 1610). The basic goal of developing alternatives is to prepare different possible management scenarios that:

- Address the identified major planning issues;
- Explore opportunities to enhance or expand resources or resource uses;
- Resolve conflicts among resources and resource uses; and
- Meet the purpose of and need for the RMP.

Achieving this goal will help the BLM and the public understand the various ways of addressing conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. Also, it will provide the BLM decision maker with a reasonable range of alternatives with which to make an informed decision. The components of the alternatives and the general direction of each alternative are discussed below.

2.3.1 Developing Alternatives for the Grand Junction Field Office

The GJFO implemented the first five steps of the BLM's planning process in developing alternatives, as follows: scoping, planning criteria development, issue identification, data collection, and current management assessment (see **Section 1.3**, BLM Planning Process). The issue identification and current management assessment processes began in 2008 with an extensive review by the BLM's interdisciplinary team of current land management decisions and direction from the Grand Junction RMP (BLM 1987) and subsequent amendments (BLM 1993a, 1993b, 1995b, 1997b, 2001, 2004a, 2004b, 2005b, 2007, 2008b, 2008c, 2008d; Department of Energy and BLM 2009). From this, the BLM identified preliminary planning issues that could be addressed in a new RMP.

> ***Planning Issues*** express concerns, conflicts, and problems with the existing management of public lands. Frequently, issues are based on how land uses affect resources. Some issues are concerned with how land uses can affect other land uses, or how the protection of resources affects land uses.

As discussed in **Section 1.5**, Issue Identification, preliminary planning issues were distributed during the scoping process for public comment, along with a request for identifying additional issues. Based on scoping and public participation efforts, the GJFO identified 17 planning issue categories. Planning issues are concerns or controversies about existing and potential land and resource allowable uses, levels of resource use, production, and related management practices. Planning issues are well defined or topically

discrete and entail alternatives to choose from. As this definition suggests, there are different ways to resolve each planning issue (see **Table 2-1**, Comparative Summary of Alternatives).

2.4 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED FOR DETAILED ANALYSIS

Following the close of the public scoping period in January 2009, the BLM began developing alternatives by assembling an interdisciplinary team of BLM resource specialists in the GJFO. The BLM also coordinated with cooperating agencies and the Northwest Resource Advisory Council subcommittee beginning in August 2008 and continuing throughout the planning process.

Between June 2009 and February 2010, the BLM interdisciplinary team developed management goals and objectives and management actions to meet those goals and objectives. Four management alternatives were developed to fulfill the purpose and need (**Section 1.2**, Purpose and Need), to meet the multiple use mandates of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA, 43 USC, 1716), and to address the 17 planning issues.

Alternatives B, C, and D, the action alternatives, offer a range of management options that resolve the issues identified in the scoping process and other outreach activities, including input from cooperating agencies and the Northwest Resource Advisory Council subcommittee. Other issues were identified through visitor studies, focus groups, informal interviews, and reports, such as the Wild and Scenic River eligibility study (BLM 2009c) and Wild and Scenic River suitability study (**Appendix C**) for all rivers in the decision area, ACECs evaluation (BLM 2010c; summarized in **Appendix D**), and Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) study (Otak 2009).

Each alternative stands alone as a potential RMP and provides direction for resource programs based on the development of specific goals, objectives, and management actions. Described under each alternative is specific direction influencing land management, with an emphasis on different combinations of resource uses, allowable uses, and restoration measures to address issues and to resolve user conflicts. Resource program goals are met in varying degrees across alternatives. Resources or resource uses not tied to planning issues or mandated by laws and regulations often contain few or no differences in management between alternatives. Alternatives may also result in different long-term conditions.

The alternatives differ from one another in the relative emphasis given to particular resources or resource uses. Each alternative has been designed to respond to the planning issues differently, providing a range of possible management approaches that the BLM could implement. Distinctions between alternatives are expressed in the RMP by varying specific objectives, allowable uses, management actions, and implementation actions, such as travel route designations. A complete description of all decisions proposed for each

alternative is in **Table 2-2**, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, at the end of this chapter.

2.4.1 Components of Alternatives

Decisions in RMPs guide future land management actions and subsequent site-specific implementation decisions. The RMP decisions establish goals and objectives (desired outcomes) for resources and resource uses and the allowable uses and management actions needed to achieve those goals and objectives. The goals are the same across all alternatives, but objectives may vary. This may result in different allowable uses and management actions across alternatives for many resources and resource uses.

More specifically, desired future conditions or desired outcomes are stated as goals and objectives. *Goals* are broad statements of desired outcomes, (RMP-wide and resource or resource-use specific), and generally are not quantifiable or measurable; *objectives* are more specifically desired conditions or outcomes to meet the resource or resource use goal.

Management actions and allowable uses are designed to achieve the objectives. *Management actions* include management measures that will guide future and day-to-day activities; *allowable uses* indicate which uses are allowed, restricted, or prohibited and may include stipulations. Allowable uses also identify lands where specific uses are excluded to protect resource values, or where certain lands are open or closed in response to legislative, regulatory, or policy requirements.

Implementation decisions generally constitute site-specific on-the-ground actions and are not addressed in the RMP revision, with the exception of travel management decisions.

2.4.2 Management Common to All Alternatives

Some of the allowable uses and management actions in this draft RMP/EIS are carried forward from the existing RMP (Alternative A) because there is no impending concern associated with them or they do not need to change. These decisions are common to all four alternatives because a range of alternative decisions is not necessary for every resource or resource use. Other decisions are common only to the action alternatives (Alternatives B, C, and D). Each alternative emphasizes a slightly different mix of resource protections and resource uses, but many similarities exist.

All action alternatives would involve collaboration through partnerships and communication with other agencies and interested parties to implement the RMP, including outreach and education, monitoring, and project-specific activities (e.g., trail development). In addition, all action alternatives contain the following common elements:

- Complying with state and federal laws, regulations, policies, and standards, including the multiple use mandates of the FLPMA;
- Conducting implementation actions (day-to-day management, monitoring, and administrative functions) that stem directly from regulations, policy, and law, which are considered in conformance with the RMP alternatives and are not specifically addressed in the alternatives;
- Providing for human safety and property protection from wildfire;
- Managing areas classified as limited to designated routes by designating specific routes for motorized, mechanized, and non-motorized/non-mechanized use;
- Incorporating Colorado Standards for Public Land Health (BLM 1997a) as goals;
- Managing the LBCWHR in accordance with the 1971 Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The LBCWHR is part of the larger Little Book Cliffs herd area (approximately 53,000 acres), which was established under the Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The boundary for the LBCWHR has been established through agreements with livestock grazing permittees so that no livestock grazing is allowed. The LBCWHR, through special designation, is one of three wild horse ranges under BLM management, with an emphasis on management for wild horses for the established area;
- Authorizing livestock grazing in a manner consistent with Colorado Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management (BLM 1997a), while supporting the local livestock industry;
- Sustaining habitat in sufficient quantities and quality for viable plant, fish, and wildlife populations;
- Including protective measures that minimize pollutants to air and water;
- Adhering to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) Water Quality Control Commission Regulations, as required by law, to ensure that the Clean Water Act is not violated;
- Adhering to the CDPHE's Air Quality Control Commission Regulations (CDPHE 2010), as required by law, to ensure that the Clean Air Act is not violated. Special requirements to alleviate air quality impacts are included on a case-by-case basis in use authorizations (including lease stipulations) within the BLM's authority;

- Facilitating orderly, economic, and environmentally sound energy development;
- Continuing to manage existing WSAs in compliance with the BLM's interim management policy (BLM Handbook 8550-1, Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review [BLM 1995a]);
- Offering a diversity of recreation opportunities that foster outdoor-oriented lifestyles and add to people's quality of life;
- Conserving key scenic vistas that communities and visitors value;
- Providing some sustainable forest, biomass, and woodland products, while maintaining landscape diversity and ecosystem integrity;
- Applying COAs, best management practices (BMPs), and other site-specific mitigation (e.g., recreation guidelines) to all resource uses;
- Applying COAs, BMPs, and other site-specific mitigation to minimize erosion, encourage rapid reclamation, retain soils using stormwater mitigation practices, maintain soil stability, and support resources;
- Collaborating with adjacent landowners, federal and state agencies, tribes, communities, other agencies, and other individuals and organizations as needed to attain and monitor water quality standards and to provide source water protection; and
- Collaborating with adjacent landowners, federal and state agencies, tribes, communities, other agencies, and other individuals and organizations, as needed, to monitor and implement decisions to achieve desired resource conditions.

In addition to these common elements, **Table 2-2**, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, at the end of this chapter, includes allowable uses and management actions common to all four alternatives. These are shown as one common cell across a row of the table.

Plan Maintenance

The RMP revision is based on current scientific knowledge and the best available data. To be successful, the RMP must have the flexibility to adapt and respond to new information. The decisions in the RMP will be periodically reviewed to ensure management measures are meeting the intent of the RMP goals and objectives and that there is adequate guidance for implementation actions. The plan may be updated and revised, and the appropriate level of environmental review and documentation will be conducted.

2.5 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED ANALYSIS

The following alternatives were considered but eliminated from detailed study because they did not meet the purpose of and need for the RMP (**Section 1.2**)

or because they were outside of the technical, legal, or policy constraints of developing an RMP for BLM land resources and resource uses.

2.5.1 Implement Exclusive Use or Protection

Some alternatives and general management options were not considered, specifically those that proposed exclusive use or maximum development, production, or protection of one resource at the expense of other resources or resource uses. As outlined in **Section 1.2**, the purpose of this RMP is to ensure that public lands are managed in accordance with the intent of Congress, as stated in the FLPMA, under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. This eliminates such alternatives as closing all BLM lands to grazing (discussed further in **Section 2.5.6**, below) or oil and gas leasing in the absence of other resource conflicts, or managing those lands only for fish, wildlife, and wilderness values at the exclusion of other resource considerations. Each alternative considered allows for some level of support, protection, or use of all resources in the planning area. In some instances, the alternatives analyzed in detail do include various considerations for eliminating or maximizing individual resource values or uses in specific areas where conflicts exist.

2.5.2 Designate Entire Decision Area as Either Open or Closed to Off-Highway Vehicle Use

Considered but dismissed were suggestions to designate all areas on BLM lands as entirely open for yearlong OHV use, without regard to current travel restrictions, or to entirely close areas to OHV use. A need that has been identified for this RMP (**Section 1.2**) is to address increased visitation by way of OHV use and nonmotorized uses (e.g., mountain biking and hiking), which have led to increased concerns regarding resource protection and conflicting uses. Management of BLM lands not only requires implementing restrictions to address travel concerns and recreation demands, but it also requires protecting resource values. In addition, the BLM concluded that the current level of open, closed, or limited OHV areas would be used as a baseline for comparing alternatives.

2.5.3 No Leasing Alternative

The purpose of and need for the RMP is to identify and resolve potential conflicts between competing resource uses rather than to eliminate a significant use of public lands in the GJFO. The RMP presents a range of alternatives that include proposed closure of areas to leasing based on resource conflicts.

2.5.4 No Herbicide Alternative

The BLM treats vegetation using fire, mechanical and manual methods, biological treatments, and herbicides. In an integrated vegetation management program, each management option is considered, recognizing that no one management option is a stand-alone option and that each has strengths and weaknesses. Using the strengths of each allows for a more effective and environmentally sound program. When the BLM plans vegetation management projects, all

control methods should be available for use, allowing the BLM to select the method or combination of methods that optimizes vegetation control with response to environmental concerns, effectiveness, and cost control. Prohibiting the use of pesticides under an alternative would increase the likelihood that noxious and invasive species would increase and native species would decrease, which conflicts with Standard 3 under Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health (BLM 1997a; **Appendix E**). In addition, the GJFO uses the Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides Plan and has tiered management through an environmental assessment (EA) of the plan. Both the programmatic EIS for the Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides Plan and the GJFO EA for tiering to this plan already analyzed a No Herbicide alternative. For these reasons, an alternative that prohibits the use of pesticides was considered but dismissed.

To effectively manage 1,061,400 acres, the BLM must have flexibility to adapt the treatment approach that is best for each situation. Wildland fire management provides the basis for proposed vegetation-treatment activities. However, treatments are also used to address a variety of BLM program needs, including weed removal, invasive or noxious species prevention, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, threatened and endangered species habitat improvement, riparian habitat restoration, reforestation for forest health restoration and habitat improvement, vegetation composition and structure modification to improve land health, and vegetation protection and enhancement in areas with cultural resources and administrative facilities (BLM 2007).

2.5.5 Designate Additional Wilderness Study Areas

Designating additional WSAs is not being considered in the alternatives because the BLM's authority for establishing WSAs ended in 1993. The BLM has an obligation under Sections 201 and 202 of FLPMA to maintain an inventory of all public lands and their resources, including wilderness characteristics, and to consider such information during land use planning. **Appendix F**, Draft Wilderness Characteristics Assessment, includes results of the BLM's inventory of these non-WSA lands for wilderness character. Values associated with solitude, primitive recreation, and naturalness are considered with all other resources and resource uses. Areas where wilderness character was not found were not analyzed (see **Appendix F**). Plan alternatives include allocations and actions that protect these lands with wilderness characteristics.

2.5.6 Close Entire Decision Area to Livestock Grazing

An alternative that proposes to make all BLM-administered lands within the planning area unavailable for livestock grazing was considered but dismissed from detailed analysis because it would not meet the purpose and need of the GJFO RMP. The FLPMA requires that public lands be managed on a "multiple use and sustained yield basis" (FLPMA Sec. 302 [a] and Sec. 102 [7]) and includes livestock grazing as a principal or major use of public lands. While multiple use does not require that all lands be used for livestock grazing, complete removal

of livestock grazing on the entire planning area would not meet the principle of multiple use and sustained yield.

In addition, NEPA requires that agencies study, develop, and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action in any proposal that involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. Since no issues or conflicts have been identified during this planning process (which requires the complete elimination of grazing within the planning area for their resolution), this alternative would be arbitrary. Where appropriate, the preclusion or adjustment of livestock use within an allotment or area was incorporated into the alternatives to address specific issues identified through the planning process. This resulted in consideration of an alternative that would significantly reduce the amount of BLM land in the planning area available for livestock grazing (Alternative C). The analysis of an alternative that precludes grazing from the entire planning area is not necessary. This is because the BLM has considerable discretion through its grazing regulations to determine and adjust stocking levels, seasons of use, and grazing management activities and to allocate forage to uses of the public lands in RMPs.

Livestock grazing is a principal use of the public lands, as it has been for many years, and it will remain an important governmental program administered by the BLM. Although the CEQ guidelines for compliance with NEPA require the analysis of a no action alternative in all EISs, for purposes of this analysis, the no action alternative is to continue the status quo, which includes livestock grazing under the current land use plan (CEQ Forty Most Asked Questions, Question 3). For these reasons, the no grazing alternative for the entire planning area was dismissed from further consideration in this EIS.

2.5.7 Greater Sage-Grouse National Technical Team Report Recommendations

The BLM published a Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* on December 9, 2011, initiating a range-wide planning process that would analyze the National Technical Team Report recommendations in detail. The GJFO RMP alternatives do include some measures that are similar to the NTT recommendations, however many of the recommendations are not included. The BLM Northwest Colorado District Office is completing a possible Plan Amendment/EIS that considers and analyzes the NTT report recommendations in detail and addresses BLM-managed lands in the GJFO planning area. Therefore, an alternative(s) to analyze the Greater Sage-Grouse NTT Report recommendations in detail was considered but eliminated from detailed analysis in this EIS.

2.6 RATIONALE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The draft RMP/EIS presents four different alternatives that take into consideration comments received by other governmental agencies, public organizations, the state, tribal entities, and interested individuals. Public

collaboration through the scoping process shaped issues covering recreation, wildlife, minerals, cultural resources, grazing, land tenure, ACEC designation, travel management, and other topics. As part of the RMP process, the alternatives evaluated in the draft RMP/EIS represent the range of management actions that address issues identified during scoping and that offer a distinct choice among potential management strategies.

The CEQ regulations for implementing NEPA require the lead agency preparing an EIS to identify its preferred alternative in the draft RMP/EIS. This is the alternative that, at this stage, best represents the resolution of planning issues and promotes balanced multiple use objectives. The Field Manager is required to recommend to the BLM State Office which of the range of alternatives best represents the basis on which to develop the proposed RMP. As part of the GJFO's ongoing coordination with cooperating agencies and the RAC subgroup (**Chapter 5**), the GJFO Field Manager asked for input on the range of alternatives for this draft RMP/EIS.

Alternative A, the No Action Alternative, minimally addresses relevant issues identified through public scoping and required components of the land use planning document. Thus, Alternative A was not selected as the preferred alternative because it does not adequately address issues and concerns identified by the public, required planning components, and concerns of the planning team.

Alternatives C and D address both the identified relevant issues and required components necessary in a land use planning document, with varying degrees of flexibility, protection, conservation, and establishment of allowable uses. Alternatives C and D address the public's issues and concerns through identified management direction as well as the purpose and need. However, both alternatives lack a balance between resources and resource use allocations.

Alternative B provides the most reasonable and practical approach to managing the public lands resources and resource uses, while addressing the issues and the purpose and need. Alternative B provides a balanced approach to management, with an appropriate level of flexibility to meet the overall needs of the resources and allocation of various uses. Alternative B represents a mix of management actions (proactive and prescriptive) that best resolve identified issues, while emphasizing a level of protection, restoration, enhancement, and use of resources and services to meet ongoing programs and land uses. Therefore, the Field Manager, in collaboration with the Manager of the Northwest District, recommended Alternative B to the BLM State Office as the preferred alternative.

During the public review of the draft RMP/EIS, the BLM will ask for comments on the preferred alternative, as well as the other alternatives. After consideration of these comments, the BLM will develop the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

2.7 MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE FOR ALTERNATIVES A, B, C, AND D

Table 2-2, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, describes all decisions proposed for each alternative, including goals and objectives. All decisions in **Table 2-2** are land use plan-level decisions, with the exception of those in the Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management section, which are implementation-level decisions.

Stipulation decisions (see **Appendix B**) apply to surface-disturbing activities on BLM lands overlying federal mineral estate, which totals 1.2 million acres in the planning area. Stipulations also apply to fluid mineral leasing on lands overlying federal mineral estate, which includes federal mineral estate underlying BLM lands, privately owned lands, and state-owned lands.

2.7.1 How to Read Table 2-2

The following describes how **Table 2-2** is written and formatted to show the land use plan decisions proposed for each alternative. Refer to the diagram on the next page for an example of how to read **Table 2-2**.

- In accordance with Appendix C of BLM Land Use Planning Handbook H-1601-1, land use plan decisions are broad-scale decisions that guide future land management actions and subsequent site-specific implementation decisions. Land use plan decisions fall into two categories, which establish the base structure for **Table 2-2:** desired outcomes (**goals** and **objectives**) and **allowable uses** and **actions** to achieve outcomes.
  - *Goals* are broad statements of desired outcomes that usually are not quantifiable.
  - *Objectives* identify specific desired outcomes for resources. Objectives may be quantifiable and measurable and may have established timeframes for achievement, as appropriate.
  - *Actions* identify measures or criteria to achieve desired outcomes (i.e., objectives), including actions to maintain, restore, or improve land health.
  - *Allowable uses* identify uses, or allocations, that are allowable, restricted, or prohibited on the public lands and mineral estate.
  - *Stipulations* (NSO, CSU, TL), which fall under the allowable uses category, are also applied to surface-disturbing activities to achieve desired outcomes (i.e., objectives).
- In general, only those resources and resource uses that have been identified as planning issues have notable differences between the alternatives.

- Actions that are applicable to all alternatives are shown in one cell across a row. These particular objectives and actions would be implemented regardless of which alternative is ultimately selected.
- Actions that are applicable to more than one but not all alternatives are indicated by either combining cells for the same alternatives, or by denoting those objectives or actions as "same as Alternative B," for example.

Diagram 2-1
How to Read Table 2-2

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
STIPULATION *NSO-1: (Soils in the Plateau Area)*. (Refer to Appendix B.) See also *NSO-3: Steep Slopes*.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement appropriate management techniques, guidelines or practices, as outlined in Appendix H, to limit soil loss to an amount not exceeding natural erosion rates and to not affect its long term quality, productivity or hydrological function.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In areas designated as open to OHVs, monitor and identify thresholds for evaluating vulnerability to erosional processes and utilize best available science to limit erosion and sedimentation/salt loading to the Colorado River.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify those biologic soil crusts in the planning area which are key to sustaining proper function and condition of upland soil health as determined by BLM Land Health Assessments and/or onsite evaluation. Avoid and mitigate disturbance to biologic soil crusts which are determined to be key in sustaining proper function and condition of upland soil health.		Action: No similar action
Allowable Use: Analyze proposed surface disturbing projects to determine suitability of soils to support such projects.	Allowable Use: Manage fragile soils, mapped Mancos shale areas, and saline soils acres as ROW avoidance areas.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Protect watershed health and water quality by limiting motorized travel over fragile soils during seasonally wet periods. Allow management officials the authority to modify closure dates based on climatological variability.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-8: *Fragile Soils (Slump Areas)*. Prohibit surface	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-9: *Fragile Soils*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Actions that are applicable to more than one but not all alternatives are indicated by combining cells for the same alternatives.

Actions that are the same as another alternative, but not the same as all alternatives, are noted as "Same as Alternative _."

Where an action in Alternatives B and C, for example, does not apply to Alternative D, it states "no similar action."

2.7.2 Quick Links to Resource and Resource Use Management Actions

Table 2-2
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

ACECs (page 2-183)	Mineral Materials (page 2-180)	Vegetation (General) (page 2-37)
Air (page 2-24)	National, State, and BLM Byways (page 2-212)	*Adaptive Drought Management* (page 2-48)
Coal (page 2-169)	National Trails (page 2-209)	*Desired Plant Communities* (page 2-39)
Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management (page 2-142)	Non-energy Leasables (page 2-181)	*Forest/Woodlands* (page 2-44)
Cultural Resources (page 2-101)	Paleontological Resources (page 2-109)	*Riparian* (page 2-46)
Fish and Wildlife (page 2-75)	Recreation and Visitor Services (page 2-132)	*Weeds* (page 2-49)
Fluid Minerals (Oil and Gas, Geothermal, and Oil Shale Resources) (page 2-171)	Renewable Energy (page 2-156)	Visual Resources (page 2-110)
Forestry (page 2-121)	Soil Resources (page 2-34)	Water Resources (page 2-26)
Interpretation and Environmental Education (page 2-214)	Special Status Species (General) (page 2-49)	Wild and Scenic Rivers (page 2-206)
Lands and Realty (page 2-150)	*Fish* (page 2-51)	Wild Horses (page 2-98)
Livestock Grazing (page 2-124)	*Plants and Terrestrial Wildlife* (page 2-54)	Wilderness Study Areas (page 2-201)
Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Outside Existing WSAs (page 2-118)	Transportation Facilities (page 2-215)	Wildland Fire Management (page 2-116)
Locatable Minerals (page 2-178)		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Theme: CURRENT MANAGEMENT	Theme: BLENDED	Theme: CONSERVATION	Theme: RESOURCE USE
RESOURCES			
Air			
GOAL: Minimize impacts on air quality from BLM management actions in accordance with the Clean Air Act and the NEPA.			
Objective: Limit air quality degradation by ensuring authorized uses on BLM-administered lands are in compliance with applicable Colorado and National Ambient Air Quality Standards and federal, state, and local air quality laws, rules, regulations, and implementation plans.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Develop COAs, lease notices, and stipulations for surface-disturbing activities to prevent permitted activities from causing or contributing to violations of ambient air quality standards or causing significant adverse impacts on air quality related values.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Participate in, conduct, or require air modeling analyses as described in the Air Resources Management Plan (ARMP) (see **Appendix G**) as part of a comprehensive strategy to prevent permitted activities from causing or contributing to violations of ambient air quality standards or causing significant adverse impacts on air quality.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Work cooperatively with local, state, federal, and Tribal agencies to enhance air monitoring efforts to measure compliance with ambient air quality standards and impacts on air quality related values.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage prescribed fire in accordance with the State of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Smoke Management Program and Regulation Number 9 (5 CCR 1001-11). Prescribed burns would be timed during favorable meteorological conditions so as to minimize smoke impacts.		
GOAL: Manage BLM-administered lands in a manner that protects the quality of air and atmospheric values as directed under the FLPMA.			
Action: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage air resources within the GJFO in accordance with the ARMP (Appendix G).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement the adaptive management strategy for managing air resources that includes monitoring, modeling, mitigation, and emissions reductions components as described in the ARMP (Appendix G).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: Minimize emissions, within the scope of BLM's authority, from activities that cause or contribute to air quality impairment, visibility degradation, atmospheric deposition, or climate variability.			
Action: Require drill rig engines to meet United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) requirements.	Action: Require all drilling and completion engines used on public lands or used to access federal minerals to meet or exceed US EPA Tier 2 non-road diesel engine emission standards (40 CFR Part 89). Beginning in 2015, evaluate phased in use of improved engine technology that meets or exceeds Tier IV non-road diesel emission standards (40 CFR 1039). The rate of phase in would be determined in accordance with the annual review specified in the ARMP (Appendix G).	Action: Within one year of the Record of Decision, require that all drilling and completion engines used on public lands or used to access federal minerals to meet or exceed US EPA Tier IV non-road diesel engine emission standards (40 CFR Part 1039).	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Require that oil and gas operators use reduced emission completion technology (i.e. "green" completion) as defined in COGCC Rule 805 and the New Source Performance Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production at 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart OOOO at all wells on BLM-administered lands and wells that access federal minerals. An exemption may be granted on a case-by-case basis.		
Action: Allow flaring and venting in accordance with Notice to Lessees (NTL-4A).	Action: Require flaring of natural gas during well completions that are exempted from green completion technology. Prohibit venting of natural gas except during emergency situations.		Action: Same as Alternative A
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	BLM will manage emissions of greenhouse gases from its authorized actions in accordance with state and federal regulations, executive and secretarial orders, and BLM policy.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Require proper road design, construction, and surfacing on BLM authorized roads to reduce particulate matter emissions.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Open areas and designated routes may be closed during wind events (e.g. during National Weather Service high wind warning) to reduce fugitive dust emissions.	Action: Designated routes may be closed during wind events (e.g. during National Weather Service high wind warning) to reduce fugitive dust emissions.	Action: No similar action.
Water Resources			
GOAL: Protect, preserve, and enhance watershed functions in the capture, retention, and release of water in quantity, quality, and time to meet ecosystem and human needs.			
Objective: No similar objective.	Objective: Manage public land activities to maintain or contribute to the long term improvement of surface and ground water quality and minimize or control elevated levels of salt, sediment, and selenium contribution from federal lands to water resources in the planning area.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Promote the delisting of impaired water bodies (303d listed) by monitoring actions including but not limited to grazing, travel management, and other surface disturbing actions and implementing appropriate management change.		
Action: Maintain existing sediment and salinity control structures in Indian Wash and Leach Creek.	Action: Remove nonfunctional structures such as sediment basins, ponds, and associated structures and implement additional erosion control/soil stabilization measures as necessary.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Ensure streams on BLM lands are in geomorphic balance (e.g., stream channel size, sinuosity, slope, and substrate are appropriate for its landscape setting and geology) with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (e.g., no accelerated erosion, deposition, or head-cutting) and ensure that land use does not impede the natural hydrograph (e.g. allows timing, magnitude and duration of peak, high and low flow events by minimizing surface disturbance, erosion, and sedimentation of streams).		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Close the river corridors of the three major rivers (Colorado, Dolores, and Gunnison) to mineral material disposal and non-energy solid mineral leasing and development.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Classify the Colorado River corridor as unsuitable for coal leasing.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** NSO-1: *Major River Corridors.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within stream channels, stream banks, and the area 0.25-mile either side of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage) or within 100 meters (328 feet) of the 100-year floodplain (whichever area is greatest) of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** CSU-1: *Major River Corridors.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) (Exhibit Colorado [CO]-28) restrictions from 0.25- to 0.5-mile landward from identified NSO buffer (0.25-mile from ordinary high water mark or within 100 meters [328 feet] of the 100-year floodplain, whichever is greatest) on either side of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-7: Perennial Streams Water Quality.* Limit surface-disturbing activities within 100 feet of perennial streams to essential roads and utility crossings. (Refer to Appendix B.)	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** CSU-2: *Hydrologic Features/Riparian:* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 152 meters (500 feet) from the edge of any hydrologic feature including perennial and intermittent streams, wetlands (including fens), lakes, springs, seeps, and riparian areas. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: Identify areas with lentic and lotic riparian characteristics as ROW avoidance area.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-2: *Streams/Springs Possessing Lotic Riparian Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from bank-full, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-3: *Definable Streams.* Surface disturbing actions within a minimum distance of 30 meters (98 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage) should be avoided to the greatest extent practicable and disturbances would be subject to site specific relocation at the discretion of the BLM (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-3: *Definable Streams.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a minimum distance of 30 meters (98 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-4: *Lentic Riparian Areas (including springs, seeps, and fens).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prohibit the use of subsurface explosives and vibroseis buggies within 0.25-mile of all spring sources and perennial streams. This prohibition does not apply to oil and gas well operations (e.g., well perforating).		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: For projects that propose to disturb riparian vegetation and channels, require professionally engineered design, construction, maintenance, and reclamation plans to mitigate to the fullest extent practicable riparian resource damage associated with the proposed action.		Action: No similar action.
Action: Manage the Badger Wash ACEC as a hydrologic study area.	Action: Manage the Badger Wash ACEC as a hydrologic study area. Refer to the ACEC Section for Badger Wash ACEC management actions.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Provide sufficient water quantity on BLM lands for multiple use management and functioning, healthy riparian, wetland, aquatic, and upland systems.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Secure adequate water rights for point sources on BLM lands from the State of Colorado on springs/seeps and wells necessary to preserve, protect, and enhance ecological diversity and sustainability within planning area watersheds. Uses for which BLM would apply for water rights include, but are not limited to, livestock, wildlife, watering, wildlife habitat, wild horses, recreation, and fire suppression.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Acquire private stream-side and river-side parcels from willing sellers that are contained within or adjacent to public land (i.e., West, East, Roan, and Carr Creeks, and the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers) and display important riparian values.		
Objective: Maintain or improve existing water quality in the resource area when possible. Protect the municipal watersheds providing domestic water for the cities of Palisade and Grand Junction.	Objective: Protect municipal watersheds and source water protection areas on public land that provide drinking water to local communities.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Close the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds (5,200 and 1,900 acres) to livestock grazing.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Manage the high sensitivity zone of the Palisade municipal watershed as ROW exclusion area.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Close the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds, and the Mesa/Powderhorn and Collbran source water protection areas to non-energy solid leasing and development.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Watersheds.* Close the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Watersheds and Source Water Protection Areas.* Close the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds, Collbran and Mesa/Powderhorn source water protection areas, and the Jerry Creek watershed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 7,100 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate in the Palisade municipal watershed as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Classify the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds, Collbran and Mesa/Powderhorn source water protection areas, Jerry Creek watershed, and Cabin Reservoir as unacceptable for coal leasing.		Allowable Use: Classify the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds, as unsuitable for coal leasing.
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Grand Junction Municipal Watershed)*. Prohibit surface	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-5: *No Surface Occupancy (Palisade and Grand Junction Municipal Watersheds).*	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-6: *No Surface Occupancy (Palisade and Grand Junction Municipal Watersheds, Collbran and*	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
occupancy and other activities in the Grand Junction municipal watershed. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A.	Prohibit surface occupancy and other surface-disturbing activities in the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	*Mesa/Powderhorn Source Water Protection Areas, and Jerry Creek Watershed)*. Prohibit surface occupancy and other activities in the Palisade and Grand Junction municipal watersheds, Collbran and Mesa/ Powderhorn source water protection areas, and Jerry Creek watershed. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-6: Watersheds*. Require that all lease operations avoid interference with watershed resource values. This includes Jerry Creek Reservoirs and the Palisade municipal watershed. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-46 in Appendix A).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-4: *Collbran and Mesa/Powderhorn Source Water Protection Areas, and Jerry Creek Watershed.* Require that all ground disturbances within source water protection areas and the Jerry Creek Watershed avoid interference with watershed resource values. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-4: *Collbran and Mesa/Powderhorn Source Water Protection Areas, and Jerry Creek Watershed.* Require that all ground disturbances within source water protection areas and the Jerry Creek Watershed avoid interference with watershed resource values. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE (LN)** 17: *Palisade Municipal Watershed*. The lessee is hereby notified that this lease contains privately owned surface of the Town of Palisade that is within the Town's designated Watershed and is covered by a Watershed Protection Ordinance. (Refer to Appendix B.)	Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** LN-1: *Source Water Protection Areas.* The lease is within source water protection areas, and the lessee is required to implement special protective measures for water resources and to collaborate with municipalities and comply with applicable municipal watershed plans. (Refer to Appendix B.)	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** LN-2: *Municipal Watersheds and Source Water Protection Areas.* The lease is within a municipal watershed or source water protection area, and the lessee is required to implement special protective measures for water resources and to collaborate with municipalities and comply with applicable municipal watershed plans. (Refer to Appendix B.)

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Within *Water Intake Zone 3*, prohibit the storage and use of hazardous chemicals, require green completions and green fracking fluids, and prohibit oil and gas pits. See Figure 2-72 in Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.	Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-7: *Water Intake Zone 3.* Prohibit surface occupancy and other surface-disturbing activities within state identified sensitivity Zone 3. In cases where this zone could not be determined through analytic calculations, Zone 3 would be defined as a 2.5-mile radius around the intake or be based on professional interpretation of geology, topography, and location of municipal wells. The boundary of zone 3 is subject to change based on increased knowledge of groundwater hydrology in these areas. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Oil and gas operations near domestic water supplies using a groundwater well or spring will be restricted. Siting of oil and gas operations may be permitted following NEPA analysis conducted for a specific location, and the application of protections that may include conditions of approval, mitigation and design features developed in the NEPA analysis, and the regulations at 43 CFR 3101.1-2.		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Conduct gain/loss studies of local streams to characterize natural flow regimes and identify locally important recharge/discharge zones. Characterize groundwater movement (locally and regionally), and groundwater interaction with surface water especially for springs and fen areas. Prioritize study locations based on potential use/alteration of surface and groundwater resources given reasonably foreseeable resource use potential. Coordinate studies with private entities as well as other government agencies to ensure land/resource management actions outside BLM jurisdiction are incorporated in studies. Utilize information gained through studies to modify, develop, and effectively implement appropriate BMPs necessary to protect water resources while allowing development of other natural resources (e.g. coal, uranium, natural gas, gravel, and related infrastructure).		
Objective: No similar objective.	Objective: Characterize, monitor, maintain, and/or restore surface/groundwater quality and quantity to sustain designated beneficial uses in cooperation with other federal, local, and state agencies and private entities.		
Action: Implement stream stabilization work along 63 miles of critically-eroding stream channels.	Action: Monitor morphology and channel stability of streams with concerns identified through land health or PFC assessments or inventories, or streams that could be impacted, to determine appropriate management action. Improve dysfunctional streams caused by unnatural factors. Modify management practices (e.g., grazing systems, recreational uses) and/or stream restoration techniques (e.g., native planting, fencing, energy dissipation structures, bank protection, and drainage structures) as appropriate to address causal factors.		
GOAL: Maintain and protect the quantity and quality of groundwater, as well as aquifer properties.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage public lands to maintain functioning condition of all parameters within the hydrologic cycle including groundwater quantity and quality. Ensure the consumption of water resources on public lands resulting from federal actions do not jeopardize the sustainability of water resources or associated riparian/wetland habitats.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify, monitor, and evaluate the condition of important aquifers and recharge/discharge areas within the planning area. Assess aquifer properties and groundwater quality on BLM lands and work with stakeholders to prioritize and develop management plans and site-specific actions to maintain groundwater quality within the identified aquifers.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Soil Resources			
GOAL: Ensure upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate, land form, and geologic processes. Adequate soil infiltration and permeability allows for the accumulation of soil moisture necessary for optimal plant growth and vigor, minimizes surface runoff (Land Health Standard 1), and minimizes soil erosion.			
Objective: To reduce soil erosion and sediment yield, costs associated with unsuccessful land/vegetation treatment projects on unsuitable soils, and hazards to life or property from soil failure due to the use of unsuitable soils; to maintain long-term soil productivity; and to provide for the safe and proper use of soils.	Objectives: 1. Minimize or control elevated levels of salt, sediment, and selenium contribution from federal lands to river systems in the planning area. 2. Maintain or improve soil productivity, including retention of topsoil quality and reestablishing soil capability, potential, and functionality when disturbed. 3. Preserve proper function and condition of upland soils. 4. Ensure surface disturbances do not cause accelerated erosion (e.g., rills, soil pedestals, actively eroding gullies) on a watershed scale (e.g., 6th hydrologic unit code scale).		
Action: Treat or limit uses of soils in the following areas: • Critically eroding soils in Cactus Park (1,000 acres): Limited access to area, land treatment (including gully plugs, reseeding, diversion and water-retention structures). • Soil slump hazard area of Baxter-Douglas Pass (53,100 acres): **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Soils in the Baxter/Douglas Slump Area).* (Refer to Appendix B.) See *NSO-3: Steep Slopes*. • Soil slump hazard area of Plateau Canyon (930 acres):	Action: No similar action.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
STIPULATION *NSO-1: (Soils in the Plateau Area)*. (Refer to Appendix B.) See also *NSO-3: Steep Slopes*.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement appropriate management techniques, guidelines or practices, as outlined in Appendix H, to limit soil loss to an amount not exceeding natural erosion rates and to not affect its long term quality, productivity or hydrological function.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In areas designated as open to OHVs, monitor and identify thresholds for evaluating vulnerability to erosional processes and utilize best available science to limit erosion and sedimentation/salt loading to the Colorado River.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify those biologic soil crusts in the planning area which are key to sustaining proper function and condition of upland soil health as determined by BLM Land Health Assessments and/or onsite evaluation. Avoid and mitigate disturbance to biologic soil crusts which are determined to be key in sustaining proper function and condition of upland soil health.		Action: No similar action
Allowable Use: Analyze proposed surface disturbing projects to determine suitability of soils to support such projects.	Allowable Use: Manage fragile soils, mapped Mancos shale areas, and saline soils acres as ROW avoidance areas.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Protect watershed health and water quality by limiting motorized travel over fragile soils during seasonally wet periods. Allow management officials the authority to modify closure dates based on climatological variability.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-8: *Fragile Soils (Slump Areas)*. Prohibit surface	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-9: *Fragile Soils.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on the Baxter/Douglas Pass Slump Area and the Plateau Creek Slump Area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	disturbing activities within a minimum of 25 meters (82 feet) of fragile soils (distance may be extended based on site-specific conditions). Onsite evaluation of site-specific soil characteristics would be conducted by BLM verifying that Natural Resources Conservation Service soil mapping unit descriptions are appropriate to the site. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-5: *Fragile Soils.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities associated with all other land use authorizations, permits, and leases granted in areas with mapped fragile soils. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-6: *Mapped Mancos Shale and Saline Soils.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within mapped Mancos Shale areas and on saline soils. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-3*: *Steep Slopes.* Mitigate impacts to soil, water, and vegetation on slopes greater than 40 percent. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-10: *Steep Slopes Greater Than or Equal to 40 Percent.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on slopes greater than or equal to 40 percent to maintain site stability. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-7: *Natural Slopes.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation)		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
RMP.	restrictions to surface-disturbing activities associated with all other land use authorizations, permits, and leases granted in areas with natural slopes in the range of 25 to 40 percent. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		
Action: Prohibit surface-disturbing activities during periods when soil is saturated and prohibit construction when soils are frozen.	Action: See **STIPULATION** NSO-8: *Fragile Soils (Slump Areas)*, NSO-9: *Fragile Soils*, and NSO-10: *Steep Slopes Greater Than or Equal to 40 Percent*. See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Vegetation			
Vegetation—General			
GOAL: Restore and maintain healthy, productive plant communities of native and other desirable species at self-sustaining population levels commensurate with the species' and habitats' potentials. Ensure plants and animals at both the community and population level are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations and ecological processes (based on Land Health Standard 3).			
Objective: No similar action in current RMP.	Objective: Manage for a healthy diversity of successional-stage plant communities.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Restore natural disturbance regimes such as fire, and use vegetative treatments to accomplish biodiversity objectives in resilient plant communities. Avoid prescribed fire and fires managed for resource benefit in black brush and salt desert shrub communities.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use new fire starts and prescribed fire where suitable to meet resource objectives as deemed appropriate by Land Health Assessments, Ecological Site Inventories, Emergency Stabilization & Rehabilitation monitoring, and prescribed fire monitoring.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Provide the public with native plant materials through the sale of wilding permits (e.g., live plants and plant material products exceeding personal use amounts), commercial seed-collecting permits, and free use	Objective: Provide the public with native plant materials through the sale of wilding permits (e.g., live plants and plant material products exceeding personal use amounts) and free use permits (consistent with 43 CFR 8365.1-5, and	Objective: Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	permits (consistent with 43 CFR 8365.1-5, and BLM Manual 5500 [Nonsale Disposals]), while protecting other resources.	BLM Manual 5500 [Nonsale Disposals]), while protecting other resources.	
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Make 834,300 acres available for wilding permits. Issue commercial seed permits on a case-by-case basis. Close the following areas to wilding permits: • WSAs; • ACECs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; • Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat; and • Occupied special status plant species habitat. *Note: Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat, and special status plant species is not included in total acreage. Plants that are identified by a Tribe as important for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes and are not widely available would not be offered as wilding plants for the general public.*	Action: Make 626,700 acres available for wilding permits. Close the following areas to wilding permits: • WSAs; • ACECs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; • Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat; and • Occupied special status plant species habitat. *Note: Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat, and special status plant species is not included in total acreage. Plants that are identified by a Tribe as important for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes and are not widely available would not be offered as wilding plants for the general public.*	Action: Make 931,700 acres available for wilding permits. Close the following areas to wilding permits: • WSAs; • ACECs; • Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat; and • Occupied special status plant species habitat. *Note: Occupied threatened and endangered plant habitat, and special status plant species is not included in total acreage. Plants that are identified by a Tribe as important for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes and are not widely available would not be offered as wilding plants for the general public.*

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Vegetation—Desired Plant Communities			
GOAL: Manage pinyon-juniper, upper and lower elevation sagebrush, salt desert shrub, forests and woodlands, and riparian areas (the dominant plant communities of the GJFO planning area) as desired plant communities or to emphasize native vegetation, wildlife habitat, watershed health, and biodiversity.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage vegetation to meet BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (Appendix E) while taking in to account site potential as determined by ecological site inventories, Range/Ecological Site Descriptions, Soils, completed Land Health Assessments, and site-specific management objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use native plant material and restoration techniques to establish desired plant communities focusing on native communities and intact ecosystems. Allow non-native species on a case-by-case basis, only if: • Suitable native species are not available; • The natural biological diversity of the proposed management area would not be diminished; • Exotic and naturalized species can be confined within the proposed management area; • Analysis of ecological site inventory information indicates that a site would not support reestablishment of a species that historically was part of the natural environment; and, • Resource management objectives cannot be met with native species. (see BLM's Integrated Vegetation Management Handbook, Chapter 8, H-1740-2)		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage vegetation resources to balance soil and watershed protection, wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, forestry, and biodiversity values, while maintaining or enhancing special status species habitat.	Objective: Manage vegetation resources with an emphasis on maintaining or enhancing special status species habitat.	Objective: Manage vegetation resources with an emphasis on grazing, forestry, and other commodity uses, while complying with existing regulations pertaining to sensitive resources.
Action: Rest vegetation treatments a minimum of two seasons to provide adequate time for new seedlings to become established.	Action: Defer or exclude livestock grazing, where necessary, for a minimum of two growing seasons (longer than 18 months) on disturbed areas (e.g., a fire event, reclamation of disturbed lands, seedings, surface-disturbing vegetation treatments) or until site-specific analysis and/or monitoring data indicates that vegetative cover, species composition, and litter accumulation are adequate to		Action: Determine rest periods on a case-by-case basis to meet BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	support and protect watershed values, meet vegetation objectives, and sustain grazing use.		(Appendix E).
Action: No similar objective in current RMP.	Action: Maintain or restore vegetative communities to provide soil stability and resistance to erosion. Use vegetative treatments to improve diversity, reduce noxious and invasive species, and restore native plant communities to support wildlife and livestock. Ensure that managed activities (grazing, recreation, energy development, etc.) are not leading to degraded conditions.	Action: Use vegetative treatments to reduce noxious and invasive species and restore native plant communities. Limit grazing in occupied special status species habitat if monitoring determines livestock are contributing to a diminished native plant community or desired habitat conditions.	Action: Implement vegetation treatments to increase forage production.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: In lower-elevation vegetation, occupied by the potential natural community, manage for a late- or mid-seral stage as the desired plant community.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Maintain present composition of late- to mid-seral plant communities providing suitable habitat for wildlife. Minimize activities that would result in a persistent early-seral stage in the lower elevations.		
Salt Desert Shrub Desired Plant Community			
GOAL: Manage the salt desert shrub communities to maintain viable populations of kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), white-tailed prairie dog (*Cynomys leucurus*), and other obligate species. Preserve undisturbed patches of salt desert shrub communities with little to no cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum)*, halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus)*, or other exotic species. Identify and initiate restoration and rehabilitation of unhealthy areas.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage the salt desert shrub community to improve vigor, composition, diversity, and cover of native understory species and biological soil crusts.		Objective: Manage the salt desert shrub community at current levels of vigor, composition, diversity, and cover of native understory species and biological crusts.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Suppress all fires in Salt Desert Shrub communities.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In the lower desert setting, manage grazing to allow the recovery of native perennials. Ensure utilization levels are sustainable, provide periods of rest as needed, and adjust season of use to ensure adequate soil moisture levels post grazing (for plant growth).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In greasewood *(Sarcobatus vermiculatus)* communities where head-cutting is just beginning, consider management actions to arrest continued erosion (e.g., armoring, wattles). Stop erosion with armoring and wattles before extensive head-cutting occurs.		
Action: Utilize approved methods of cheatgrass control.	Action: As advances in cheatgrass-control methods are made, prioritize vegetation treatments to treat cheatgrass and to restore native perennials in the North Desert, Grand Mesa Slopes, and other degraded areas in the lower desert (excluding OHV open areas).	Action: As advances in cheatgrass-control methods are made, prioritize vegetation treatments to treat cheatgrass and to restore native perennials in the North Desert, Grand Mesa Slopes, areas north of the airport, and other degraded areas in the lower desert.	Action: Same as Alternative A.
Lower-elevation Sagebrush (below 7,500 feet) Desired Plant Community			
GOAL: Manage the sagebrush *(Artemisia* spp.*)* biome to maintain viable populations of sagebrush-obligate species. Identify and initiate restoration and rehabilitation of sagebrush habitat, while maintaining a mosaic of canopy cover and successional stages. Maintain or improve sage-grouse winter habitat.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve high-quality sagebrush habitats consistent with the natural range of variability for sagebrush communities. Restore the species composition and diversity of seral stages of sagebrush communities.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement treatments designed to replenish the native seed bank and control noxious and invasive species.	Action: Implement habitat improvement projects that focus on controlling cheatgrass and restoring the native seed bank, and continue to study effectiveness of treatments.	Action: Implement treatments designed to replenish the native seed bank and control noxious and invasive species.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Sustain, restore, and rehabilitate the integrity of the sagebrush biome to provide the amount, continuity, and quality of habitat that is necessary to maintain sustainable populations of sagebrush-obligate species.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Inventory upper-elevation sagebrush to identify non-functioning habitat and develop restoration plans within priority management units to increase patch size and connectivity through vegetation treatments and consolidation of disturbance to support sagebrush obligate species. Prioritize management of upper-elevation sagebrush in the following order: 1. Greater sage-grouse *(Centrocercus urophasianus)* and Gunnison sage-grouse *(Centrocercus minimus)* important winter habitat. 2. Critical and severe big-game winter range. 3. Areas not meeting land health.		Action: Maintain patch size of lower elevation sagebrush habitat to restore habitat connectivity and function for sagebrush obligate species.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Avoid natural and prescribed fire in low-elevation cheatgrass-infested sage-brush communities. Mechanical treatments in low-elevation sage require seeding.		Action: Allow fire and mechanized treatments in low-elevation sage-brush that include reseeding.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Inventory low-elevation sage-brush to identify non-functioning habitat. Develop restoration plans that prioritize efforts to achieve specific species and habitat goals. Habitat goals include but are not limited to increased patch size and connectivity through vegetation treatments and consolidation of disturbance to support sage-brush obligate species.		Action: Maintain patch size of low-elevation sage-brush habitat to restore habitat connectivity and function for sage-brush obligate species.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize the following greater sage-grouse and Gunnison sage-grouse winter areas for treatment and restoration: • winter habitat areas in need of enhancement; • areas that pose a fire risk to key winter habitats; and • areas to meet habitat condition objectives (e.g., Sunny Side and Wagon Track Ridge).		
Upper-elevation Sagebrush (7,500 feet and higher) Desired Plant Community			
GOAL: Manage the sagebrush biome to maintain viable populations of greater and Gunnison sage-grouse and other sagebrush-obligate species. Identify and initiate restoration and rehabilitation of sagebrush habitat while maintaining a mosaic of canopy cover and successional stages.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve high-quality sagebrush habitats consistent with the natural range of variability for sagebrush communities. Restore the species composition and diversity of successional stages of sagebrush communities.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement treatments designed to reduce pinyon-juniper and conifer encroachment, replenish diminished native seed banks, control noxious and invasive species, and provide periods of grazing rest or reduced usage during drought.		Action: Manage to maximize forage production for livestock. Implement treatments to pinyon-juniper and conifer encroachment, and to increase forage.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Prioritize the following areas for Land Health Assessments, vegetation restoration efforts, and protection of existing intact environments: 1-4. Restoration plans would emphasize increasing patch size and connectivity through vegetation treatments. Disturbances should also be consolidated through BMPs to reduce disturbance and maintain sagebrush-obligate species.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Inventory upper-elevation sagebrush to identify non-functioning habitat and develop restoration plans within priority management units to increase patch size and connectivity through vegetation treatments and consolidation of disturbance to support sagebrush obligate species. Prioritize management of upper-elevation sagebrush in the following order: 1. Greater and Gunnison sage-grouse important habitat, including but not limited to Glade Park, Brush Mountain, and 4A Mountain. 2. Critical and severe big-game winter range. 3. Areas not meeting land health. 4. Areas that pose a fire risk to key habitats.		Action: Maintain patch size of upper elevation sagebrush habitat to restore habitat connectivity and function for sagebrush obligate species.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Reduce the encroachment of juniper (*Juniperus* spp.) and other woody tree species in sagebrush habitat. Sites should have evidence of past sagebrush plant communities as evidenced by residual native plants or soils that support a rangeland not a woodland ecological site.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Maintain and/or create connections between key sagebrush habitats by encouraging placement of new utility developments (power lines, pipelines, etc.) and transportation routes (roads, trails etc.) in existing utility or transportation corridors to minimize fragmentation of sagebrush vegetation.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Remove sagebrush to create small openings in continuous or dense sagebrush to create a mosaic of multiple age classes and associated understory diversity across the landscape to benefit many sagebrush-dependent species. Factors that help determine the mosaic are soil types, topography, aspect, climate and local weather patterns, and current and potential plant communities.		
Mountain Shrub			
GOAL: Manage mountain shrub communities to maintain vigorous stands of deciduous shrubs.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Emphasize perpetuating late- to mid-seral plant communities that provide suitable habitat for wildlife.		Objective: Manage for diversity in age class of late- to mid-seral plant communities providing suitable habitat for wildlife and livestock.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Avoid treatments in mature Gambel oak *(Quercus gambelii)* stands (those stands where the average stem diameter is greater than six inches), except in wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas.		Action: Allow treatment and harvest of Gambel oak stands.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use prescribed fire, natural ignitions, and mechanical treatments to create openings within dense stands.	Action: Use prescribed fire and natural ignitions to create openings within dense stands.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Vegetation— Forestry/Woodlands			
GOAL: Maintain and restore pinyon-juniper woodlands to meet requirements for land health and to supply wildlife habitat, livestock forage, and consumer products (e.g., posts, poles, firewood, biomass).			
Objective: Manage present plant composition in late- and mid-seral conditions as desired plant communities.	Objective: Manage for pinyon *(Pinus edulis)* and juniper with a balance of seral stages.	Objective: Manage for pinyon and juniper with emphasis on old growth retention.	Objective: Manage for pinyon and juniper with emphasis on mid-seral woodlands for harvest and treatment.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Maintain current acreage of old	Action: Manage for increased acreage of old	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	growth pinyon and juniper except in area of high wildfire hazard in the wildland urban interface.	growth pinyon and juniper on suitable sites.	
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage past and future treatment areas in pinyon and juniper with an emphasis on creating a mosaic of pinyon and juniper age classes and forage producing sites. Allow additional forage/habitat producing treatments on pinyon and juniper woodland sites.	Action: Manage past treatment areas in pinyon and juniper toward mature pinyon-juniper woodlands. Prohibit additional treatments of woodlands for forage production.	Action: Increase forage producing treatments on pinyon and juniper woodland sites. Allow additional forage/habitat producing treatments on pinyon and juniper woodland sites.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-8: *Old Growth Forests and Woodlands.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within all old growth forests and woodlands. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
GOAL: Maintain forests and woodlands for a healthy mix of successional stages within the natural range of variation that incorporates diverse structure and composition.			
Objective: Maintain present plant composition in late- and mid-seral conditions as desired plant communities.	Objective: Manage ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii)*, aspen *(Populus tremuloides)*, and spruce/fir to mimic natural stand conditions and natural regeneration.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use prescribed fire and mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments as necessary to reduce the risk of disease vectors and to increase the resilience to beetles and disease.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use silvicultural methods, including mechanized and non-mechanized thinning, prescribed burns, and commercial harvesters to maintain and develop natural patch sizes, shapes, connectivity, and species composition and age-class diversity.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Conserve mature riparian forests (e.g., cottonwood *[Populus fremontii]* galleries) in suitable habitat to maintain their integrity for use as bald eagle *(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)* nesting, roosting, or perching substrate.		
Vegetation— Riparian			
GOAL: Provide for Proper Functioning Condition of riparian and wetland areas while preserving and enhancing riparian functions/structure on streams with special values (e.g., water quality, fisheries, and special status species).			
Objective: To maintain the existing riparian acreage and manage it for the greatest diversity in plant heights and for the species appropriate (native) to each site.	Objective: Protect and restore riparian areas/wetlands through sound management practices.		
Action: Manage riparian habitat in compliance with the Land Health Standard 2: Riparian systems associated with both running and standing water function properly and have the ability to recover from major disturbances such as fire, severe grazing, or 100-year floods. Riparian vegetation captures sediment and provides forage habitat and biodiversity. Water quality is improved or maintained. Stable soils store and release water.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Mitigate to reduce impacts to riparian areas: • Monitor cattle and wildlife grazing impacts in riparian zones and adjust grazing allocations, season of use, and rest rotations as necessary to ensure PFC is achieved and maintained; • Where feasible, consistent with user safety, locate/relocate developed travel routes away from riparian wetland areas; • Monitor recreational use on riparian areas. Where adverse impacts are determined to not meet land health standards for riparian habitats, modify recreation management to improve camping opportunities outside of riparian areas; require the use of designated camping sites; install fencing, energy dissipation structures, and bank protection features as appropriate; • Where necessary, control recreational use by changing location or kind of activity, season, intensity, distribution and/or duration; • Prohibit firewood harvest, except where appropriate to allow for removal of		Action: Mitigate to reduce impacts to riparian areas; • Where feasible, consistent with user safety, locate/relocate developed travel routes from riparian wetland areas; • Avoid camping in riparian areas; • Where necessary, control recreational use by changing location or kind of activity, season, intensity, distribution and/or duration; and • Close the river corridors of the three major rivers (Colorado,

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	undesirable invasive species; and • Close the river corridors of the three major rivers (Colorado, Dolores, and Gunnison) to mineral material disposal and non-energy solid mineral leasing and development.		Dolores, and Gunnison) to mineral material disposal and non-energy solid mineral leasing and development.
Allowable use: Protect riparian areas by prohibiting surface disturbance in these areas year round.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-2: *Streams/Springs Possessing Lotic Riparian Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from bank-full, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable use: Protect riparian areas by prohibiting surface disturbance in these areas year round.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-4: *Lentic Riparian Areas (including springs, seeps, and fens)*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar action in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Identify areas with lentic and lotic riparian characteristics as ROW avoidance areas.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Give priority for riparian management to areas identified as special status species habitat and those riparian areas not meeting Proper Functioning Condition (e.g., Roan, Carr, Hawxhurst, Coon Creek, and Plateau Creeks; the Gunnison, Colorado, and Dolores Rivers; and Unaweep Seep).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In priority management areas and in areas not meeting Proper Functioning Condition, use the Multiple Indicator Method for monitoring to the extent feasible. Tailor the monitoring method to the objectives determined for each stream.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Protect riparian areas by prohibiting surface disturbances in these areas year round.	Action: Consider the following management actions for improvement or protection of riparian values: riparian grazing pastures, exclosures, land acquisition, adjustments to grazing management, stream structures, and plantings.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Where conditions are appropriate, allow removal of tamarisk *(Tamarix* spp.*)*, non-native elms *(Ulmus* spp.*)*, and Russian olive *(Elaeagnus angustifolia)* material for biomass or personal use.		
Vegetation— Adaptive Drought Management			
GOAL: Develop management prescriptions for all surface-disturbing resource uses during times of extended drought.			
Objective: Establish criteria for restricting activities during drought.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement the following measures/parameters for restricting activities during drought (Refer to Table 2-3, Drought Severity Classification): *Severe (D2):* • Send drought letters to grazing permittees and other permitted land users requesting coordination with BLM. • Coordinate with CPW for big game herd management. • Prepare local seasonal precipitation graphs. • Suspend or limit seed-collecting activities. *Extreme (D3):* • Prohibit new surface-disturbing activities in areas with sensitive soils, subject to valid existing rights or actions associated with other valid permitted activities. • Base changes in livestock use on site-specific data on those allotments that are affected by drought. • Temporarily close OHV open areas and designated routes as needed during periods of drought and wind events to reduce particulate matter. • Require additional erosion-control techniques/BMPs for surface-disturbing activities (e.g., hydromulching). • Limit prescribed burns and vegetation treatments (exceptions: pile burning and hand thinning). *Exceptional (D4):* • Base changes in livestock use on site-specific data on those allotments that are affected by drought.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Prohibit new surface-disturbing activities, subject to valid existing rights or actions associated with other valid permitted activities. • Consider closing areas to public entry.		
Vegetation—Weeds			
GOAL: Reduce the occurrence of noxious and invasive species through the use of an Integrated Pest Management Program across the planning area.			
Objective: Apply integrated control methods (physical, cultural, biological, chemical, fire) to noxious and invasive pest populations.			
Action: Prioritize treatment areas for priority noxious and invasive species based on the following criteria: • Current state, county, and BLM priority weed lists; • Appropriate time of year for the most effective treatment; and • River restoration projects.			
Action: Continue early detection of new infestations, and a rapid treatment response (National Early Detection and Rapid Response Strategy).			
Objective: Require weed prevention on appropriate actions authorized within the planning area.			
Action (prevention): Implement preventative measures for activities associated with oil and gas operations; ROWs; range developments; special recreation permits (SRP); and construction and mechanical vegetation treatment activities as authorized in contracts and permits.			
Special Status Species			
GOAL: Manage special status species habitats to provide for their conservation and restoration as part of an ecologically healthy system.			
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-9: *BLM Sensitive Plant Species Occupied Habitat*. For plant species listed as sensitive by BLM, special design, construction, and implementation measures within a 100-meter (328 feet) buffer from the edge of occupied habitat may be required. In	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	addition, relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet) may be required. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP, however, currently mitigation and minimization measures are implemented on a case-by-case basis.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-10: *Wildlife Habitat.* Require proponents of surface-disturbing activities to implement specific measures to reduce impacts of operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat within high-value or crucial wildlife habitat. Measures would be determined through biological surveys, onsite inspections, effects of previous actions in the area, and BMPs (Appendix H). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** *LN-13: Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat.* The lessee/operator is required to submit to the BLM's Authorized Officer a plan for avoidance or mitigation of impacts on the identified species. This may require completion of an intensive inventory by a qualified biologist. The plan must be approved prior to any surface disturbance. The BLM's Authorized Officer may require additional mitigation measures, such as relocation of proposed roads, drilling sites, or other facilities. Where impacts cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the BLM's Authorized Officer, surface occupancy on that	Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** LN-3: *Biological Inventories.* The operator is required to conduct a biological inventory prior to approval of operations in areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest such as but not limited to raptor nests, sage-grouse leks, or significant natural plant communities. The operator, in coordination with the BLM, shall use the inventory to prepare mitigating measures to reduce the impacts on affected species or their habitats. These mitigating measures may include, but are not limited to, relocation of roads and other facilities and fencing operations or habitat. Where impacts cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the BLM's Authorized Officer, surface occupancy on that area is prohibited. (Refer to Appendix B.)		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
area is prohibited. (Refer to Appendix B.) • Black-footed ferret; • Spineless hedgehog cactus; and • Colorado hookless cactus *(Sclerocactus glaucus)* (formerly the Uinta Basin hookless cactus).			
Special Status Species—Fish			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve the quality of listed (threatened or endangered) fish and sensitive fish habitat by managing public land activities to support species recovery and the benefit of those species.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify limiting habitat factors based on site characteristics and habitat capabilities using channel type and geology classifications (e.g., Rosgen). Upon identification of limiting factors, prioritize and implement proven river, stream, lake, and riparian practices (e.g., in-channel habitat structures to create pools, riparian plantings) or by changing management of other program activities (e.g., changing livestock grazing season use) to achieve desired future condition.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the following ACECs to protect habitat for unique, sensitive, and listed fish (see ACECs section for management prescriptions): • Dolores River Riparian ACEC: flannelmouth *(Catostomus latipinnis)* and bluehead sucker *(Catostomus discobolus)*; and • Roan and Carr Creeks: cutthroat trout *(Oncorhynchus clarkii)*.	Action: Designate the following ACECs to protect habitat for unique, sensitive, and listed fish (see ACECs section for management prescriptions): • Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ○ Colorado River Riparian ACEC: razorback sucker *(Xyrauchen texanus)*, bonytail chub *(Gila elegans)*, humpback chub *(Gila cypha)*, and Colorado pikeminnow *(Ptychocheilus lucius)*; ○ Coon Creek: cutthroat trout; ○ Gunnison River Riparian ACEC: razorback sucker, bonytail and humpback chub, Colorado	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		pikeminnow; ○ Hawxhurst Creek: cutthroat trout; and ○ Plateau Creek: roundtail chub *(Gila robusta*), bluehead sucker, and flannelmouth sucker.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-1: *Sport and Native Fish.* Prohibit in-channel stream work in all occupied streams during appropriate spring and fall spawning periods. Rainbow trout *(Oncorhynchus mykiss)*, cutthroat trout, bluehead and flannelmouth sucker, roundtail chub, Paiute sculpin *(Cottus beldingii)* and mottled sculpin *(Cottus bairdii*) (April 1 to August 1); brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) and brook trout *(Salvelinus fontinalis)* (October 1 to November 30. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-51 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-1: *Sport and Native Fish.* Prohibit in-channel stream work in all occupied streams during appropriate spring and fall spawning periods. Cutthroat trout (May 1-September 1), rainbow trout (March 1-June 30), brown trout (October 1-May 1), brook trout (August 1-May 1), Sculpin (May 1-July 31), bluehead sucker (May 1-July 31), flannelmouth sucker (April 1-July 1), roundtail chub (May 1-July 31), speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus*) (May 1-August 31), mountain whitefish *(Prosopium williamsoni*) (October 1-November 30). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-52 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-2: *Occupied Cutthroat Trout Waters*. Prohibit in-channel work in all occupied cutthroat trout streams during spring spawning periods of April 1 to August 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-11: *Conservation Populations of Cutthroat Trout.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) from edge of ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage), of streams containing genetically pure

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
			populations of cutthroat trout. Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from stream edge, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-1: *Major River Corridors.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within stream channels, stream banks, and the area 0.25-mile either side of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage) or within 100 meters (328 feet) of the 100-year floodplain (whichever area is greatest) of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** CSU-1: *Major River Corridors.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) (Exhibit Colorado [CO]-28) restrictions from 0.25- to 0.5-mile landward from identified NSO buffer (0.25-mile from ordinary high water mark or within 100 meters [328 feet] of the 100-year floodplain, whichever is greatest) on either side of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers for fluid mineral development. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-2: *Streams/Springs Possessing Lotic Riparian Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities with a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from bank-full, prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Manage the Roan and Carr Creeks ACEC as a ROW avoidance area to protect special status fish species' habitat.	Allowable Use: Manage the following ACECs as ROW avoidance areas to protect special status fish species' habitat: • Coon Creek; • Hawxhurst Creek; • Plateau Creek; and • Roan and Carr Creeks.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Special Status Species— Plants and Terrestrial Wildlife			
GOAL: Manage special status species and their habitats to provide for their conservation and restoration as part of an ecologically healthy system, and support the goals contained in Standard 4 of the Colorado Standards for Public Land Health (BLM 1997a) (see Appendix E).			
Objective: To conserve plants and animals (and their habitats) listed by federal and Colorado governments as threatened and endangered species, and to conserve plants and animals that are candidates for these lists.	Objective: To conserve plants and animals (and their habitats) listed by federal and Colorado governments as threatened, endangered, sensitive or species of concern, and to conserve plants and animals that are candidates for these lists with the overall objective of improving their populations so that they can be removed from these lists.		Objective: Same as Alternative A.
Action: Manage threatened and endangered species' habitat as ROW avoidance areas. Relocate ROWs if a determination is made that the relocation action would benefit and promote recovery and would not further impact a threatened and endangered species.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Avoid authorizing 2920 permits (such as site facilities and commercial filming) within known threatened and endangered species' habitat. Allow permits only when impacts on threatened and endangered species habitat are shown to be negligible.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Manage the following ACECs as ROW exclusion areas to protect threatened and endangered species' habitat: • Atwell Gulch;	Allowable Use: Manage the following ACECs as ROW exclusion areas to protect threatened and endangered species' habitat: • Same as Alternative B, plus the following:	Allowable Use: Manage the Pyramid Rock ACEC as a ROW exclusion area to protect threatened and endangered species' habitat.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Pyramid Rock; and • South Shale Ridge (except for ROWs to existing oil and gas leases issues under the 1987 RMP without NSO lease stipulations).	○ Reeder Mesa.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Manage the following ACECs as ROW exclusion areas to protect special status species' habitat: • A portion (1,800 acres) of Badger Wash; • Juanita Arch; • Rough Canyon; and • Unaweep Seep.		Allowable Use: Manage the following ACECs as ROW exclusion areas to protect special status species' habitat: • A portion (1,800 acres) of Badger Wash; and • Unaweep Seep.
Action: Protect and maintain unique ecological values for the following habitat locations to improve the habitat for unique, sensitive, and endangered plants and animals: • Badger Wash ACEC: Great Basin silverspot butterfly *(Speyeria nokomis)*, grand buckwheat *(Eriogonum contortum)*, Ferron's milkvetch *(Astragalus musiniensis)*, cliffdweller's cryptantha *(Cryptantha elata)*, Gardner's saltbrush *(Atriplex gardneri)*, and salina wildrye *(Leymus salinus)*; • Colorado River corridor: cottonwood/skunkbrush *(Rhus aromatic)* riparian forest, bald eagle, and great blue heron *(Ardea herodias)*;	Action: Protect and maintain unique ecological values for the following habitat locations to improve the habitat for unique, sensitive, and endangered plants and animals. (See ACECs section for specific management of ACECs.) • Atwell Gulch ACEC: Colorado hookless cactus, DeBeque milkvetch, and Naturita milkvetch *(Astragalus naturitensis)*; • Badger Wash ACEC: grand buckwheat, Ferron's milkvetch, cliffdweller's cryptantha, and Gardner's saltbrush/salina wildrye; • Dolores River Riparian ACEC: peregrine falcon *(Falco peregrinus)*, bald eagle, Kachina daisy *(Erigeron kachinensis)*, Eastwood's	Action: Protect and maintain unique ecological values for the following habitat locations to improve the habitat for unique, sensitive, and endangered plants and animals. • Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ○ Colorado River Riparian ACEC: cottonwood/skunkbrush riparian forest, bald eagle, and great blue heron; ○ Glade Park–Pinyon Mesa ACEC: Gunnison sage-grouse; ○ Gunnison River Riparian ACEC: Colorado hookless cactus, peregrine falcon, bald eagle, and blue herons; ○ John Brown Canyon ACEC: Grace's warbler *(Dendroica graciae)*, old growth pinion, juniper;	Action: Protect and maintain unique ecological values for the following habitat locations to improve the habitat for unique, sensitive, and endangered plants and animals. • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ The Palisade ACEC: peregrine falcon and bald eagle; and ○ Rough Canyon ACEC: canyon treefrog *(Hyla arenicolor)*.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Pyramid Rock ACEC/Research Natural Area (RNA): Colorado hookless cactus, DeBeque phacelia *(Phacelia submutica)*, DeBeque milkvetch *(Astragalus debequaeus)*, adobe thistle *(Cirsium perplexans)*, and aromatic Indian breadroot *(Pediomelum aromaticum)*; • Rough Canyon ACEC/ RNA: Gunnison sage-grouse, spineless hedgehog cactus *(Echinocereus triglochidiatus var. inermis)*, Grand Junction milkvetch *(Astragalus linifolius)*, and Eastwood's desert parsley *(Lomatium eastwoodiae)*; • A portion of the Palisade ACEC (23,600 acres): Dolores River skeleton plant *(Lygodesmia doloresensis)*, San Rafael milkvetch *(Astragalus rafaelensis)*, horseshoe milkvetch *(Astragalus equisolensis)*, Fisher Tower's milkvetch *(Astragalus piscator)*, tufted green gentian *(Frasera paniculata)*, and Osterhout's catseye *(Cryptantha osterhoutii)*; and • Unaweep Seep ACEC: Great Basin	monkeyflower, *(Mimulus eastwoodiae)*, San Rafael milkvetch, Dolores River skeleton plant, horseshoe milkvetch, Grand Junction milkvetch, and Gypsum catseye *(Cryptantha crassipes);* • Juanita Arch ACEC: Grand Junction milkvetch; • The Palisade ACEC: peregrine falcon, bald eagle, Dolores River skeleton plant, San Rafael milkvetch, horseshoe milkvetch, Fisher Tower's milkvetch, tufted green gentian, and Osterhout's catseye; • Pyramid Rock ACEC: Colorado hookless cactus, DeBeque phacelia, DeBeque milkvetch, Naturita milkvetch, adobe thistle, and aromatic Indian breadroot; • Rough Canyon ACEC: canyon treefrog, Gunnison sage-grouse, spineless hedgehog cactus, Grand Junction milkvetch, and Eastwood's desert parsley; • Sinbad Valley ACEC: Gypsum catseye; • South Shale Ridge ACEC: Colorado hookless cactus, Naturita milkvetch, and adobe thistle; and • Unaweep Seep ACEC: Great	○ Prairie Canyon ACEC: burrowing owl, long-billed curlew *(Numenius americanus)*, kit fox, and white-tailed prairie dog; ○ Reeder Mesa ACEC: Colorado hookless cactus; and ○ Roan and Carr Creeks ACEC: greater sage-grouse.	

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
silverspot butterfly *(Speyeria nokomis nokomis)* and giant helleborine *(Epipactis gigantea)*. In the remainder of the resource area, improve habitat of these species where opportunities exist.	Basin silverspot butterfly and giant helleborine.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Pursue land tenure adjustments to facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species. Avoid the disposal of occupied special status species' habitat.	Action: Pursue land tenure adjustments to facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species. Prohibit the disposal of occupied special status species' habitat.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** *LN-15 (Alternative A)*/LN-4 (Alternatives B, C, and D)*: Colorado Hookless Cactus (formerly Uinta Basin Hookless Cactus).* This lease contains habitat for the Colorado hookless cactus *(Sclerocactus glaucus)*. Prior to undertaking any activity on the lease, including surveying and staking of well locations, the lessee may be required to perform botanical inventories on the lease. Special design and construction measures may also be required in order to minimize impacts to Colorado hookless cactus habitat from drilling and producing operations. (Refer to Appendix B.)			
Plants			
Objective: To conserve plants (and their habitats) listed by federal and Colorado governments as threatened and endangered species, and to conserve plants that are candidates.	Objective: Promote maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate plant species by protecting occupied habitat. Protect occupied habitat for all BLM sensitive plant species.	Objective: Promote maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate plant species by protecting occupied and adjacent suitable habitat. Protect occupied habitat for all BLM sensitive plant species.	Objective: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify the following areas as core conservation populations for special status plant species: • Atwell Gulch; • Logan Wash Mine; • Pyramid Rock ACEC; • South Shale Ridge;		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Sunnyside; and • Reeder Mesa. Manage identified habitat to maintain the population. Management tools include but are not limited to weed treatments, inter-seeding, route closures, fencing, and managing timing and intensity of grazing. Identify additional areas as populations are identified and species of concern are modified.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Monitor special status plant populations to determine trends, impacts, and guide future management, with an emphasis on areas near surface-disturbing activities. Utilize monitoring data to determine and modify NSO stipulations applicable to current and historically occupied habitat of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate plants.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs: Badger Wash, Pyramid Rock, and Unaweep Seep).* Prohibit surface occupancy in the following areas. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A. • Hydrologic and sensitive plants study area in Badger Wash ACEC; • Pyramid Rock State Natural Area; and • Unaweep Seep State Natural Area and RNA.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following ACECs to protect threatened, proposed, candidate, and sensitive plants. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A. • Atwell Gulch (threatened and sensitive plants); • Badger Wash (sensitive plants); • Pyramid Rock (threatened and sensitive plants); • South Shale Ridge (threatened and sensitive plants); and • Unaweep Seep (sensitive plants).		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following ACECs to protect threatened, proposed, candidate, and sensitive plants. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A. • Badger Wash (sensitive plants); • Pyramid Rock (threatened and sensitive plants); and • Unaweep Seep (sensitive plants).
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-13: *Current and Historically Occupied Habitat of Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate plants and animals from indirect impacts or loss of immediately adjacent suitable habitat. Maintain existing buffer distances where pre-existing disturbance exists. In undisturbed environments and ACECs, prohibit new disturbance within 200 meters (656 feet) of current and historically occupied and suitable habitat. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-14: *Currently Occupied Habitat of Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate plants and animals from indirect impacts or loss of

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
			immediately adjacent suitable habitat. Maintain existing buffer distances where pre-existing disturbance exists. In undisturbed environments and ACECs, prohibit new disturbance within 200 meters (656 feet) of occupied habitat. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-15: *BLM Sensitive Plant Species' Occupied Habitat.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of BLM sensitive plant species' occupied habitat. In addition, relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet) may be required (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-11: *Significant Plant Communities.* For those plant communities that meet BLM's criteria for significant plant communities, special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required. Habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species or communities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-12: *Significant Plant Communities.* For those plant communities that meet BLM's criteria for significant plant communities, special design, construction, and implementation measures, including avoidance, may be required. Habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species or communities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Migratory Birds			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP, currently comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.	Objective: Protect breeding habitats of migratory birds with emphasis on avoiding impacts to nesting birds to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.		Objective: Protect breeding habitats of Birds of Conservation Concern with emphasis on avoiding impacts to nesting birds to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use adaptive management strategies to conserve and avoid impacts to populations of Birds of Conservation Concern, Partners In Flight priority species, and other species of concern.		Action: Use adaptive management strategies to conserve and avoid impacts to populations of Birds of Conservation Concern.
Allowable Use: Currently use COA from May 15 to July 15.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-3: *Migratory Bird Habitat*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities, including vegetation-altering projects, in migratory bird habitat during nesting season (May 15 to July 15 or as site-specific analysis dictates) when nesting birds are present. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-51 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-3: *Migratory Bird Habitat*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities, including vegetation-altering projects, in migratory bird habitat during nesting season (April 15 to July 31 or as site-specific analysis dictates) when nesting birds are present. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-52 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-4: *Birds of Conservation Concern's Habitat*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities, including vegetation-altering projects, in birds of conservation concern's habitat (USFWS 2008) during nesting season (May 15 to July 15 or as site-specific analysis dictates) when nesting birds are present. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for yellow-billed cuckoo habitat.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Where large stands of cottonwoods occur, develop management plans to restore or improve cuckoo habitat and increase canopy cover.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-1: *Major River Corridors.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within stream channels, stream banks, and the area 0.25-mile either side of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage) or within 100 meters (328 feet) of the 100-year floodplain (whichever area is greatest) of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** CSU-1: *Major River Corridors.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) (Exhibit Colorado [CO]-28) restrictions from 0.25- to 0.5-mile landward from identified NSO buffer (0.25-mile from ordinary high water mark or within 100 meters [328 feet] of the 100-year floodplain, whichever is greatest) on either side of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers for fluid mineral development. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-2: *Streams/Springs Possessing Lotic Riparian Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities with a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from bank-full, prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Raptors			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for raptor nesting and fledging habitat.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Provide healthy and productive habitat for a variety of raptor species by protecting nest sites, and maintaining important raptor nesting habitat including old-growth pinyon-juniper woodlands.		
The following stipulations are taken from the most recent CPW raptor recommendations; stipulations should be updated as species knowledge and raptor recommendations are updated.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-13: *Osprey Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.25-mile of active osprey *(Pandion haliaetus)* nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-16: *Osprey Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.25-mile of active osprey nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-13: *Osprey Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-5: *Osprey Nests.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.25-mile of active osprey nests from April 1 to August 31. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-14: *Ferruginous Hawk Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.5-mile of active ferruginous hawk *(Buteo regalis)* nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-17: *Ferruginous Hawk Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.5-mile of active ferruginous hawk nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-14: *Ferruginous Hawk Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-6: *Ferruginous Hawk Nests.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.25-mile of active ferruginous hawk nests, including any alternate nests, from February 1 to July 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-15: *Red-tailed Hawk Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.33-mile of active red-tailed hawk *(Buteo jamaicensis)* nest sites	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-18: *Red-tailed Hawk Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.33-mile of	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-15: *Red-tailed Hawk Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	active red-tailed hawk nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-7: *Red-tailed Hawk Nest.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.33-mile of active red-tailed hawk nests, including any alternate nests, from February 15 to July 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-16: *Swainson's Hawk Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.25-mile of active Swainson's hawk *(Buteo swainsoni)* nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-19: *Swainson's Hawk Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.25-mile of active Swainson's hawk nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-16: *Swainson's Hawk Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-8: *Swainson's Hawk Nest Sites.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.25-mile of active Swainson's hawk nests and associated alternate nests from April 1 to July 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Due to propensity of peregrine falcons to relocate nest sites, sometimes up to 0.5-mile along cliff faces, it is more appropriate to designate a cliff nesting complex that encompass the cliff system and a 0.5-mile buffer around the cliff nesting complex. Nesting areas have not been designated at this time but may be in the future where high densities of nesting peregrines occur.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-17: *Peregrine Falcon Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.5-mile of active peregrine	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-20: *Peregrine Falcon Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-17: *Peregrine Falcon Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	falcon nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	occurred in the area) within 0.5-mile of active peregrine falcon nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-14: Threatened and Endangered Seasonal Habitat (Peregrine Falcon Habitat)*. In order to protect important seasonal peregrine falcon habitat, any lease operations which may affect this species will be allowed only during the following period: <BEGIN_DATE> through <END_DATE>. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-9: *Peregrine and Prairie Falcon Nest Sites.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.5-mile of active peregrine and prairie falcon *(Falco mexicanus)* nest cliff(s) from March 15 to July 31. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-18: *Prairie Falcon Nest Sites.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.5-mile of active prairie falcon nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-21: *Prairie Falcon Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.5-mile of active prairie falcon nest sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-18: *Prairie Falcon Nest Sites.* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-10: *Goshawk Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.5-mile of active goshawk *(Accipiter* spp.*)* nest sites from March 1 to September 30. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-11: *Burrowing Owl Burrows and Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface disturbance and human encroachment within 0.25-mile of active burrows or burrowing owl nest sites from March 1 to August 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Manage for raptors and other migratory birds by avoiding disturbance during the breeding season and/or requiring surveys to ensure absence prior to construction.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-19: *Other Raptor Species (accipiters, falcons [except kestrel], buteos, and owls).* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.125-mile of an active nest site of all accipiters, falcons (except kestrel), buteos, and owls not listed in other CSU stipulations. Raptors that are listed and protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act are addressed separately. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-22: *Other Raptor Species (accipiters, falcons [except kestrel], buteos, and owls).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.125-mile of an active nest site of all accipiters, falcons (except kestrel), buteos, and owls not listed in other NSO stipulations. Raptors that are listed and protected by the ESA and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act are addressed separately. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-19: *Other Raptor Species (accipiters, falcons [except kestrel], buteos, and owls).* Same as Alternative B. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-12: *Other Raptor Species (accipiters, falcons [except kestrel], buteos, and owls).* Prohibit surface disturbance and human encroachment within 0.25 miles of active nests from February 1 to August 15 (great horned owl), March 1 to August 15 (other owls and raptors), and April 1 to August 15 (Cooper's hawk *(Accipiter cooperii)*, sharp-shinned hawk *(Accipiter striatus)*, and northern harrier *(Circus cyaneus)*. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Bald and Golden Eagles			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for eagle nesting, fledging, foraging and roosting habitat. Protect the bald and golden eagle concentration, nesting, and nest buffer areas by prohibiting activities during certain times of the year consistent with CPW's most recent raptor recommendations.		
Action: Protect the bald eagle concentration, nesting, and falcon nest buffer areas by prohibiting activities during certain times of the year.	Allowable Use: See **STIPULATION** TL-13: *Golden Eagle Nest Sites* and TL-14: *Bald Eagle Nest Sites*.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-23: *Golden Eagle Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.25-mile of active golden eagle nest sites and associated alternate nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-13: *Golden Eagle Nest Sites.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.25-mile of active golden eagle nests and associated alternate nests from December 15 to July 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-24: *Bald Eagle Nest Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (beyond that which historically occurred in the area) within 0.25-mile of active bald eagle nests. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-14: Threatened and Endangered Seasonal Habitat (Bald Eagle Habitat)*. In order to protect important seasonal bald eagle habitat, any lease operations which may affect this species will be allowed only during the following period: <BEGIN_DATE> through <END_DATE>. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-50 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-14: *Bald Eagle Nest Sites.* Prohibit human encroachment within 0.5-mile of active bald eagle nests from November 15 to July 31. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-15: *Bald Eagle Winter Roost.* Prohibit activity within 0.25-mile of bald eagle winter roosts from November 15 to March 15. Additional restrictions may be necessary within 0.5-mile of active bald eagle winter roosts if there is a direct line of sight from the roost to the activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Waterfowl and Shorebirds			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Provide healthy and productive habitat for waterfowl and shorebirds.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Protect migratory pathways of waterfowl and shorebirds (see major river corridor stipulation).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Protect known breeding sites of upland nesting shorebirds, such as the long billed curlew.		
Gunnison and Greater Sage-grouse (Refer to Vegetation – Desired Plant Communities for additional management actions pertaining to sage-grouse)			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Advance the conservation of Gunnison and greater sage-grouse and their habitat in accordance with current national, state, and local working group recommendations and policy as well as the most current scientific literature and research.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Consistent with current guidance for sagebrush-dependent species, improve areas of poor quality nesting habitat by implementing the following actions, including but not limited to: • In areas where species diversity is low seed area with grasses and forbs, with an emphasis on forbs if brood-rearing occurs in the area, accompanied by light disking and interseeding, or drill seeding. • Where sage is too dense, conduct thinning by roller-chopping, light disking, Dixie Harrow, Lawson Aerator or other methods. • Conduct vegetation treatments to retain residual cover through fall and winter into nesting season.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: When reseeding roads, primitive roads and trails, use appropriate seed mixes (appropriate for sage-grouse ecological conditions) and consider the use of transplanted sagebrush.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Improve brood-rearing habitats by implementing the following action: • Restore old ponds or construct new ponds in areas lacking water, while minimizing potential for promoting mosquito breeding habitat at elevations below 8,000 feet.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Improve lek areas by mechanically treating historic lek areas where sagebrush density has increased.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Remove/modify raptor perches, in PPH sage-grouse habitat (trees, fences, dry-hole markers, and power poles).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Monitor measureable objectives and evaluate grazing management to assure that management actions are achieving sage-grouse habitat objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Design any new structural range improvements to conserve, enhance, or restore sage-grouse habitat through an improved grazing management system relative to sage-grouse objectives. Structural range improvements, in this context, include but are not limited to: cattleguards, fences, enclosures, corrals or other livestock handling structures; pipelines, troughs, storage tanks (including moveable tanks used in livestock water hauling), windmills, ponds/reservoirs, solar panels and spring developments.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: To reduce sage-grouse strikes and mortality, remove, modify, or mark fences in high risk areas. When fences are necessary, require a sage-grouse-safe design.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Locate supplements (salt or protein blocks) in a manner designed to conserve, enhance, or restore sage-grouse habitat.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Offer temporary use on a case-by-case basis in allotments where grazing preference has been relinquished, or non-use warrants to rest other allotments that include important sage-grouse habitat.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Apply appropriate seasonal restrictions for implementing vegetation management treatments according to the type of seasonal habitats present in a priority area.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Monitor after vegetation treatments for success in meeting objectives and monitor and control invasive vegetation after vegetation treatments in sage-grouse habitat.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Apply post-vegetation treatment management and monitoring to ensure long term persistence of seeded native plants. Outline temporary or long-term changes in livestock grazing, wild horse and burro, and travel management, etc., to achieve and maintain vegetation management objectives to benefit sage-grouse and their habitats.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Design vegetation treatments in sage-grouse habitats to strategically reduce wildfire threats in the greatest area. This may involve spatially arranging new vegetation treatments with past treatments, vegetation with fire-resistant serial stages, natural barriers, and roads in order to constrain fire spread and growth. This may require vegetation treatments to be implemented in a more linear versus block design.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Include sage-grouse habitat parameters as defined by Connelly et al. (2000), Hagen et al. (2007) or if available, state sage-grouse conservation plans and appropriate local information in habitat restoration objectives. Make maintaining these objectives within priority sage-grouse habitat areas a high restoration priority.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Choose native plant seeds for vegetation treatments based on availability, adaptation (site potential), probability for success, and the vegetation management objectives for the area covered by the treatment. Where probability of success or native seed availability is low, use species that meet soil stability and hydrologic function objectives as well as vegetation and sage-grouse habitat objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the following areas to protect sage-grouse habitat: • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Roan and Carr Creek; ○ Glade Park; and ○ Sunnyside.	Action: Manage the following areas to protect sage-grouse habitat: • ACECs: ○ Roan and Carr Creek; and ○ Glade Park. • Sunnyside Wildlife Emphasis Area	Action: Manage the following areas to protect sage-grouse habitat: • Roan and Carr Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: Identify the following as ROW exclusion areas: • Within a 0.6-mile radius of sage-grouse leks.	Allowable use: Identify the following as ROW exclusion areas: • Within a 0.6-mile radius of sage-grouse leks for below-ground facilities and a 4-mile radius for above-ground facilities.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: Identify the following as ROW avoidance areas: • Sage-grouse occupied habitat; and • Within a 4-mile radius of sage-	Allowable use: Identify the following as ROW avoidance areas: • Sage-grouse occupied, suitable habitat; and	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	grouse leks.	• Within a 4-mile radius of sage-grouse leks.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Sage-grouse.* Close all occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat (10,600 acres) to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 in Appendix A:	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Sage-grouse.* Close all occupied Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat (18,900 acres) to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 12,200 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate in all occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 17,600 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate in occupied Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-16: *Occupied Sage-grouse Winter Habitat.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in occupied sage-grouse winter habitat from December 16 to March 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B) and 2-52 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-25: *Sage-grouse Leks, Nesting, and Early Brood-rearing Habitat.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 4 miles of an active lek or within sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: See NSO-25: *Sage-grouse Leks, Nesting, and Early Brood-rearing Habitat.*		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-20: *Sage-grouse Nesting and Early Brood-rearing*

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
			Habitat. Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to protect sage-grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitat within 4 miles of an active lek or within sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-17: *Sage-grouse Leks.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 4 miles of sage-grouse leks from March 1 to June 30. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-51 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: See NSO-25: *Sage-grouse Leks, Nesting, and Early Brood-rearing Habitat.*	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-18: *Sage-grouse Leks, Nesting, and Early Brood-rearing Habitat.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 1 to June 30 within 0.6-mile of the lek or within sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Reptiles and Amphibians			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for priority reptile and amphibian habitat.		
Action: Protect special status reptile and amphibian habitat by avoiding impacts during critical seasons in areas of known importance to the species. Conduct surveys to increase knowledge of critical areas.	Action: Identify important areas for key species such as canyon tree frog, great basin spadefoot *(Spea intermontana)*, northern leopard frog *(Rana pipiens)*, boreal toad *(Anaxyrus boreas boreas)*, and midget faded rattlesnake *(Crotalus oreganus concolor)*. Protect habitat by avoiding impacts during critical seasons and maintain integrity and species accessibility of these areas.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-26: *Canyon Treefrog, Midget Faded Rattlesnake, Northern Leopard Frog, Great Basin*	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-27: *Canyon Treefrog, Midget Faded Rattlesnake, Northern Leopard Frog, Great Basin*	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-26: *Canyon Treefrog, Midget Faded Rattlesnake, Northern Leopard Frog, Great Basin*

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	Spadefoot, Boreal Toad. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within all identified canyon treefrog, northern leopard frog, midget faded rattlesnake, Great Basin spadefoot, and boreal toad breeding and denning sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	*Spadefoot, Boreal Toad.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.5-mile of all identified canyon treefrog, northern leopard frog, midget faded rattlesnake, Great Basin spadefoot, and boreal toad breeding and denning sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	*Spadefoot, Boreal Toad.* Same as Alternative B. See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A.
Bats			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for bat roosting, maternity sites and winter hibernacula.		
Action: Protect maternity roost of Townsend big-eared bat through locatable minerals withdrawals. Extend current locatable mineral withdrawal when it is up for review if the status of the Townsend big-eared bat has not improved.	Action: Identify and protect important areas for bat roosting (including maternity roosts) and hibernacula, such as the Pup Tent Mine, and take appropriate action to protect resources as identified, such as recreational closures, mineral withdrawals, and mine closures with bat gates.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-28: *Special Status Bat Species' Roost Sites and Winter Hibernacula*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.25-mile radius of special status bat species' roost sites and winter hibernacula. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-21: *Special Status Bat Species' Roost Sites and Winter Hibernacula.* Require mitigation and minimization measures (as determined by the BLM biologist) for all surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.25-mile of special status bat species' roost sites and winter hibernacula. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Where bat roosting, maternity sites and winter hibernacula occur, bat gates would be required for closing abandon mine lands.		
River Otters			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for river otter *(Lontra canadensis)* habitat.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Within occupied river otter habitat, prohibit removal and disturbance of potential den sites such as hollow trunks of large trees, beaver dens, hollow logs, log jams, or drift piles.		Action: No similar action.
Canada Lynx			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM-managed portions of Lynx Analysis Units for Lynx habitat.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Close lynx *(Lynx canadensis)* habitat in Lynx Analysis Units to the following: • Timber harvest; and • Over-snow motorized travel.		Action: No similar action.
Kit Fox			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for kit fox habitat		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-29: *Active Kit Fox Dens.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656 feet) of active kit fox dens. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-22: *Kit Fox Dens.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to, and require mitigation and minimization measures (as determined by the BLM biologist) of, surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656 feet) of active kit fox dens. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
White-tailed Prairie Dog			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve white-tailed prairie dog habitat and distribution (Figure 2-73, Appendix A).		Objective: Maintain at least 80 percent of the mapped white-tailed prairie dog habitat and distribution (Figure 2-73, Appendix A).
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-30: *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns (no buffer).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within active white-tailed prairie dog towns. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-31: *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns (46-meter buffer).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 46 meters (150 feet) of active white-tailed prairie dog towns. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-23: *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within active white-tailed prairie dog towns to avoid the center of active towns, while maintaining the integrity of the town's social structure. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: See NSO-30: *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns (no buffer).*	Allowable Use: See NSO-31: *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns (46-meter buffer).*	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-19 *Occupied Prairie Dog Towns.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within active white-tailed prairie dog towns from April 1 to July 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Allow prairie dog relocation activities in existing, occupied, or historic prairie dog complexes where consistent with other management and ecosystem objectives, in areas where plague is not a concern, and in coordination with CPW and the Mesa County Health Department.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
FISH AND WILDLIFE			
Invasive Fish and Wildlife Species and Disease Transmission			
GOAL: Minimize the spread of invasive fish and wildlife species and fish and wildlife diseases.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: To prevent the spread of whirling disease, New Zealand mud snails *(Potamopyrgus antipodarum)*, zebra mussels *(Dreissena polymorpha)*, quagga mussels *(Dreissena bugensis)*, and other nuisance aquatic organisms, treat all equipment associated with actions permitted by the BLM, included but not limited to SRPs, to be conducted within or near perennial water sources equipment previously used in water bodies with known invasive species, with accepted disinfection practices prior to construction/launch. Firefighting and other emergency equipment would follow appropriate policy as noted in relevant chapters of the 2012 Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book) (US DOI and US Forest Service 2012).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Caves and other structures utilized by bats may be closed to public access in the event of a White Nose Syndrome outbreak or other transmittable diseases that threaten bats, as needed to avoid the risk of humans transmitting the disease.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Remove aquatic competitors (such as bullfrogs) from active native aquatic breeding grounds.		
Fisheries and Aquatic Wildlife			
GOAL: Provide for aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats for abundance and diversity of fish and wildlife with self-sustaining populations.			
Objective: Increase fish production on the producing aquatic areas and to improve the cool water fisheries potential on marginal streams.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for priority habitat requirements for highly valued species such as, but not limited to, coldwater sport fishes, including rainbow, brown, and brook trout.		Objective: Maintain BLM lands for priority habitat requirements for highly valued species such as, but not limited to, coldwater sport fishes, including rainbow, brown, and brook trout.
Action: Actively manage the following areas, placing management emphasis on the key species shown: aquatic-riparian –	Action: Designate the following priority habitats: perennial water sources, riparian areas, intermittent streams	Action: Designate the following priority habitats: perennial water sources, riparian areas, intermittent streams and ponds,	Action: Designate the following priority habitats: perennial water sources, riparian areas, and intermittent

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
trout.	and ponds, and ephemeral/seasonal waters.	ephemeral/seasonal waters, and upland habitats within the drainage area of perennial water.	streams and ponds.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-1: *Sport and Native Fish.* Prohibit in-channel stream work in all occupied streams during appropriate spring and fall spawning periods. Rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, bluehead and flannelmouth sucker, roundtail chub, Paiute and mottled sculpin (April 1 to August 1); brown and brook trout (October 1 to November 30. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-51 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-1: *Sport and Native Fish.* Prohibit in-channel stream work in all occupied streams during appropriate spring and fall spawning periods. Cutthroat trout (May 1-September 1), rainbow trout (March 1-June 30), brown trout (October 1-May 1), brook trout (August 1-May 1), sculpin (May 1-July 31), bluehead sucker (May 1-July 31), flannelmouth sucker (April 1-July 1), roundtail chub (May 1-July 31), speckled dace (May 1-August 31), mountain whitefish (October 1-November 30). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-52 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-2: *Occupied Cutthroat Trout Waters*. Prohibit in-channel work in all occupied cutthroat trout streams during spring spawning periods of April 1 to August 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-1: *Major River Corridors.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within stream channels, stream banks, and the area 0.25-mile either side of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage) or within 100 meters (328 feet) of the 100-year floodplain (whichever area is greatest) of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable use: **STIPULATION** CSU-1: *Major River Corridors.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) (Exhibit Colorado [CO]-28) restrictions from 0.25- to 0.5-mile landward from identified NSO buffer (0.25-mile from ordinary high water mark or within 100 meters [328 feet] of the 100-year floodplain, whichever is greatest) on either side of the Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores Rivers for fluid mineral development. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-2: *Streams/Springs Possessing Lotic Riparian Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities with a minimum distance of 100 meters (328 feet) from the edge of the ordinary high-water mark (bank-full stage). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from bank-full, prohibit surface occupancy and surface disturbing activities within the riparian zone. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Terrestrial Wildlife			
GOAL: Provide terrestrial habitats for abundance and diversity of native and desirable nonnative wildlife species with self-sustaining populations.			
Objective: Maintain the existing species in the GJFO and improve the habitat of each species of game and nongame primarily according to the species' susceptibility to BLM influence and secondarily to the evidence of human demand.	Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for priority habitat requirements for the following high-value species: • Critical and severe winter range, winter concentration areas, production areas, and big game migrations corridors for big games species (e.g., mule deer *(Odocoileus hemionus)*, elk *(Cervus canadensis)*, antelope *(Antilocapra americana)*, bighorn sheep *(Ovis canadensis)*, moose *(Alces alces)*; and • Proper functioning condition riparian and wetland habitat for all species (see Vegetation—Riparian section). Habitat standards and desired wildlife populations levels are determined by species-specific plans and strategies in order to meet BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (BLM 1997a).		Objective: Maintain and improve BLM lands for priority habitat requirements for the following high-value species: • Severe winter range, winter concentration areas, production areas, big game migrations corridors for big games species (e.g., mule deer, elk, antelope, bighorn sheep, moose); and • Proper functioning condition riparian and wetland habitat for all species (see Vegetation—Riparian section). Habitat standards and desired wildlife populations levels are determined by species specific plans and strategies in order to meet BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Actively manage the following areas, placing management emphasis on the key species shown: • Roan Creek: deer; • Kannah Creek: deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, and waterfowl; • Grand Valley: pronghorn, waterfowl, and desert game; • Rough Canyon: amphibian habitat; • Book to Roan Cliffs: deer, elk, and bear; • Aquatic-riparian: riparian wildlife habitat; • Collbran: deer and elk; • Ute to Mesa Creek: deer and elk; • Unaweep to Dugway: deer and elk; • Dolores West: deer and elk; • Bangs – Dominguez: deer and elk • Glade Park: deer, elk, and wild turkey; and • WSAs: pristine wildlife conditions.	Action: Actively manage the following areas, placing management emphasis on the key species shown: • Atwell Gulch ACEC: mule deer and rocky mountain bighorn sheep; • Dolores River Riparian ACEC: riparian obligate bird species; • Indian Creek ACEC: deer and elk; • The Palisade ACEC: riparian obligate birds; • Sinbad Valley ACEC: mule deer and elk; • Beehive Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Blue Mesa Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Bull Hill Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • East Salt Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Glade Park Wildlife Emphasis Area: Gunnison sage-grouse, mule deer, and elk; • Prairie Canyon Wildlife Emphasis Area: long billed curlew, long eared owl, pronghorn antelope, white-tailed prairie dog, kit fox, and burrowing owl; • Rapid Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk;	Action: Actively manage the following areas, placing management emphasis on the key species shown: • Atwell Gulch ACEC: mule deer and rocky mountain bighorn sheep; • Colorado River Riparian ACEC: riparian obligate birds; • Dolores River Riparian ACEC: riparian obligate bird species; • Gunnison River Riparian ACEC: riparian obligate birds; • Indian Creek ACEC: deer and elk; • John Brown Canyon ACEC: pinion- and juniper-obligate bird species; • The Palisade ACEC: riparian obligate birds; • Plateau Creek ACEC: special status species fish; • Prairie Canyon ACEC: pronghorn antelope, sage sparrow *(Artemisiospiza belli)*, Scott's oriole *(Icterus parisorum)*, and long-eared owl *(Asio otus)*; • Sinbad Valley ACEC: mule deer and elk; • South Shale Ridge ACEC: deer and elk; • Beehive Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Blue Mesa Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Bull Hill Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk;	Action: Actively manage the following areas, placing management emphasis on the key species shown: • The Palisade ACEC: riparian obligate birds; and • Roan and Carr Creeks Wildlife Emphasis Area: cutthroat trout and sage-grouse.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Roan and Carr Creeks Wildlife Emphasis Area: cutthroat trout and sage-grouse; • South Shale Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area: deer and elk; • Sunnyside Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse; and • Timber Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse.	• Casto Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • East Salt Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Hawxhurst Wildlife Emphasis Area: bighorn sheep, mule deer, and elk; • Indian Point Wildlife Emphasis Area: pronghorn antelope, mule deer, and elk; • Prairie Canyon Wildlife Emphasis Area: long billed curlew, long eared owl, pronghorn antelope, white-tailed prairie dog, kit fox, and burrowing owl; • Rapid Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • Red Mountain Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer and elk; • South Shale Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area: deer and elk; • Sunnyside Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse; and • Timber Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area: mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP; however, surveys are required for special status species.	Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE** LN-3: *Biological Inventories.* The operator is required to conduct a biological inventory prior to approval of operations in areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest such as but not limited to raptor nests, sage-grouse leks, or significant natural plant communities. The operator, in coordination with the BLM, shall use the inventory to prepare mitigating measures to reduce the impacts on affected species or their habitats. These mitigating measures may include, but are not limited to, relocation of roads and other facilities and fencing operations or habitat. Where impacts cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the BLM's Authorized Officer, surface occupancy on that area is prohibited. (Refer to Appendix B.)		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP, however, mitigation and minimization measures are implemented on a case-by-case basis.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-10: *Wildlife Habitat.* Require proponents of surface-disturbing activities to implement specific measures to reduce impacts of operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat within high-value or crucial wildlife habitat. Measures would be determined through biological surveys, onsite inspections, effects of previous actions in the area, and BMPs (Appendix H). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** LN-5: *Working in Wildlife Habitat.* Require operators to establish and submit to the GJFO a set of operating procedures for employees and contractors working in important wildlife habitats. Design such procedures to inform employees and contractors of ways to minimize the effect of their presence on wildlife and wildlife habitats. Procedures may address items such as working in bear or snake country, controlling dogs, not feeding wildlife, and understanding and abiding by hunting and firearms regulations. (Refer to Appendix B.)		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain the integrity of ongoing biological research locations.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the Ant Research Site as a ROW exclusion area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the Owl Banding Station as a ROW avoidance area.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-32: *Research Sites.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in approved research sites including, but not limited to, the Ant Research Area (16 Road) and the Owl Banding Station (south of DeBeque). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Big Game Species (deer, elk, moose, and bighorn sheep)			
Objective: Provide sufficient forage, cover, and protection from disturbance to maintain a population of 15,500 deer and 870 elk in summer and 34,400 deer and 2,950 elk in winter, commensurate with BLM public land health standards.	Objective: Provide sufficient forage, cover, and protection from disturbance for large ungulates (deer, elk, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, and moose) to maintain healthy viable populations across the landscape commensurate with BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health (BLM 1997a).		
Action: Manage deer habitat to allow deer to increase to 15,500 in summer and 34,400 in winter. Manage elk habitat to allow elk to increase to 870 in summer and 2,950 in winter.	Action: Deer and elk habitat would be managed to meet BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management.		
Action: Use standard design practices listed in Appendix B of the 1987 RMP (BLM 1987) in designing wildlife projects.	Action: Use COAs listed in Appendix B and standard operating procedures and BMPs listed in Appendix H in designing wildlife projects.		
Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel closures from December 1 to May 1: • Beehive; • Blue Mesa; • Chalk Mountain; • Coal Canyon; • Garvey Canyon; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons.	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized travel from December 1 to May 1. Same as Alternative A, plus the following areas: • Demaree Canyon outside of the WSA; and • Howard Canyon Flats. Seasonal limitations may be extended to include mechanized use in areas where monitoring indicates	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized travel from December 1 to May 1. Restrict mechanized and nonmotorized use to designated routes: • Same as Alternative B. Seasonal limitation periods may be reduced based on coordination with CPW (e.g., mild winters, late hunting seasons, etc.).	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized travel from December 1 to May 1: • Beehive; • Chalk Mountain; • Coal Canyon; • Garvey Canyon; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons. Seasonal limitation periods may be

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	mechanized use is causing excessive disturbance to wildlife. Seasonal limitation periods may be reduced based on coordination with CPW (e.g., mild winters, late hunting seasons, etc.).		reduced based on coordination with CPW (e.g., mild winters, late hunting seasons, etc.).
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Wildlife Habitat in Rough Canyon).* Prohibit occupancy and other activities in Rough Canyon. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A. • Atwell Gulch; • Indian Creek; • The Palisade; • Rough Canyon; • Sinbad Valley; and • South Shale Ridge.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A. • Atwell Gulch; • Colorado River Riparian; • Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa; • Indian Creek; • The Palisade; • Plateau Creek; • Prairie Canyon; • Roan and Carr Creeks; • Rough Canyon; • Sinbad Valley; and • South Shale Ridge.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A. • The Palisade; and • Rough Canyon.
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-12: Deer and Elk Winter Range*. Lease activities such as exploration, drilling, and other development will be allowed only during the period from May 1 to December 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-20: *Big Game Winter Range*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from December 1 to May 1 to protect big game winter range as mapped by the CPW. Certain areas within big game winter range may be closed to foot, horse, motorized, and/or mechanized travel from December 1 to May 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-9: Bighorn Seasonal Stipulation*. Lease activities such as exploration, drilling, and other development will be allowed only during the period from May 1 to December 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: *See TL-20: Big Game Winter Range*.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Protect state wildlife areas from unnecessary surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities.		Objective: No similar objective.
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (State Wildlife Areas)*. Prohibit occupancy and other activities in the following areas (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-1 in Appendix A: • Highline Reservoir recreation site (1,800 acres); • Horsethief Canyon (1,300 acres); • Jerry Creek Reservoir (7,200 acres); and • Vega Reservoir Recreation Site (1,980* acres). *Acreage includes surface water resources.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-33: *Jerry Creek Reservoir, Plateau Creek, and Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Areas, and Highline and Vega State Parks.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in areas where BLM manages the fluid mineral rights under the following state wildlife areas and state parks. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A: • Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area (1,400 acres); • Jerry Creek Reservoir State Wildlife Area (870 acres); • Plateau Creek State Wildlife Area (1,400 acres); • Highline State Park (350 acres); and • Vega State Park (2,000 acres).	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 4,400 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A: • Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area (1,300 acres); • Jerry Creek Reservoir State Wildlife Area (900 acres); • Plateau Creek State Wildlife Area (1,400 acres); • Highline State Park (350 acres); and • Vega State Park (470 acres).	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use; allow leasing on 169,800 acres of private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Minimize habitat fragmentation and restore habitat connectivity on big game winter ranges, winter concentration areas, severe winter ranges, and movement corridors.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-24: *Deer and Elk Migration and Movement Corridors*. Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within migration and movement corridors for deer and elk. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Action: Allow domestic sheep grazing in allotments on case-by-case basis.	Action: Prohibit domestic sheep grazing on allotments within occupied bighorn sheep habitat.		Action: Avoid domestic sheep grazing on allotments within occupied bighorn sheep habitat.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Permit domestic sheep grazing on allotments outside of occupied bighorn sheep habitat on a case-by-case basis per the following criteria: • Presence of topographic features (e.g., natural barriers, rivers) to separate domestic and bighorn sheep; • Adequate buffer zones to separate domestic and bighorn sheep; • Current bighorn sheep management plan direction; • The need to protect potential habitat; • Local and national research results; • Risk assessments from wildlife agencies; • Timing of domestic sheep grazing; or	Action: Prohibit domestic sheep grazing on allotments within historic, occupied, and potential bighorn sheep habitat.	Action: Permit domestic sheep grazing on allotments outside of occupied bighorn sheep habitat.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Monitoring results indicating conflicts.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Elk Calving Sites)*. Prohibit occupancy and other activities in elk calving sites. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-34: *Elk Production Area.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in elk production areas year-round. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-4: Elk Calving Area.* Lease activities such as exploration, drilling, and other development will be allowed only during the period from June 15 to May 15. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-21: *Big Game Production Areas.* Prohibit activities, including motorized travel, in elk production areas from May 15 to June 15; in antelope production areas from April 15 to June 30; in Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep production areas from April 15 to June 30; in Moose production areas from April 15 to June 30; and in desert bighorn sheep production areas from February 1 to May 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Pronghorn Antelope			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Improve pronghorn antelope habitat on BLM lands.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize habitat improvement projects to increase habitat quality in pronghorn antelope range including projects that improve fawning cover, reduce cheatgrass, increase in native forage including warm season grasses, and improve water availability.		Action: No similar action in current RMP.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Within pronghorn range, minimize the number of fences, construct fences to accommodate passage by pronghorn, and replace existing fence that does not accommodate pronghorn passage.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-22: *Pronghorn Wintering Habitat.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in pronghorn wintering habitat from January 1 to March 31. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-51 (Alternative B), 2-52 (Alternative C), and 2-53 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Wildlife Emphasis Areas An emphasis area is an area of high wildlife value and significance for wildlife species including but not limited to sage-grouse, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, prairie dog, and kit fox. Fire rehabilitation efforts and vegetation treatments to improve land health and/or wildlife habitat are not considered ground disturbance, as described in the actions under each emphasis area below. Wildlife emphasis areas are not designations, but rather polygons where more management emphasis is placed on protection and enhancement of the wildlife resource.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Emphasis areas meet GJFO BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines (BLM 1997a). Prioritize those areas that do not meet land health standards as management action areas where actions are taken to work toward meeting land health standards.		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In wildlife emphasis areas not managed as ROW exclusion or avoidance areas, apply BMPs to consolidate ROWs in existing disturbance and to avoid fragmentation of unfragmented habitat.		Action: No similar action
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Consolidate surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within existing disturbance to avoid fragmentation of unfragmented habitat.		Action: No similar action
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Give priority to wildlife emphasis areas in carrying out actions to improve land health.		Action: No similar action
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Focus management in emphasis areas on wildlife. Adopt additional management actions deemed necessary by the BLM (such as closing additional roads to maintain effective habitat patch size).		Action: No similar action
Beehive Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Beehive wildlife emphasis area (4,700 acres) with an emphasis on wintering and migratory habitat for mule deer and elk (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Install a winter closure gate and enforce closure from December 1 to May 1 annually.		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas*. Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	
Blue Mesa Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Blue Mesa wildlife emphasis area (9,300 acres) with an emphasis on wintering habitat for mule deer and elk (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Install a winter closure gate and enforce closure from December 1 to May 1 annually.		Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas*. Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Bull Hill Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Bull Hill wildlife emphasis area (4,800 acres) with an emphasis on wintering habitat for mule deer and elk (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas*. Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Casto Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: No similar objective.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Casto wildlife emphasis area (4,200 acres) with an emphasis on wintering habitat for mule deer and elk (Figure 2-2, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
East Salt Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the East Salt Creek wildlife emphasis area (26,100 acres) with an emphasis on wintering habitat for mule deer and elk (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Install a winter closure gate and enforce closure from December 1 to May 1 annually.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the area east of the Demaree Canyon WSA as a ROW exclusion area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the area between the Demaree Canyon WSA and Highway 139 as closed to motorized vehicles.		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a portion of the wildlife emphasis area (4,100 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within a portion of the wildlife emphasis area (21,700 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Glade Park Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Glade Park wildlife emphasis area (27,200 acres) with an emphasis on Gunnison sage-grouse, mule deer, and elk habitat (Figure 2-1, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective. Area proposed to be managed as the Glade Park – Pinyon Mesa ACEC (see ACEC section).	Objective: No similar objective.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use. Area proposed to be managed as the Glade Park – Pinyon Mesa ACEC (see ACEC).	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Hawxhurst Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: No similar objective.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Hawxhurst wildlife emphasis area (9,400 acres) with an emphasis on wintering and migratory habitat for bighorn sheep, mule deer, and elk. (Figure 2-2, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Close to motorized over-snow travel.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Close to motorized and mechanized travel.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Manage the wildlife emphasis area as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).	Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Indian Point Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: No similar objective.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Indian Point wildlife emphasis area (11,400 acres) with an emphasis on habitat for pronghorn antelope and wintering habitat for mule deer and elk. See Figure 2-2, Appendix A.	Objective: No similar objective.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Install a winter closure gate on Indian Point and enforce closure from December 1 to May 1 annually.	Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Prairie Canyon Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Prairie Canyon wildlife emphasis area (22,200 acres) with an emphasis on long billed curlew, long eared owl, pronghorn antelope, white-tailed prairie dog, kit fox, and burrowing owl habitat (Figure 2-1, Appendix A).	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Prairie Canyon wildlife emphasis area (15,300 acres) with an emphasis on long billed curlew, long eared owl, pronghorn antelope, white-tailed prairie dog, kit fox, and burrowing owl habitat (Figure 2-2, Appendix A). A portion of this area would also be managed as the Prairie Canyon ACEC (see ACEC).	Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the pronghorn antelope migratory corridor as a ROW avoidance area for above-ground	Action: Manage the pronghorn antelope migratory corridor as a ROW exclusion area for above-ground facilities (including	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	facilities (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).	renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a portion of the wildlife emphasis area (5,600 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Within the area designated for pronghorn migration, seek to avoid additional disturbance and apply CSU-25 (Wildlife Emphasis Areas) to avoid consolidate disturbance and minimize potential impacts to migrating pronghorn		Action: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within a portion the wildlife emphasis area (16,600 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within a portion the wildlife emphasis area (12,500 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Rapid Creek Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Rapid Creek wildlife emphasis area (28,600 acres) with an emphasis on wintering and migratory habitat for mule deer and elk (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: Close the Lands End area (6,400 acres) from December 1 to June 1 to protect big game winter range.	Action: Enforce winter closure from December 1 to May 1 annually, to include installation and maintenance of winter closure gates.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the portion of the wildlife emphasis area that is currently undisturbed as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development). See Figure 2-27 and Figure 2-28 (Appendix A).		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Close an unroaded portion (200 acres) to motorized travel.	Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a portion the wildlife emphasis area (1,700 acres). Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In the currently roadless, undisturbed section of the emphasis area that is ROW avoidance, seek to avoid disturbance and apply CSU-25 (Wildlife Emphasis Areas) to avoid fragmenting the roadless area.		Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within a portion of the wildlife emphasis area (26,900 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Red Mountain Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: No similar objective	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Red Mountain wildlife emphasis area (5,000 acres) with an emphasis on wintering and migratory habitat for mule deer and elk (Figure 2-2, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Close to motorized over-snow travel.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Close to motorized and mechanized travel.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Manage the wildlife emphasis area as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).	Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	
Roan and Carr Creeks Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Roan and Carr Creeks wildlife emphasis areas (17,700 acres) with an emphasis on habitat for cutthroat trout and greater sage-grouse (Figure 2-1, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective. Area proposed to be managed as the Roan and Carr Creeks ACEC (see ACEC section).	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Roan and Carr Creeks wildlife emphasis areas (33,400 acres) with an emphasis on cutthroat trout and greater sage-grouse (Figure 2-3, Appendix A).
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
South Shale Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain wildlife habitat in the South Shale Ridge wildlife emphasis area (3,500 acres) with an emphasis on deer and elk wintering grounds (Figure 2-1, Appendix A).	Objective: Maintain wildlife habitat in the South Shale Ridge wildlife emphasis area (3,500 acres) with an emphasis on deer and elk wintering grounds (Figure 2-2, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-25: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Sunnyside Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Sunnyside wildlife emphasis area (14,500 acres) with an emphasis on bighorn sheep, mule deer, elk, and greater sage-grouse (Figure 2-1, Appendix A).	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Sunnyside wildlife emphasis area (11,300 acres) with an emphasis on bighorn sheep, mule deer, elk, and greater sage-grouse (Figure 2-2, Appendix A).	Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the portions of the wildlife emphasis area that are not contained in the West-wide Energy Corridor as a ROW avoidance area for above-ground facilities (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).		Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Timber Ridge Wildlife Emphasis Area			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain or improve wildlife habitat in the Timber Ridge wildlife emphasis area (11,900 acres) with an emphasis on habitat for mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse (Figures 2-1 [Alternative B] and 2-2 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Close to motorized and mechanized travel. Allow for game retrieval carts.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the wildlife emphasis area as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development), except along 9.8 Road.		Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas*. Close the wildlife emphasis area to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-35: *Wildlife Emphasis Areas*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the wildlife emphasis area. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Wild Horses			
GOAL: Manage the administratively designated Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range (LBCWHR) to sustain a healthy viable wild horse population while maintaining a thriving natural ecological balance of resources and uses. (Figure 2-4, Appendix A).			
Objective: Emphasize protection of wild horses in the LBCWHR and minimize impacts to their population and habitat.			
Action: Continue to prohibit livestock grazing within the LBCWHR.			
Objective: Emphasize management of wild horses in the LBCWHR.			
Action: Manage the LBCWHR (35,200 acres) to accommodate an appropriate management level of 90 to 150 wild horses.	Action: Manage the LBCWHR (35,200 acres) at appropriate management level, currently identified as a range of 90 to 150 wild horses. The appropriate management level is a dynamic number that would be adjusted as range conditions warrant and in accordance with BLM policy.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Utilize periodic removals and fertility control to maintain the appropriate management level.			
Action: Monitor and maintain genetic diversity within the LBCWHR by implementing the following actions, including but not limited to: • Based on genetic analysis, periodically introduce wild horses from other wild horse areas into the LBCWHR; and • Periodically conduct a genetic analysis for the wild horse population.			
Objective: Manipulate pure stands of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper within the LBCWHR with prescribed and natural fires to improve the ecological diversity and improve the habitat for wildlife and wild horses.	Objective: Manage vegetative communities within the LBCWHR to maintain a forage base to support the established appropriate management levels.		
Action: Allow for some use of naturally occurring fires and reseed with a desirable mixture of grasses, forbs, and browse to produce additional forage.	Action: Utilize prescribed or wildland fire and mechanized, biological, and chemical treatments to maintain the vegetative types in a state advantageous to wild horse use while meeting land health standards.	Action: Minimize the use of mechanized and chemical treatments and primarily use fire (prescribed or wildland) to maintain the vegetative types in a state advantageous to wild horse use while meeting land health standards.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Objective: Protect wild horses in the LBCWHR by limiting activities which disturb or harass wild horses during critical time periods.			
Action: No similar action	Action: Prohibit target shooting in the Coal Canyon and Main Canyon areas.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action.	Action: Close the LBCWHR to motorized over-snow travel.		Action: No similar action.
Action: Close Coal Canyon to motorized use from December 1 to May 1.	Action: Close Coal Canyon to motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to May 1.		
Action: Maintain and construct range improvements to ensure that the horses are confined to the LBCWHR and have adequate water and forage.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Identify Coal Canyon as available for placement of mine mouth facilities.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: See NSO-36, *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range*.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range:* Close the LBCWHR to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	Allowable Use: See CSU-26, *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range.*
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-10: Wild Horse Winter Range*: Lease activities such as exploration, drilling, and other development will only be allowed during the period from May 1 to December 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50, Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *TL-11: Wild Horse Foaling Area*. Lease activities such as exploration, drilling, and other development will be allowed only during the period from July 1 to March 1. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-50, Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** TL-23: *Wild Horse Foaling Area*: Same as Alternative A. See Figure 2-53 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-36: *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range:* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the LBCWHR. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-2: Scenic and Natural Values (Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Area)*. Special design and reclamation measures may be required to protect the outstanding scenic and natural landscape value. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-46 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-26: *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range*. Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within the LBCWHR. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: Prohibit new ROWs or other surface-disturbing activities that would change the semi-primitive character of the LBCWHR.	Allowable Use: Manage the LBCWHR as a ROW avoidance area outside of the Little Book Cliffs WSA.	Allowable Use: Manage the LBCWHR as a ROW exclusion area, except for within the existing Coal Canyon Utilities ROW corridor.	Allowable Use: Same as Alternative B.
Cultural Resources			
GOAL: Identify, preserve, and protect significant cultural resources in order to ensure they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations (i.e., for research, education, and preservation of cultural heritage).			
Objective: Review and assess extant site data for values, protection, and preservation needs.	Objective: Allocate all cultural resources currently recorded, or projected to occur on the basis of existing data synthesis, to use allocations according to their nature and relative preservation value (BLM Manual Section 8110.42 and Planning Handbook H-1601-1 [Appendix C]). Cultural Use Allocations include:		

Use Category Allocation	Management Action	Desired Outcome
a. Scientific Use	Permit appropriate research including data recovery	Preserved until research or data recovery potential is realized
b. Conservation for Future Use	Propose protective measures/designation	Preserved until conditions for use are met
c. Traditional Use	Consult with tribes, determine limitations	Long-term preservation
d. Public Use	Determine permitted use	Long-term preservation, on-site interpretation

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	e. Experimental Use	Determine nature of experiment	Protected until used
	f. Discharge from Management	Remove protective measures	No use after recordation; not preserved
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Allocate all cultural resources currently recorded in Appendix I to category use allocations.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Assign use category allocations to discovered cultural resource sites and/or areas and apply appropriate management actions to achieve the desired outcome.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use category allocations may be revised in response to changing site conditions or as additional data and information are obtained. Criteria allowing for revising allocation includes: 1) environmental change or human caused impacts that alter the significance or scientific potential; 2) through changes brought about by mitigation and/or data recovery; 3) new discovery that adds to the sites potential and changes its eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places; 4) new information or techniques that reveal a new scientific value that was not previously recognized; and 5) new information shared through Native American consultation.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites and/or areas to (a) the Scientific Use category. These cultural resources generally meet National Register of Historic Places criterion D; they will yield significant archaeological information about prehistory and history. These cultural resources are available for permitted research and study (Appendix I).		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-27: *Allocation to Scientific Use Category.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities, except archaeological documentation and excavation, within 100 meters (328 feet) around eligible or potentially eligible sites allocated to Scientific Use. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize Scientific Use sites and/or areas for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and develop a cultural resource management plan for Scientific Use sites that outlines specific management objectives and actions for protection.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites and/or areas to (b) the Conservation for Future Use category. These cultural resources generally meet any of the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. They are set aside for long-term preservation because of their national and regional significance to prehistory and history (Appendix I).		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-37: *Allocation to Conservation Use Category*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities, including archaeological excavation, within 100 meters (328 feet) around eligible sites allocated to Conservation Use. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize Conservation Use sites for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and within two years from the listing, develop a cultural resource management plan for Conservation Use sites that would outline specific management objectives and actions for protection.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites and/or areas to (c) the Traditional Use category. These cultural resources generally meet any of the significance criteria of the National Register of Historic Places and are identified as traditional cultural properties and sacred sites in consultation with Native American Tribes. They are set aside for long-term preservation because of their cultural and religious value to Native American Tribes (Appendix I).		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-38: *Allocation to Traditional Use Category*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656 feet) around eligible or potentially eligible sites allocated to Traditional Use. In addition, consider visual impacts that projects may have on sites allocated to this use, and apply appropriate mitigation, which may include redesign. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites and/or areas to (d) the Public Use Category. Public Use sites are set aside for their educational and interpretive value to the public. These cultural resources may meet any of the significance criteria of the National Register of Historic Places, or they may not be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places but hold a local or regionally recognized visual value (e.g., historic cabins, railroad grades, roads and trails, mine ruins and mine workings) (Appendix I).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-28: *Allocation to Public Use Category*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) around sites allocated to Public Use. In addition, consider factors such as integrity of setting, recreation opportunity, or visual impacts that projects may have on sites allocated to this use. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Allocate historical sites on the uranium mesas (e.g., Tenderfoot, Calamity, Outlaw, Blue Mesa, Hubbard, and Dolores Point); Rough Canyon sites for environmental heritage education; historical buildings that may be suitable for adaptive use, historical roads and trails (e.g., Old Spanish National Historic Trail, Tabeguache Trail, Old Mill Road); and select rock art sites (e.g., Site 5ME4947 on the slopes of the Grand Mesa) to Public Use.		
Objective: Promote public awareness and education.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize Public Use sites and as demand for use of these sites for heritage tourism or other public uses is proposed develop cultural resource management plans (CRMP) that develop site specific management actions for those Public Use sites. CRMPs include outlines for specific management objectives and actions for Heritage Tourism including retrieval of scientific information, hardening for public use, interpretation and long-term protection strategies.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage, protect, and use cultural resources allocated to Public Use, including traditional cultural properties with a secondary allocation to Public Use by implementing the following actions, including but not limited to: • Developing heritage tourism at sites designated to Public Use using BMPs; • Interpreting sites; and • Organizing and conducting ongoing educational programs for tribal groups, the public, school groups, vocational archaeology groups, project proponents, permittees, contractors, and others about cultural resource ethics, and encouraging their assistance in reporting new discoveries and vandalism incidents.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites and/or areas to (e) the Experimental Use category. These cultural resources may meet criterion D of the National Register of Historic Places but would not have a primary allocation to the Conservation, Traditional or Public Use categories. They are set aside for studying such problems as natural or human caused deterioration and may be damaged or destroyed in the process of experimentation or mitigation (scientific excavation of inadvertent discovery).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize the Experimental use sites focusing on sites allocated to this use in the Sunnyside, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Indian Creek areas. As permitted activities are authorized that may affect these sites develop cultural resource management plans for allowable use on all Experimental Use sites in the Sunnyside, Grand Mesa Slopes, and Indian Creek areas to outline research objectives and identify experimental parameters.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (16,000 acres); and • Sunnyside (17,300 acres).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (24,400 acres); and • Sunnyside (24,000 acres).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (16,000 acres); and • Sunnyside (15,400 acres).
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Assign existing cultural resource sites assigned to (f) the Discharged from Management category. These cultural resources generally are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and are not assigned to other use allocations. They are not protected from other resource uses.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: On an annual basis develop a list of sites to allocate to the Discharge Use category, reevaluate as needed and compile supporting documentation, and submit for consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage areas with scientifically and publicly valuable archaeological and cultural resources through documentation and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and completion of Cultural Resource Management Plans.		
Action: Complete cultural resource management plans to actively manage the following sites, which are in priority order:	Action: Develop a cultural resource management plan to guide research and long term protection of two cultural properties associated with the Indian Creek Area: • West Area (730 acres); and • East Area (1,700 acres).		Action: Develop a cultural resource management plan to guide research and long term protection of two cultural properties associated with

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Indian Creek (1,300 acres); • Transect 7 (14,300 acres); • Rough Canyon (2,700 acres); • Sinbad Valley *(area to be determined)*; • Ladder Springs (370 acres); and • 5ME1358 (160 acres). Address in these cultural resource management plans the following types of actions: special designations, physical and administrative needs and measures, public interpretation or educational/scientific uses, data recovery and recordation needs, monitoring, and patrol schedules.			the Indian Creek Area: • West Area (730 acres); and • East Area (520 acres).
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Cultural Resources).* Prohibit surface occupancy for the following sites. See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A: • Site 5ME1358 (Exhibit GJ-1HF) (170 acres); • Indian Creek (Exhibit GJ-1HA) (1,400 acres); • Rough Canyon (Exhibit GJ-1HB) (2,600 acres); and • Ladder Springs (Exhibit GJ-1HG) (460 acres).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-39: *Indian Creek.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following areas to protect cultural resources. See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A: • West Indian Creek (520 acres); and • East Indian Creek (1,200 acres).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-5: Known Cultural Resource Value*. Surface-disturbing activities must avoid important known cultural resources. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-46 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		
GOAL: Seek to reduce imminent threats and resolve potential conflicts from natural or human-caused deterioration, or potential conflict with other resource uses (FLPMA Sec. 103(c), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) 106, 110 (a) (2)) by ensuring that all authorizations for land use and resource use will comply with the NHPA Section 106.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Allocate all cultural resources recorded to use allocations according to their nature and relative preservation value (BLM Manual Section 8110.42 and Planning Handbook H-1601-1 [Appendix C]) as part of the evaluation and determination of eligibility process.		
Action: No similar objective in current RMP.	Action: Manage the integrity of cultural resources that are not included in sensitive site areas and mitigate impacts based on maintaining the integrity of the desired outcome of the cultural resource Use Category Allocations. This may require redesign of proposed projects or mitigation.		
GOAL: Uphold Native American trust responsibilities and accommodate traditional uses. The GJFO is part of the Ute traditional homeland where physical remains of their occupation will be protected and preserved. Maintain and, where possible, improve natural and cultural resource conditions to enhance opportunities to exercise Native American use of cultural landscapes and cultural properties in their traditional homeland.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Continue the Ute Ethnohistory Project to compile information regarding traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, traditional uses, and cultural landscapes.		
Action: Accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and to avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of sacred sites.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage recorded traditional cultural properties and natural resources of importance to the Ute Tribes to enhance opportunities to exercise Native American use of these resources.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: The following sites of concern have been identified through consultation and would be a priority for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and development of cultural resource management plans that would outline specific management objectives and actions for protection: • Wickiup camps and open camps with definitive Ute occupation (associated to Ute rock art, artifact assemblages and/or trails); • Isolated rock art; • Culturally Modified Trees (includes Scarred and Prayer Trees); and • Ceremonial features (e.g., eagle traps, vision circles, and special structures). This list is in no way intended to be a comprehensive list and may continue to grow through consultation.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In cooperation with the recreation program, manage Unaweep Canyon/West and East Creek as a Ute heritage area, rename the West and East Creek Day Use areas in consultation with the Ute Tribes. With local partners and Ute tribal members interpret Ute Cultural Heritage for the public at this location.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify tribal plant gathering needs and establish tribal protocol for gathering materials for cultural and religious purposes. Do not charge members of federally recognized Tribes fees for the collection of non-commercial or personal-use quantities of plants or minerals used for food, medicine, utilitarian items, traditional use items, or items necessary for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes. Threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, or sensitive plants are not included as authorized for collection. Plants that are identified by a Tribe as important for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes and are not widely available would not be offered as wilding plants for the general public.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In coordination with the recreation resource management objectives, collaborate with Ute tribal cultural departments and members to identify, allocate to appropriate Use Category, reestablish and interpret traditionally used trails.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Paleontological Resources			
GOAL: Provide for the identification, protection, and management of paleontological resources for the preservation, interpretation and scientific uses by present and future generations.			
Objective: Manage paleontological resource to protect significant paleontological values.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Nine-mile Hill Boulders ACEC to protect paleontological values.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Enhance, promote, and protect the dinosaur resources of the Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (National Scenic Byway and All American Road).		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Identify and protect priority geographic areas.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Conduct field inventories and document highly sensitive paleontological sites.		
Action: Manage paleontological resources according to their Potential Fossil Yield Classification (Figure 2-74, Appendix A). *Class 1*- Xb Biotitic Gneiss, Schist, Migmatite, Yg Granitic Rocks of 1400 m.y., Xg *Granitic Rocks of 1700 m.y., YXg *Granitic Rocks of 1400 and 1700 m.y. *Class 2*- Pennh Hermosa *Class 3*- Pc Cutler, TRm Moenkopi, JTRgc *Glen Canyon Group, TRwc *Wingate, TRkc *Kayenta, JTRgc *Navajo, Jmwe *Entrada, Jmse *Summerville, KJdw *Burro Canyon Sandstone, Kd *Dakota Sandstone, Km *Mancos Shale, Kmv Mesaverde Group (Undivided), Kmvu Hunter Canyon, Kmvl Mount Garfield, Kh Sego Sandstone, Two Ohio Creek Formation, Tgl Green River Fm., Lower Part, Tgp Green River Fm., Parachute Creek Member, Tg Green River (Undivided), Tu Uinta, Q Quaternary deposits (Undifferentiated) *Class 4–5* - TRc *Chinle, Jmwe *Morrison, Two Wasatch (De Beque)			
Allowable Use: **LEASE NOTICE:** LN-6: *Class 4 and 5 Paleontological Areas.* Have a permitted paleontologist approved by the BLM's Authorized Officer perform an inventory of surface-disturbing activities in Class 4 and 5 paleontological areas. (Refer to Appendix B.)			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Visual Resources			
GOAL: Maintain the scenic quality of river canyons, open space landscapes, cultural landscapes, and other areas having high quality visual resources. Generally maintain the existing "footprint" of cultural landscapes (facilities, projects, and improvements).			
Objective: Protect the quality of the scenic values on public lands where VRM is an issue or where high value visual resources exist, and protect areas having high scenic quality, visual sensitivity, and public visibility.	Objective: Manage visual resource values in accordance with VRM classifications identified below.		
Action: Adopt the visual resources management classes listed below. Modify, relocate, mitigate, or deny proposed projects that conflict with the objectives of these classes. (Figure 2-5, Appendix A) • VRM I = 27,100 acres • VRM II = 132,100 acres • VRM III = 206,100 acres • Undesignated = 696,100 acres	Action: Manage visual resources on BLM-administered land according to the objectives for each class as follows (Figure 2-6, Appendix A): • VRM I = 98,500 acres • VRM II = 314,500 acres • VRM III = 458,600 acres • VRM IV = 189,800 acres Manage visual resources on BLM land according to the objectives for each class.	Action: Manage visual resources on BLM-administered land according to the objectives for each class as follows (Figure 2-7, Appendix A): • VRM I = 100,100 acres • VRM II = 556,600 acres • VRM III = 215,000 acres • VRM IV = 189,700 acres Manage visual resources on BLM land according to the objectives for each class.	Action: Manage visual resources on BLM-administered land according to the objectives for each class as follows (Figure 2-8, Appendix A): • VRM I = 96,500 acres • VRM II = 194,800 acres • VRM III = 530,100 acres • VRM IV = 240,000 acres Manage visual resources on BLM land according to the objectives for each class.

Action:
Manage 27,100 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class I, including the following areas:
• WSAs:
  ○ Sewemup Mesa
• ACECs:
  ○ The Palisade Outstanding Natural
	Action:
	Manage 98,500 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class I objectives, including the following areas:
	• WSAs:
	  ○ Demaree Canyon;
	  ○ Little Book Cliffs;
	  ○ The Palisade; and
		Action:
		Manage 100,100 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class I objectives, including the following areas:
		• WSAs:
		  ○ Same as Alternative B
		• ACECs:
		  ○ Same as Alternative B
			Action:
			Manage 96,500 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class I objectives, including the following areas:
			• WSAs:
			  ○ Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Area (ONA) • Wild and Scenic River segments that are found to be eligible which have been classified as wild: ○ North Fork West Creek • Other VRM Class I areas: ○ Mt. Garfield; and ○ Cliffs of Sinbad Valley.	○ Sewemup Mesa • ACECs: ○ Mt. Garfield (except for Coal Canyon corridor); and ○ A portion of The Palisade (26,700 acres within The Palisade WSA).	• Wild and Scenic River segments that are found to be suitable which have been classified as wild: ○ North Fork West Creek.	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Manage VRM Class I areas as ROW exclusion areas.		
Action: Manage 132,100 acres of BLM lands under VRM Class II objectives, including the following areas: • Bangs, Rough, Ladder, and Northeast Creek Canyons; • Cliffs of Unaweep Canyon; • Cliffs of Hunter/Garvey Canyons; • Gunnison River corridor; • Vega Reservoir; • Foreground of Interstate 70; • US Highway 50; • Cliffs adjacent to Mt. Garfield; • Dolores River corridor; and • Juanita Arch.	Action: Manage 314,500 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class II objectives, including the following areas: • ACECs: ○ A portion of the Palisade (5,500 acres outside of the Palisade WSA); ○ Dolores River Riparian; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Rough Canyon; and ○ Unaweep Seep. • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (exemption for recreation facilities); and ○ Dolores River Canyon (non-WSA portion and exemption for recreation and maintenance	Action: Manage 556,600 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class II objectives, including the following areas: • ACECs: ○ Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ▪ Atwell Gulch; ▪ Badger Wash; ▪ Colorado River Riparian; ▪ Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa; ▪ Gunnison River Riparian; ▪ Indian Creek; ▪ John Brown Canyon; ▪ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ▪ Plateau Creek; ▪ Prairie Canyon; ▪ Pyramid Rock; ▪ Roan and Carr Creeks; ▪ Sinbad Valley; and ▪ South Shale Ridge.	Action: Manage 194,800 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class II objectives, including the following areas: • ACECs: ○ A portion of the Palisade (1,900 acres outside of the Palisade WSA); ○ Rough Canyon; and ○ Unaweep Seep • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (exemption for recreation facilities) • Byways: ○ Lands End Backcountry Byway; ○ John Brown Canyon Backcountry Byway; ○ Niche to Blue Mesa – Uranium Trail Backcountry Byway; and • Other VRM Class II areas:

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	facilities). • Byways: ○ A portion of Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (from the Bookcliffs north); ○ Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; and ○ Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway. • Other VRM Class II areas: ○ Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ▪ Colorado River corridor. Exception: Utility projects within delineated ROW corridors, facilities necessary for development of federally leased coal, and temporary actions associated with coal exploration within VRM Class II areas would be required to meet VRM Class III objectives.	• Wild and Scenic River segments that are found to be suitable which have been classified as scenic: ○ Blue Creek; ○ Carr Creek; ○ North Fork Mesa Creek; ○ Roan Creek; ○ Rough Canyon Creek; and ○ Ute Creek • Wild and Scenic River segments that are found to be suitable which have been classified as recreational: ○ Colorado River Segment 1; ○ Colorado River Segment 2; ○ Dolores River; ○ East Creek; ○ Gunnison River Segment 2; and ○ West Creek • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (exemption for recreation facilities) ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1) • Byways: ○ Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway; ○ Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; and ○ Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway Exception: Utility projects within	○ Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ▪ Mt. Garfield

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		delineated ROW corridors, facilities necessary for development of federally leased coal, and temporary actions associated with coal exploration within VRM Class II areas would be required to meet VRM Class III objectives.	
Action: Manage 206,100 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class III objectives, including the following areas: • Baxter/Douglas Pass roads; • Benches in the Bangs Canyon Intensive Recreation Management Area; • De Beque Canyon; • Face of the Book Cliffs west of Carpenter Trail; • Hunter/Garvey Canyon benches; • Slopes of the Grand Mesa south of Watson Draw; • Sinbad Valley bottom; and • Valley of Unaweep Canyon.	Action: Manage 458,600 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class III objectives, including, but not limited to, the following areas: • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Timber Ridge • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch; ○ Indian Creek; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creeks; ○ Sinbad Valley; and ○ South Shale Ridge. • SRMAs: ○ North Fruita Desert • Byways: ○ A portion of Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (from Ashford Canyon south). • Other VRM Class III areas: ○ West Salt Creek corridor; and ○ Coal Canyon corridor.	Action: Manage 215,000 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class III objectives, including, but not limited to, the following areas: • ACECs: ○ Coon Creek; ○ Hawxhurst Creek; and ○ Reader Mesa. • SRMAs: ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 2). • National Historic and Scenic Trails: ○ Old Spanish National Historic Trail. • Other VRM Class III areas: ○ West Salt Creek corridor.	Action: Manage 530,100 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class III objectives, including, but not limited to, the following areas: • SRMAs: ○ Castle Rock; ○ Gunnison River Bluffs; ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1); and ○ Palisade Rims. • Byways: ○ Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway; ○ Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; ○ Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway; and ○ Winter Flats Road Backcountry Byway. • Other VRM Class III areas: ○ Roan and Carr Creek; ○ South Shale Ridge; and ○ Coal Canyon corridor.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP. The remainder of the GJFO (696,100 acres) is undesignated.	Action: Manage 189,800 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class IV objectives, including the following areas: • ACECs: ○ Badger Wash. • National Historic and Scenic Trails: ○ Old Spanish National Historic Trail. • All other areas not identified as VRM Class I, II, or III.	Action: Manage 189,700 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class IV objectives, including the following areas: • All other areas not identified as VRM Class I, II, or III.	Action: Manage 240,000 acres of BLM lands according to VRM Class IV objectives, including the following areas: • ACECs: ○ Badger Wash; ○ Pyramid Rock; and ○ South Shale Ridge. • SRMAs: ○ Grand Valley; and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 2). • National Historic and Scenic Trails: ○ Old Spanish National Historic Trail. • Coal Canyon corridor • All other areas not identified as VRM Class I, II, or III.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Protect the visual integrity of the landscape by managing all project proposals to meet or exceed objectives of the prescribed VRM classes by incorporating visual design BMPs (Appendix H).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Ecosystem restoration projects would ensure that visual impacts are minimized in the short term (5 years) and that VRM objectives in the project area are met in the long term (life of the project) when such projects are a) considered essential for public safety, achieving desired future conditions, or reducing hazardous fuels buildups; and b) expected to be visually prominent.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Maintain dark night sky conditions that are affected primarily by natural light sources.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prohibit permanent outdoor lighting in VRM Class I areas.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prohibit structural lighting in excess of the minimum safety requirements.		Action: No similar action.
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Visual Resources)*. Prohibit occupancy and other activities in the following areas to protect visual resources (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A: • Juanita Arch; • The Goblins; • Dolores River corridor; • Gunnison River corridor; • The Book Cliffs; • Bangs Canyon; • Sinbad Cliffs; • Granite Creek Canyon/Cliffs; • Unaweep Canyon; • Hunter/Garvey Cliffs; and • Vega State Recreation Area.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-40: *VRM*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the following areas: (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A. • All VRM Class I areas; and • The Goblins.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-30: *VRM Class II.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to fluid mineral leasing and other surface-disturbing activities within all areas designated as VRM Class II. Require that surface-disturbing activities meet the objectives of VRM Class II. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-2 Scenic and Natural Landscape Values.* Apply special design and reclamation measures to protect the outstanding scenic and natural landscape value of the following areas. (Refer to	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Appendix B.) See Figure 2-46 in Appendix A: • Bangs Benches (32,000 acres); • The Book Cliffs (31,100 acres); • Established BLM Recreation Sites (1,000 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (62,000 acres); • Granite Creek Benches (32,400 acres); • Gunnison River Corridor (1,200 acres); • Highway Corridors (69,400 acres); • Hunter/Garvey (24,700 acres); • Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Area (33,000 acres); • Sinbad Valley (6,400 acres); • South Shale Ridge (24,400 acres); and • Unaweep Valley (2,000 acres).			
Wildland Fire Management			
GOAL: Providing for firefighter and public safety, manage fire to maximize ecological health benefits.			
Objective: Minimize cost and loss, complement resource management objectives, and sustain the productivity of the biological ecosystems through fire management.	Objective: Use a full range of wildfire management actions, from full suppression to resource benefits on unplanned ignitions.		
Action: Allow unplanned ignitions for resource benefit on 417,100 acres as	Action: Allow unplanned fire on 857,400 acres for resource benefit to manage diversity in desired plant communities in those areas identified in Figure 2-76 in Appendix		Action: Allow unplanned fire on 96,000 acres for resource benefit to

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
shown in Figure 2-75 in Appendix A	A.		manage diversity in desired plant communities in those areas identified Figure 2-77 in Appendix A.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Work to restore Fire Regime Condition Classes 2 and 3 towards Class 1, and maintain areas of Fire Regime Condition Class 1.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Implement fuels treatments actions that may include, but are not limited to: • Mechanical treatments, including mowing, weed-whacking, chopping (roller chopper), chipping, grinding (hydro-ax), chaining, tilling, and cutting. • Manual treatments, including hand cutting (chainsaw/handsaw) and hand-piling. • Prescribed fire, including pile and broadcast burning. • Chemical spraying or biological treatments, such as insects or goats. • Seeding, including aerial or ground application.		
Objective: Minimize cost and loss, complement resource management objectives, and sustain the productivity of the biological ecosystems through fire management.	Objective: Integrate fire and fuels management to meet Land Health Standards, WUI, and natural and cultural resource objectives across all levels of government and jurisdictional boundaries.		
Action: Prescribed Fire: Intentionally ignite fires in order to meet land and resource management objectives.	Action: Use a combination of planned and unplanned fire along with fuels treatments including mechanical, manual, chemical, and seeding to meet resource objectives. The priority would be using any of the above treatments based on strategic goals for site-specific projects.	Action: Use a combination of planned and unplanned fire along with fuels treatments including mechanical, manual, chemical, and seeding to meet resource objectives. The priority would be using planned and unplanned fire treatments.	Action: Use a combination of planned and unplanned fire along with fuels treatments including mechanical, manual, chemical, and seeding to meet resource objectives. The priority would be using manual and mechanical treatments.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prioritize vegetation treatments that are designed to strategically reduce wildfire threat in areas of high fire risk rather than where the probability of fire is low and the potential for natural post-fire recovery is high.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Implement the Programmatic ES&R Plan (PESRP) to meet emergency stabilization and rehabilitation (ESR) needs to comply with current ESR policy and guidance. The PESRP is a programmatic implementation plan authorizing treatment options specific to vegetative communities and is dependent upon post-wildland fire conditions and other site-specific considerations.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Design ESR treatment actions based on the severity of the wildfire impacts. ESR priorities include, but are not limited to, areas where: • Life, safety, or property requires protection. • Unique or sensitive cultural resources are at risk. • Soils are highly susceptible to accelerated erosion or water quality protection is required. • Perennial grasses and forbs are not expected to provide soil and watershed protection within two years. • Unacceptable vegetation, such as noxious weeds, may invade and become established. • It is necessary to quickly restore threatened, endangered, or special species habitat populations to prevent adverse impacts. • Stabilization and rehabilitation are necessary to meet RMP resource objectives.		
Objectives: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: In partnership with local, state, and federal partners, conduct fire mitigation and fire-prevention activities to reduce human-caused wildfire ignition and improve public safety.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Use signage, mass media, personal contacts, assistance with Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and other associated activities to reduce human ignition and other threats from wildfire.		
Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Outside Existing WSAs			
GOAL: No similar goal in current RMP.	**GOAL**: Provide appropriate levels of protection to preserve inventoried wilderness characteristics of areas determined to possess wilderness characteristics (e.g., appearance of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation or solitude) outside of existing WSAs, while considering competing resource demands and manageability.		**GOAL**: No similar goal.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Protect wilderness characteristics in identified areas.		Objective: No similar objective.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 24,400 acres to protect wilderness characteristics in the following areas: • Maverick (17,800 acres); • Unaweep (6,700 acres); and • West Creek (adjacent) (20 acres). Refer to Appendix F for the draft wilderness characteristics assessment. See Figure 2-9 in Appendix A.	Action: Manage 171,200 acres to protect wilderness characteristics in the following areas: • Bangs Canyon (20,400 acres); • East Demaree Canyon (4,800 acres); • East Salt Creek (17,000 acres) • Hunter Canyon (32,200 acres); • Kings Canyon (9,600 acres); • Lumsden Canyon (10,100 acres); • Maverick (20,400 acres); • South Shale Ridge (27,500 acres); • Spink Canyon (13,100 acres); • Spring Canyon (8,800 acres); • Unaweep (7,200 acres); and • West Creek (adjacent) (100 acres). Refer to Appendix F for the draft wilderness characteristics assessment. See Figure 2-10 in Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Protect wilderness characteristics in identified areas by applying the following management: • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow travel. • Close to mechanized travel (exception for the Pickett Trail in	Action: Protect wilderness characteristics in identified areas by applying the following management: • Same as Alternative B, except that all areas would be closed to mechanized travel, including the Pickett Trail in the Maverick unit.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	the Maverick unit). • Close to wood product sales and/or harvest, including Christmas tree cutting. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development. • Manage as VRM Class II. • **No Leasing**: *Lands with wilderness characteristics outside WSAs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
RESOURCE USES			
Forestry			
GOAL: Provide for use of forest and woodland products.			
Objective: Manage the suitable pinyon-juniper woodlands and commercial forest land to maintain stand productivity and help meet fuelwood and sawtimber demands.	Objective: Use a variety of silvicultural techniques and harvest systems to manage for healthy forests and woodlands while offering a variety of forest products and meeting other resource objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify the following areas as forestry zones for management purposes: • Bangs Canyon: 59,100 acres • Book Cliffs: 214,300 acres • Gateway: 194,300 acres • Glade Park: 67,100 acres • Grand Mesa Slopes: 60,700 acres • Grand Valley: 155,600 acres • Plateau Valley: 66,800 acres • Roan Creek: 243,300 acres		
Action: Make the following forest lands suitable for forest harvest: • Commercial forest land: 1,319 acres; and • Pinyon-juniper woodlands: 111,244 acres. Make 542,700 acres unsuitable for forest harvest, including the following forest lands (Figure 2-78 Appendix A):	Action: Allow harvest of forest and woodland products in portions of the following forestry zones that are determined suitable for harvest in activity-level plans or site-specific analyses: • Pinyon-juniper: ○ Glade Park; ○ Gateway; ○ Book Cliffs; ○ Plateau Valley; ○ Grand Mesa Slopes; and ○ Roan Creek. • Aspen: ○ Roan Creek;		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Commercial Forest Land: 37,800 acres; and • Pinyon-juniper woodlands: 504,900 acres.	○ Book Cliffs; ○ Plateau Valley; ○ Grand Mesa Slopes; and ○ Glade Park. • Spruce ○ Book Cliffs; ○ Plateau Valley; ○ Grand Mesa Slopes; and ○ Roan Creek. • Douglas fir ○ Book Cliffs; and ○ Roan Creek.		
Action: Commercial forest land unsuitable for management due to either sensitive or critical management areas include: • Municipal watersheds; • WSAs; • Recreation areas; • Wildlife areas; • Special status species habitat; and • Areas of high cultural sensitivity. Pinyon-juniper woodlands unsuitable for management include: • Poor stocking steep slopes; • Fragile soils; • Municipal watersheds; • WSAs; • Recreation areas; • Wildlife areas; • Special status species habitat; and • Areas of high cultural sensitivity.	Action: Close the following areas (approximately 231,200 acres) to wood product sales and/or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). (Figure 2-79, Appendix A). Additional areas may be found as unsuitable for harvest in the site specific forest/woodland management plans: • The Palisade municipal watershed; • Known lynx habitat; • VRM Class I areas; • WSAs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; and • ACECs. Exception: Allow wood product sales and/or harvest to meet desired resource conditions.	Action: Close the following areas (approximately 435,300 acres) to wood product sales and/or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). (Figure 2-80, Appendix A). Additional areas may be found as unsuitable for harvest in the site specific forest/woodland management plans: • The Palisade municipal watershed; • Known lynx habitat; • VRM Class I areas; • SRMAs; • WSAs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; and • ACECs. Exception: Allow wood product sales and/or harvest to meet desired resource conditions.	Action: Close the following areas (approximately 108,600 acres) to wood product sales and/or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). (Figure 2-81, Appendix A). Additional areas may be found as unsuitable for harvest in the site specific forest/woodland management plans: • The Palisade municipal watershed; • Gunnison River Bluffs SRMA; • WSAs; and • ACECs. Exception: Allow wood product sales and/or harvest to meet desired resource conditions.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

<table>
<tr><th>Alterative A (No Action)</th><th>Alternative B (Preferred)</th><th>Alternative C</th><th>Alternative D</th></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td>Action:
Allow Christmas tree cutting based off of yearly delineated tree cutting areas.

Close the following areas to Christmas tree cutting:
• Areas identified as over harvested;
• ACECs;
• Douglas Pass;
• Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; and
• WSAs.</td><td>Action:
Allow Christmas tree cutting based off of yearly delineated tree cutting areas.

Close the following areas to Christmas tree cutting:
• Areas identified as over harvested;
• ACECs;
• Douglas Pass;
• Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; and
• WSAs.</td><td>Action:
Allow Christmas tree cutting based off of yearly delineated tree cutting areas.

Close the following areas to Christmas tree cutting:
• Areas identified as over harvested;
• ACECs;
• Douglas Pass; and
• WSAs.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td colspan="2">Action:
Prohibit commercial and private harvesting of tamarisk, Russian olive, and other invasive woody species.</td><td>Action:
Where conditions are appropriate, allow removal of tamarisk and Russian olive material for biomass or personal use.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Action:
In the LBCWHR, limit fuelwood sales to 30 acres or less and to commercial operators only. Design fuelwood sales to meet management objectives for wild horses.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
Prohibit slash to be burned in the pinyon-juniper and aspen types.</td><td colspan="3">Action:
No similar action.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
Discourage clear cuts in small, isolated tall conifer stands and/or mature pinyon-juniper woodlands under 160 acres.</td><td colspan="3">Action:
Discourage clear cuts in small, isolated, and tall conifer stands and/or mature pinyon-juniper woodlands under 160 acres, unless such practices meet other resource objectives.</td></tr>
</table>

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Reserve from cutting the cavity-rich portions of aspen stands.	Action: Allow treatments of aspen stands to stimulate regeneration through either mechanical or fuels projects. Allow fuelwood cutting of dead and down aspen only in areas identified for allowable harvest.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Based upon tribal and public demand, allow collection of unconventional forest products. Limit permitted use of vegetal collection of commonly available renewable resources (e.g., seeds, cones, wildlings, berries, mushrooms, nuts) for non-commercial use to the following amounts consistent with other resource goals/objectives: • Boughs, All Coniferous Species: 50 pounds per person per year • Cones – Ornamental: two bushels per person per year (one bushel is equal to 9 gallons or 35 liters) • Cones – Nuts: one bushel per person per year • Medicinal: one bushel per person per year (collection prohibited within WSAs and ACECs) • Mushrooms: five gallons per species per person per year • Wildings: 15 meters (50 feet) per species per person per year (collection prohibited within WSAs and ACECs) • Traditional, religious, or ceremonial plants that are not widely available may be harvested for personal use by Native American tribal members and would not be offered as wilding plants for the general public		
Livestock Grazing			
GOAL: Provide adequate forage for livestock while attaining healthy rangelands, in accordance with land health standards and in balance with other resources and uses, to contribute to local economies, ranching livelihoods, and the rural western character integral to many communities.			
Objective: Manage livestock grazing as described in the Grand Junction Grazing Management EIS (1979), as modified by the RMP using the new priorities (Table 13 of 1987 RMP) (BLM 1987), general management categories, and the BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (BLM 1997a) (Appendix E).	Objective: Meet the forage demands of livestock operations based on current active preference (animal unit-months [AUMs]) while meeting the BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (BLM 1997a) (Appendix E).	Objective: Meet the forage demands of livestock operations based on current active preference (AUMs), with an emphasis on other resources for forage demand (e.g., wildlife), while meeting the BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (BLM 1997a) (Appendix E).	Objective: Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Manage livestock grazing in accordance with the BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (BLM 1997a) (Appendix E).			
Action: Adjust carrying capacities based on ecological site inventories and other monitoring data.	Action: Periodically evaluate current active preference and adjust as needed based on land health assessments, vegetative inventories, riparian monitoring, rangeland monitoring data, or other pertinent information. Allocate increases in forage availability to meet the greatest need (e.g., livestock, wildlife, watershed health).	Action: Periodically evaluate current active preference and adjust as needed based on land health assessments, vegetative inventories, riparian monitoring, rangeland monitoring data, or other pertinent information. Allocate increases in forage availability to wildlife species.	Action: Periodically evaluate current active preference and adjust as needed based on land health assessments, vegetative inventories, rangeland monitoring data, or other pertinent information. Allocate increases in forage availability to livestock.
Action: Make 978,600 acres available for livestock grazing. Provide 61,270 AUMs of livestock forage commensurate with public land health standards (BLM 1997a) (Appendix J). (Figure 2-11, Appendix A.)	Action: Make 961,100 acres available for livestock grazing. Provide up to 60,633 AUMs of livestock forage commensurate with public land health standards (BLM 1997a) (Appendix J). (Figure 2-12, Appendix A.)	Action: Make 586,600 acres available for livestock grazing. Provide up to 32,658 AUMs of livestock forage commensurate with public land health standards (BLM 1997a) (Appendix J). (Figure 2-13, Appendix A.)	Action: Make 977,200 acres available for livestock grazing. Provide up to 61,270 AUMs of livestock forage commensurate with public land health standards (BLM 1997a) (Appendix J). (Figure 2-14, Appendix A.)
Action: Make 48,600 acres of allotments, portions of allotments, and areas unavailable for livestock grazing. Refer to Appendix J, Livestock Grazing Allotments and Allotment Levels.	**Action:** Make 66,000 acres unavailable for livestock grazing, which includes allotments, portions of allotments, and unalloted land. The purpose includes steep slopes, conflict with BLM recreation sites, or avoidance of sensitive resources such as those described in the *Areas of Critical Environmental Concern* section. Refer	**Action:** Make 440,400 acres unavailable for livestock grazing, which includes allotments, portions of allotments, and unalloted land. The purpose includes suitability of grazing and private land conflict. Refer to Appendix J, Livestock Grazing Allotments.	**Action:** Make 49,900 acres unavailable for livestock grazing, which includes allotments, portions of allotments, and unalloted land. The purpose includes steep slopes, conflict with BLM recreation sites, or avoidance of sensitive resources such as those described in the *Areas of Critical Environmental Concern* section. Refer

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	to Appendix J, Livestock Grazing Allotments.		to Appendix J, Livestock Grazing Allotments.
Action: Close the following allotments to livestock use (see Appendix J): • LBCWHR; and • Sewemup Mesa.	Action: Close the following allotments to livestock use (see Appendix J): • Same as Alternative A plus the following: ○ Baldridge Mesa; ○ Bevan; ○ Boulder Canyon; ○ Browns Place; ○ Brush Creek; ○ Clifton; ○ Clover Gulch; ○ Coon Creek; ○ Dead Horse; ○ Dry Kimball; ○ Eby Point; ○ Erven; ○ Etcheverry; ○ Heely; ○ Hight; ○ Horizon; ○ Hunter; ○ Logan Wash; ○ Parkes Place; ○ Plateau Creek; ○ Red Mountain; ○ Webber; ○ Webb Isolated Tracts; and ○ Whitewater Hill.	Action: Close the following allotments to livestock use (see Appendix J): • Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ○ 4A Ind; ○ Ames; ○ Badger Wash; ○ Baker Canyon; ○ Berthoud Place; ○ B Hawkins; ○ Charlesworth; ○ Conn Mountain Common; ○ Davis Amp; ○ East of Collbran; ○ EHL; ○ Fetters; ○ Guthrie Place; ○ Hamilton; ○ Highway 50; ○ J.L.; ○ Kannah Creek Individual; ○ Lloyd; ○ Lorimor; ○ Lower Rapid-Cottonwood; ○ Mogensen ○ Molina Place; ○ Robbins; ○ Tom Casto; ○ West Creek; and ○ West Logan Wash.	Action: Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In open allotments, close the following areas to livestock use: • Ant Research Area; • Badger Wash paired plots; • Miracle Rock picnic area; • Mud Springs picnic area; • North Fruita Desert campground; • Pyramid Rock ACEC; • Study area exclosures; and • West Creek picnic area.	Action: In open allotments, close the following areas to livestock use: • Same as Alternative B, plus: ○ East Creek day use area; ○ Grand Junction Municipal Watershed; ○ Occupied sage-grouse habitat; and ○ Palisade municipal watershed.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Periodically evaluate whether to close other allotments or portions of allotments to livestock grazing, and implement with project level analysis, based on the following criteria: • Areas identified as BLM disposal tracts; • Lack of administrative access to public land; • Small percentage of forage in allotment is contributed by BLM lands in allotment (less than 15 percent); • Areas not accessible to livestock grazing (e.g., steep slopes); • "C" category allotments that are relinquished and determined to be impractical for the administration of livestock grazing	Action: Periodically evaluate whether to close other allotments or portions of allotments to livestock grazing, and implement with project level analysis, based on the following criteria: • Same as Alternative B, plus: ○ ACECs; and ○ All "C" category allotments.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	by the Authorized Officer; • Major impact to wildlife or threatened and endangered species (e.g., competition for forage, winter range, sage-grouse habitat), or sensitive fish habitat, as determined by data analysis; • Public health and safety; • High intensity recreation areas/ facilities; • Resource objectives for municipal watersheds; • Impacts to cultural resources; and • Conflicts with adjoining private lands (development).		
Action: Work cooperatively with permittees, lessees, and other landowners to develop grazing management strategies that integrate both public and private lands into single management units.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify appropriate utilization levels based on allotment or site-specific management practices, such as season-of-use, grazing intensity and duration, and utilization patterns, as well as vegetative conditions, riparian conditions, the presence or absence of range improvements, and resource issues or concerns. Use utilization levels and distribution of use as an indicator to evaluate if current grazing use is within the capacity of the land and appropriate to meet resource objectives for the area.		
Action: Revise or implement allotment management plans/grazing use agreements to resolve conflicts between grazing and management of soils, riparian, and water resources.	Action: Implement changes in livestock use through allotment management plans, grazing use agreements, and terms and conditions on grazing permits for priority allotments based on the current prioritization process and/or land health issues.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Allow modification of allotment boundaries to correspond with fence lines and natural features, and allow consolidation of allotments and pastures into a new allotment.		
Action: Construct range improvement projects on priority allotments to implement changes in grazing management to improve vegetative conditions, riparian conditions, or reduce conflicts with other resources or public land users.			Action: Construct range-improvement projects on allotments to improve forage conditions for livestock use.
Action: Conduct vegetation manipulation projects when consistent with land health standards (BLM 1997a) to improve the quantity and quality of forage available for livestock and wildlife.	Action: Implement vegetation treatments, including mechanical, chemical, and fire, on priority allotments to improve rangeland health or reduce conflicts with other resources or public land users.	Action: Utilize fire (prescribed or wildland) to improve rangeland health.	Action: Conduct vegetation treatments, including mechanical, chemical, and fire, on allotments when consistent with land health standards to improve the quantity and quality of forage available for livestock.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Provide periodic rest during active growth periods of forage plants to maintain or improve plant vigor and health.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: When deemed necessary by the BLM's Authorized Officer, defer or exclude livestock grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons on disturbed areas (e.g., a fire event, reclamation of disturbed lands, seedings, surface-disturbing vegetation treatments) or until site-specific analysis and/or monitoring data indicates that vegetative cover, species composition, and litter accumulation are adequate to support and protect watershed values, meet vegetation objectives, and sustain grazing use.		Action: Determine rest periods on a case-by-case basis to meet BLM Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Colorado (BLM 1997a) (Appendix E).
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Include periodic rest during the active growing season as part of authorized grazing use on Improve (I) category allotments.	Action: Include periodic rest during active growing season as part of authorized grazing use on all Improve (I) and Maintain (M) allotments.	Action: Provide periodic rest during the active growing season on allotments on a case by case basis.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In limited precipitation zones (below 6,000 feet) of the Grand	Action: Close allotments or portions of allotments that are in limited precipitation	Action: In limited precipitation zones (below 6,000 feet), determine

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	Valley and Kannah Creek management areas (176,800 acres), limit the grazing use period to October 1 to April 15, unless otherwise specified in an allotment management plan or grazing use agreement (Figure 2-12, Appendix A).	zones (below 6,000 feet) (344,300 acres) to mitigate land health, riparian, and rare plant issues (Figure 2-13, Appendix A).	grazing on a case by case basis.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Authorize new water developments for diversions from spring or seep source only when priority sage-grouse habitat would benefit on both upland and riparian habitat from the development or there are no negative impacts to sage grouse. This includes developing new water sources for livestock as part of an AMP/conservation plan to improve sage-grouse habitat.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Design any new structural range improvements to conserve, enhance, or restore sage-grouse habitat through an improved grazing management system relative to sage-grouse objectives. Structural range improvements, in this context, include but are not limited to: cattleguards, fences, enclosures, corrals or other livestock handling structures; pipelines, troughs, storage tanks (including moveable tanks used in livestock water hauling), windmills, ponds/reservoirs, solar panels and spring developments.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: To reduce sage-grouse strikes and mortality, remove, modify, or mark fences in high risk areas. When fences are necessary, require a sage-grouse-safe design.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Locate supplements (salt or protein blocks) in a manner designed to conserve, enhance, or restore sage-grouse habitat.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Offer temporary use on a case-by-case basis in allotments where grazing preference has been relinquished, or non-use warrants to rest other allotments that include important sage-grouse habitat.		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

<table>
<tr><th>Alterative A (No Action)</th><th>Alternative B (Preferred)</th><th>Alternative C</th><th>Alternative D</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Action:
When conducting NEPA analysis for water developments or other rangeland improvements, address the direct and indirect effects to sage-grouse populations and habitat.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td colspan="3">Action:
Pursue the opportunity to establish grass banks from unallotted grazing allotments to provide management options on other allotments (e.g. fire, drought, vegetation treatments, and allotments not meeting land health).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective:
No similar objective in current RMP.</td><td colspan="3">Objective:
Manage allotments to protect bighorn sheep.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
Allow domestic sheep grazing in allotments on case-by-case basis.</td><td colspan="2">Action:
Prohibit domestic sheep grazing on allotments within occupied bighorn sheep habitat.</td><td>Action:
Avoid domestic sheep grazing on allotments within occupied bighorn sheep habitat.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td>Action:
Permit domestic sheep grazing on allotments outside of occupied bighorn sheep habitat on a case-by-case basis using the following criteria:
• Presence of topographic features (e.g., natural barriers for rivers) to separate domestic and bighorn sheep;
• Adequate buffer zones to separate domestic and bighorn sheep;
• Direction from current bighorn sheep management plans;
• The need to protect potential habitat;
• Local and national research results;
• Risk assessments from wildlife</td><td>Action:
Prohibit domestic sheep grazing within historic and potential bighorn sheep habitat.</td><td>Action:
Permit domestic sheep grazing on allotments outside of occupied bighorn sheep habitat.</td></tr>
</table>

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	agencies; • Timing of domestic sheep grazing; or • Monitoring results indicating conflicts.		
Recreation and Visitor Services			
GOAL: Produce a diversity of quality recreational opportunities that support outdoor-oriented lifestyles and add to participants' quality of life, enhance the quality of local communities, and foster protection of natural and cultural resources.			
Objective: To ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreation opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other public or private entities. To protect resources, meet legal requirements for visitor health and safety, and mitigate resource user conflicts.	Objectives: Resource-protection. Increase awareness, understanding, and a sense of stewardship in recreational activity participants so their conduct safeguards cultural and natural resources as defined by Colorado Standards for Public Land Health or area-specific (e.g., ACEC, Wild and Scenic Rivers) objectives. Visitor Health and Safety. Ensure that visitors are not exposed to unhealthy or unsafe human-created conditions (defined by a repeat incident in the same year, of the same type, in the same location, due to the same cause). Use/User Conflict. Achieve a minimum level of conflict between recreation participants to: 1) allow other resources/programs to achieve their RMP objectives; 2) curb illegal trespass and property damage; and 3) maintain a diversity of recreation activity participation. Community Growth Area. Increase collaboration with community partners to maintain appropriate activity-based recreation opportunities in community growth areas (BLM lands adjacent to, between, and surrounding communities; also referred to as wildland urban interface areas).		
Allowable Use: *Camping Limits.* Unless otherwise posted, implement a 14-day camping limit in areas open to camping and overnight use on BLM lands. A limit of less than 14 days or greater than 14 days may be applied in certain areas if applicable due to resource and social impacts.			
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Allow undeveloped camping where not specifically restricted. Undeveloped camping may be closed seasonally or as impacts or environmental conditions warrant.		
Allowable Use: *Camping Closures:* Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use outside of designated campsites	Allowable Use: *Camping Closures:* Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use (11pm to 5am).	Allowable Use: *Camping Closures:* Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use (11pm to 5am).	Allowable Use: *Camping Closures*: Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use (11pm to 5am).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
and developed campgrounds. • Unaweep Seep ACEC See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for a list of camping closures.	• 34 and C Road extensive recreation management area (ERMA); • Bangs SRMA (certain areas, see Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework); • Castle Rock ERMA; • Palisade Rims ERMA; • Pyramid Rock ACEC; • Target shooting zones; • Unaweep Seep ACEC; and • Within 100 meters of the following historic sites: ○ Calamity Camp; and ○ New Verde. If BLM determines there is a public health and safety issue or resource concern with a cultural resource or historic structure, the site may be closed to camping and overnight use. See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for a list of camping closures.	• Bangs SRMA (certain areas, see Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework); • Pyramid Rock ACEC; • Unaweep Seep ACEC; and • Within 100 meters of the following historic sites: ○ Calamity Camp; and ○ New Verde. If BLM determines there is a public health and safety issue or resource concern with a cultural resource or historic structure, the site may be closed to camping and overnight use. See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for a list of camping closures.	• Bangs SRMA (certain areas, see Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework); • Pyramid Rock ACEC; • Target shooting zones; • Unaweep Seep ACEC; and • Within 100 meters of the following historic sites: ○ Calamity Camp; and ○ New Verde. If BLM determines there is a public health and safety issue or resource concern with a cultural resource or historic structure, the site may be closed to camping and overnight use. See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for a list of camping closures.
Action: Continue to manage the existing developed recreation sites: • Miracle Rock; and • Mud Spring.	Action: Manage developed recreation sites as necessary, under the authority of 43 CFR Part 8360, inclusive of published closures, restrictions, and supplemental rules developed for BLM-managed lands within the GJFO, to protect visitor health and safety, reduce visitor conflicts, and provide for the protection of government property and resources. Same as Alternative A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (Recreational Resources)*. Prohibit occupancy and other activities in the following areas (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A: • The Palisade ONA; • Established recreation sites; • Island Acres; • Vega State Recreation Area; • Highline Reservoir Recreation Area; • Rough Canyon ACEC; • Hunter/Garvey backcountry; • Granite Creek Canyons/Cliffs; • Bangs Canyon; • Dolores River; and • Gunnison River.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *CSU-2: Scenic and Natural Landscape Values (Recreation Resources).* Special design and reclamation measures may be required to protect the outstanding scenic and natural landscape value of the following areas. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-46 in Appendix A. • Bangs Benches; • Granite Creek Benches;	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-31: *Recreation.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to minimize conflicts with developed (and future) recreation sites and to mapped (and future) national/regional trails, local system trails that connect communities, and trailheads and interpretive sites with exceptional recreation values or significant public interest. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Hunter/Garvey Benches; and • Lower Gunnison River.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: The public would be notified if areas are closed or restricted from recreational shooting where monitoring or related data suggest that recreational shooting is causing or would cause considerable adverse impacts to public safety, or other sensitive resources (e.g., areas adjacent to a new housing development). Hunting in accordance with state regulations would continue to be allowed.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: The discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting is permitted on BLM lands, outside of areas with firearm use restrictions, provided that the firearm is discharged toward a proper backstop sufficient to stop the projectile's forward progress beyond the intended target. Targets shall be constructed of wood, cardboard and paper or similar non-breakable materials. All targets, clays and shells are considered litter after use and must be removed and properly discarded.		
Allowable Use: *Firearm Use:* Allow target shooting on 1,034,500 acres of BLM land.	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use:* Allow the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 1,021,400 acres of BLM lands.	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use:* Allow the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 1,007,800 acres of BLM lands.	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use:* Allow the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 1,044,300 acres of BLM lands.
Allowable Use: *Firearm Use Restrictions:* Close 26,900 acres of BLM land in the following areas to target shooting (Figure 2-82, Appendix A): • A portion of the Bangs Canyon SRMA (6,600 acres in the Little Park Road corridor); • The North Fruita Desert Bicycle Emphasis Area (5,300 acres); • Three OHV open areas in the Grand Valley (12,000 acres); and • The Mt. Garfield area (3,000 acres).	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use Restrictions:* Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 40,000 acres of BLM lands (Figure 2-83, Appendix A). The purpose of the restriction is to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings and/or to protect sensitive resources (43 CFR 8364.1). • Bangs SRMA (17,200 acres); • Coal Canyon and Main Canyon areas (4,000 acres); • Developed recreation sites;	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use Restrictions:* Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 53,600 acres of BLM lands (Figure 2-84, Appendix A). The purpose of the restriction is to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings and/or to protect sensitive resources (43 CFR 8364.1). • Bangs SRMA (17,200 acres); • Coal Canyon and Main Canyon areas (4,000 acres); • Developed recreation sites; • Gunnison River Bluffs (800 acres); • Lands identified at 34 and C Road (600	Allowable Use: *Firearm Use Restrictions:* Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on 17,100 acres of BLM lands (Figure 2-85, Appendix A). The purpose of the restriction is to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings and/or to protect sensitive resources (43 CFR 8364.1). • A portion of the Bangs SRMA (6,600 acres in the Little Park Road corridor); • A portion of the Grand Valley

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Grand Valley ERMA (4,900 acres); • Gunnison River Bluffs (800 acres); • Lands identified at 34 and C Road (600 acres); • Mt. Garfield ACEC (3,500 acres); • Portions of the North Fruita Desert SRMA ○ Open area (170 acres) ○ No Shooting Area (7,500 acres); and • Pyramid Rock ACEC (1,300 acres). Continue to allow hunting in accordance with CPW regulations.	acres); • Mt. Garfield ACEC (5,700 acres); • North Fruita Desert SRMA (RMZ 1; 23,800 acres)); • Plateau Creek ACEC (200 acres); and • Pyramid Rock ACEC (1,300 acres). Continue to allow hunting in accordance with CPW regulations.	SRMA (5,000 acres); and • Portions of the North Fruita Desert SRMA ○ Open area (170 acres) ○ No Shooting Area (5,300 acres) Continue to allow hunting in accordance with CPW regulations.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Issue Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) as a discretionary action as a means to: help meet management objectives, provide opportunities for economic activity, facilitate recreational use of the public lands, control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, and provide for the health and safety of visitors. Cost recovery procedures for issuing SRPs would be applied where appropriate. All new SRP proposals would be reviewed using the Special Recreation Permit Evaluation as outlined in Appendix L, Special Recreation Permits.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: All SRPs would contain standard stipulations appropriate for the type of activity and may include additional stipulations necessary to protect lands or resources, reduce user conflicts, or minimize health and safety concerns.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: *Fees.* As provided by the guidelines in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Public Law 108-447), or other comparable federal legislation regarding recreation fees, implement recreation fees as appropriate to maintain visitor services and facilities through management of sites or areas as a US Fee Area.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Allow motorized/mechanized big game retrieval for up to 200 meters off designated routes.	Action: Prohibit cross-country motorized/mechanized travel for big game retrieval. Hand-held wheeled game retrieval carts are allowed.		
Extensive Recreation Management Areas			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Recognize and manage individual ERMAs to provide for targeted recreation opportunities.		
Action: Identify those BLM lands not included in SRMAs, Special Management Areas (SMA), or IRMAs (below) as part of the Grand Junction ERMA (703,100 acres) (Figure 2-15, Appendix A). See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for details on recreation management in ERMAs.	Action: No similar action.		
Action: No similar current action in current RMP.	Action: Identify the following areas as separate ERMAs to specifically address local recreation issues (totaling 176,000 acres) (Figure 2-16, Appendix A): • 34 and C Road Open Area (500 acres); • Barrel Springs (10,300 acres); • Castle Rock (4,400 acres); • Dolores River Canyon (151,200 acres); • Grand Valley (5,600 acres); • Gunnison River Bluffs (800 acres); and	Action: No similar action.	Action: Identify the following areas as separate ERMAs to specifically address local recreation issues (totaling 61,900 acres) (Figure 2-17, Appendix A): • 34 and C Road Open Area (500 acres); • Barrel Springs (10,300 acres); • Dolores River Canyon (16,800 acres) • Grand Valley Ranges (800 acres); • South Shale Ridge (21,600 acres); • Timber Ridge (11,900 acres).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Palisade Rims (2,700 acres). See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for details on recreation management in ERMAs.		See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for details on recreation management in ERMAs.
Action: No similar current action in current RMP.	Action: Apply the following administrative, management, information, and monitoring support actions to all ERMAs: • *Management.* Develop new recreation facilities (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms) to effectively address recreation activity demand created by growing communities and recreation-tourism if: 1) the proposal is consistent with interdisciplinary land use plan objectives; and 2) sufficient funding and long-term management commitments are secured from managing partners, visitor fees, or other sources. • *Funding.* Prioritize BLM funding and staff toward effectively addressing visitor health and safety and use/user conflict and resource protection issues created by recreation activities. • *Visitor Services.* Provide visitor services (e.g., visitor	Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	information/maps, directional signage, facilities, on-the-ground staff presence) at the level to maintain activity participation and achieve ERMA objectives. • *Access.* Maintain recreation access to and through BLM lands by creating route connectivity and by creating loop trails. Maintain and develop appropriate parking and trailhead facilities to facilitate recreation. • *Partnerships.* Develop partnerships to maintain recreation activity opportunities (e.g., partner with the business community to encourage collaborative efforts on BLM lands). • *Information/Education.* Develop information boards, web-based materials, brochures, etc. that explains conditions of use for recreation participants and encourage stewardship. • *Information.* Partner with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and private service providers to communicate definitive recreation information (e.g., accurate recreation information, user ethics, distinctiveness of the area and		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	use/user expectations). • *Monitoring.* Monitor visitor use, visitor safety, and resource conditions through BLM staff, volunteers and recreation-tourism partnerships (e.g., towns, outfitters, recreation organizations, CPW). Monitoring methods would include direct visitor contact, electronic traffic counters, visitor surveys, and physical resource condition measurements.		
Special Recreation Management Areas			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Recognize and manage individual SRMAs to provide for targeted recreation opportunities and associated benefits.		
Action: Administratively recognize one SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (Figure 2-18, Appendix A): • Bangs Canyon (54,700 acres). Administratively recognize one SMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (Figure 2-18, Appendix A): • North Fruita Desert SMA (63,300 acres). Manage the Gateway area as an Intensive Recreation Management Area (IRMA) to protect high value	Action: Administratively recognize three SRMAs for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (78,300 acres) (Figure 2-19, Appendix A): • Bangs (17,300 acres); • Dolores River Canyon (16,900 acres); and • North Fruita Desert (44,100 acres). See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for details on recreation management in SRMAs.	Action: Administratively recognize two SRMAs for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (60,000 acres) (Figure 2-20, Appendix A): • Bangs (17,300 acres); and • North Fruita Desert (42,700 acres). See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework, for details on recreation management in SRMAs.	Action: Administratively recognize six SRMAs for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (79,000 acres) (Figure 2-21, Appendix A): • Bangs (17,300 acres); • Castle Rock (4,400 acres); • Grand Valley (9,700 acres); • Gunnison River Bluffs (800 acres). • North Fruita Desert (44,100 acres); and • Palisade Rims (2,700 acres). See Appendix K, Recreation and Visitor Services Management

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
recreation sites (120,700 acres). (Figure 2-18, Appendix A) Manage the Grand Valley area as an IRMA to protect sensitive areas in the Grand Valley (119,600 acres). Emphasize supervision of public use. (Figure 2-18, Appendix A)			Framework, for details on recreation management in SRMAs.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Close the following SRMAs to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39, Appendix A: • Bangs; and • Dolores River Canyon.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing**: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Close the following SRMAs to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A: • Bangs; and • North Fruita Desert: RMZ 1.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-42: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs for the protection of the recreation activities, outcomes, and setting characteristics: • Bangs; and • Dolores River Canyon. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-42: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs for the protection of the recreation activities, outcomes, and setting characteristics: • Bangs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-42: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs for the protection of the recreation activities, outcomes, and setting characteristics: • Bangs; • Gunnison River Bluffs; and • Palisade Rims. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-32: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions in the following SRMA: • North Fruita Desert: RMZs 1 and 2. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-32: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions in the following SRMA: • North Fruita Desert: RMZs 1 and 2. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-32: *Special Recreation Management Areas.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions in the following SRMAs: • Castle Rock; • Grand Valley; and • North Fruita Desert: RMZs 1 and 2. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management			
GOAL: Manage the travel system to support the BLM mission, achieve resource management goals and objectives, and provide for appropriate public and administrative access.			
Objective: Designate all public land for off-road vehicle use and use restrictions by September 30, 1987.	Objective: Maintain a comprehensive travel network that best meets the full range of public, resource management, and administrative access needs.		
Action: Assign off-road vehicle designations to all public land as follows (Figure 2-22, Appendix A): • Open (Intensive): 12,500 acres • Open to cross-country travel: 445,400 acres • Closed: 35,300 acres • Limited to designated roads: 225,500 acres (includes 5,500 acres with seasonal limitations) • Limited to existing roads and trails: 342,700 acres (includes 108,000 acres with seasonal limitations)	Action: Designate motorized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-23, Appendix A): • Open: 5,400 acres • Closed: 187,900 acres • Limited to designated routes: 868,100 acres (includes 69,800 acres with seasonal limitations)	Action: Designate motorized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-24, Appendix A): • Open: 0 acres • Closed: 379,500 acres • Limited to designated routes: 681,900 acres (includes 50,100 acres with seasonal limitations)	Action: Designate motorized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-25, Appendix A): • Open: 10,200 acres • Closed: 111,200 acres • Limited to designated routes: 939,900 acres (includes 54,700 acres with seasonal limitations)

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Manage 12,500 acres as *open*. • 25 Road (300 acres); • Grand Valley (11,400 acres); • North Fruita Desert (350 acres); and • Whitewater Hill (400 acres).	Action: Manage 5,400 acres as *open* to motorized travel. • Grand Valley (4,900 acres); • North Fruita Desert (170 acres); • Skinny Ridge (10 acres); and • 34 and C Road (330 acres).	Action: No similar action.	Action: Manage 10,200 acres as *open* to motorized travel. • Grand Valley (9,700 acres); • North Fruita Desert (170 acres); and • 34 and C Road (330 acres).
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the Grand Valley Open Area as a ROW avoidance area.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Upon receipt of application for development and subsequent approval within the Grand Valley Open Area, the open area boundary could be modified to accommodate solar development.
Action: Manage 35,300 acres as *closed* to OHV use: • Palisade municipal watershed • Whitewater Hill Sensitive Plant Study Site • Pyramid Rock ACEC	Action: Manage 187,900 acres as *closed* to motorized travel (administrative and permitted vehicular access only): • WSAs • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creek; and ○ Unaweep Seep • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • Critical Habitat and Research Areas: ○ Ant Research Area; ○ Sieber Canyon (deer/elk);	Action: Manage 379,500 acres as *closed* to motorized travel (administrative and permitted vehicular access only): • Garvey Canyon • WSAs • ACECs: ○ Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ▪ Nine-mile Hill Boulders • WSR segments: ○ North Fork West Creek (wild classification) • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • Critical Habitat and Research Areas: ○ Same as Alternative B, plus the following:	Action: Manage 111,200 acres as *closed* to motorized travel (administrative and permitted vehicular access only): • WSAs • Unaweep Seep ACEC • Critical Habitat and Research Areas: ○ Ant Research Area

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	○ Snyder Flats (deer/elk); ○ Renegade Point(deer/elk); and ○ Reeder Mesa Cactus Study Site • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Timber Ridge (deer/elk/grouse); ○ A portion of East Salt between Demaree Canyon WSA and Highway 139) (deer/elk/kit fox); and ○ A portion of Rapid Creek (deer/elk).	▪ Whitewater Hill Sensitive Plant Study Site • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ▪ Casto (deer/elk); ▪ Hawxhurst (deer/elk/bighorn sheep); and ▪ Red Mountain (deer/elk).	
Action: Manage 220,000 acres as limited to designated routes; acreage does not include seasonal limitations.	Action: Manage motorized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (798,300 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.	Action: Manage motorized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (631,800 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.	Action: Manage motorized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (885,200 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.
Action: Manage 234,700 acres as limited to existing routes (not including those acres with seasonal limitations).	Action: No similar action.		
Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel closures from December 1 to May 1 (106,200 acres): • Beehive; • Blue Mesa; • Chalk Mountain; • Coal Canyon;	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to May 1 (69,800 acres): • Beehive; • Blue Mesa; • Chalk Mountain;	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to May 1 (50,100 acres): • Beehive; • Blue Mesa; • Chalk Mountain;	Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel limitations for motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to May 1 (54,700 acres): • Beehive; • Chalk Mountain; • Coal Canyon;

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Garvey Canyon; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons.	• Coal Canyon; • Demaree Canyon outside of the WSA; • Garvey Canyon; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Howard Canyon Flats; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons.	• Coal Canyon; • Demaree Canyon outside of the WSA; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Howard Canyon Flats; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons.	• Garvey Canyon; • Grand Mesa Slopes; • Indian Point; and • Post/Lapham Canyons.
Allowable Use: Implement the following seasonal travel closures for vehicular use from March 1 – June 30: • Coal Canyon (7,300 acres)	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate mechanized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-23, Appendix A): • Open: 5,400 acres • Closed: 158,500 acres • Limited to designated routes: 897,500 acres (includes 69,800 acres with seasonal limitations)	Action: Designate mechanized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-24, Appendix A): • Open: 0 acres • Closed: 367,000 acres • Limited to designated routes: 694,400 acres (includes 50,100 acres with seasonal limitations)	Action: Designate mechanized travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-25, Appendix A): • Open: 10,200 acres • Closed: 98,000 acres • Limited to designated routes: 953,200 acres (includes 54,700 acres with seasonal limitations)
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 5,400 acres as *open* to mechanized travel. • Grand Valley (4,900 acres); • North Fruita Desert (170 acres); • Skinny Ridge (10 acres); and • 34 and C Road (330 acres).	Action: Manage 0 acres as *open* to mechanized travel.	Action: Manage 10,200 acres as *open* to mechanized travel. • Grand Valley (9,700 acres); • North Fruita Desert (170 acres); and • 34 and C Road (330 acres).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Manage 80 acres as *closed* to mechanized travel: • Unaweep Seep ACEC.	Action: Manage 158,500 acres as *closed* to mechanized travel: • WSAs • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creek; and ○ Unaweep Seep • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Timber Ridge (deer/elk/grouse) • Lands Managed for wilderness characteristics (exception for the Pickett Trail in the Maverick unit).	Action: Manage 367,000 acres as *closed* to mechanized travel: • WSAs • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch (except for Sunnyside Road); ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creek; and ○ Unaweep Seep • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ▪ Hawxhurst (fish); and ▪ Red Mountain (deer/elk). • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics.	Action: Manage 98,000 acres as *closed* to mechanized travel: • WSAs • Unaweep Seep ACEC • Critical Habitat and Research Areas: ○ Ant Research Area.
Action: Limit mechanized travel to designated routes in the following areas (6,200 acres): • Bangs Canyon SRMA (RMZs 1, 2, and 3).	Action: Manage mechanized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (827,700 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.	Action: Manage mechanized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (644,300 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.	Action: Manage mechanized travel on the remaining portion of the GJFO as limited to designated routes (898,500 acres); acreage does not include seasonal limitations. Refer to BLM's Travel Management Plan (Appendix M) for route designations in limited areas.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate equestrian travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-23,	Action: Designate equestrian travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-24, Appendix A):	Action: Designate equestrian travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-25,

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	Appendix A): • Open: 1,035,500 acres • Closed: 1,300 acres • Limited to designated routes: 24,600 acres	• Open: 1,023,800 acres • Closed: 1,300 acres • Limited to designated routes: 36,300 acres	Appendix A): • Open: 1,042,400 acres • Closed: 1,300 acres • Limited to designated routes: 17,700 acres
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 1,035,500 acres as *open* to equestrian travel.	Action: Manage 1,023,800 acres as *open* to equestrian travel.	Action: Manage 1,042,400 acres as *open* to equestrian travel.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 1,300 acres as *closed* to equestrian travel: • Pyramid Rock ACEC		
Action: Limit equestrian travel to designated routes in the following areas (6,200 acres): • Bangs Canyon SRMA (RMZs 1, 2, and 3).	Action: Limit equestrian travel to designated routes in the following areas (24,600 acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • Palisade Rims ERMA; • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1).	Action: Limit equestrian travel to designated routes in the following areas (36,300 acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • Palisade Rims area (2,700 acres); • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1).	Action: Limit equestrian travel to designated routes in the following areas (17,700 acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); ○ Castle Rock; and ○ Palisade Rims.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate foot travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-23, Appendix A): • Open: 1,025,000 acres • Closed: 0 acres • Limited to designated routes: 24,600 acres	Action: Designate foot travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-24, Appendix A): • Open: 1,013,300 acres • Closed: 1,300 acres • Limited to designated routes: 36,300 acres	Action: Designate foot travel in the GJFO as follows (Figure 2-25, Appendix A): • Open: 1,043,700 acres • Closed: 0 acres • Limited to designated routes: 17,700 acres
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 1,055,200 acres as *open* to foot travel.	Action: Manage 1,023,800 acres as *open* to foot travel.	Action: Manage 1,043,700 acres as *open* to foot travel.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 0 acres as *closed* to foot travel.	Action: Manage 1,300 acres as *closed* to foot travel. • Pyramid Rock ACEC.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: Limit foot travel to designated routes in the following areas (6,200 acres): • Bangs Canyon SRMA (RMZs 1, 2, and 3).	Action: Limit foot travel to designated routes in the following areas (24,600 acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • Palisade Rims ERMA; • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1).	Action: Limit foot travel to designated routes in the following areas (36,300acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • Palisade Rims area (2,700 acres); • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1).	Action: Limit foot travel to designated routes in the following areas (17,700 acres) (Refer to Appendix M for route designations in limited areas): • SRMAs: ○ Bangs (RMZs 1 and 3); ○ Castle Rock; and ○ Palisade Rims.
Action: Manage the Unaweep Seep ACEC/RNA as *closed* to over-snow motorized travel.	Action: Manage the following areas as *closed* to over-snow motorized travel: • Lynx habitat within a Lynx Analysis Unit • LBCWHR • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch; ○ Mount Garfield; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creeks; and ○ Unaweep Seep.	Action: Manage the following areas as *closed* to over-snow motorized travel: • Lynx habitat within a Lynx Analysis Unit • LBCWHR • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Hawxhurst; and ○ Red Mountain • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • ACECs: ○ Atwell Gulch; ○ Mount Garfield; ○ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Roan and Carr Creeks; and ○ Unaweep Seep.	Action: Manage the following areas as *closed* to over-snow motorized travel: • Lynx habitat within a Lynx Analysis Unit; and • Unaweep Seep ACEC.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prohibit cross-country motorized/mechanized travel for big game retrieval. Allow hand-held wheeled game retrieval carts.		
Action: Additional closures or seasonal restrictions on areas or routes may be implemented to reduce resource conflicts, public health and safety concerns, or road and trail damage as necessary.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Open areas and designated routes may be closed during wind events to reduce particulate matter (e.g. during National Weather Service high wind warning).	Action: Designated routes may be closed during wind events to reduce particulate matter (e.g. during National Weather Service high wind warning).	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Require proper road design, construction, and/or surfacing on BLM authorized roads to reduce fugitive dust emissions.		
GOAL: No similar goal in current RMP.	**GOAL**: To manage a comprehensive travel and transportation management system that allows for diverse recreational use of motorized and nonmotorized interests; promotes the safety of all users; minimizes conflicts among federal land uses; communicates with the public about available opportunities, and monitors the effects of use.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Seek to effectively manage new modes of travel that cannot be foreseen through this planning effort.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Analyze any new modes of travel that are determined to have a potential to impact the current uses and or natural or cultural resources for their appropriateness on public lands. Restrictions, closures, and/or new management actions may be implemented based on this analysis.		
GOAL: No similar goal in current RMP.	**GOAL**: To manage a comprehensive travel and transportation management system that minimizes damage to natural and cultural resources (historical and archeological sites, traditional cultural properties and natural resources of importance to Native Americans, soil, water, air, vegetation, scenic values, etc.) and minimizes harassment of wildlife and/or significant disruption of wildlife habitats.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage motorized travel consistent with outcomes defined by resource programs.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: In accordance with 43 CFR 8341.2, where monitoring or related data suggest that OHVs are causing or would cause		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	considerable adverse impacts, areas may be closed or restricted from OHV use. The public would be notified. The BLM could impose limitations on types of vehicles allowed on specific designated routes if monitoring indicates that a particular type of vehicle is causing unacceptable disturbance to the soil, wildlife habitat, special status species habitat, cultural or vegetative resources, or other sensitive resources, especially by off-road travel in an area that is limited to designated routes.		
Action: There are a number of locations throughout the GJFO that are commonly known and consistently used for aircraft landing and departure activities that, through such casual use, have evolved into backcountry airstrips (the definition contained in Section 345 of Public Law 106-914, the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 2001). In accordance with that law, require full public notice, consultation with local and state government officials, the Federal Aviation Administration, and compliance with all applicable laws, including NEPA, when considering any closure of an aircraft landing strip.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage nonmotorized travel consistent with outcomes defined by resource programs.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Where monitoring or related data suggest that mechanized travel, horseback use or nonmechanized, cross-country travel are causing or would cause considerable adverse impacts, areas may be closed or travel restricted. The public would be notified. The BLM could impose limitations on types of use allowed on specific designated routes or areas if monitoring indicates that a particular type of use is causing disturbance to the soil, wildlife habitat, cultural or vegetative resources.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Limit nonmechanized/nonmotorized travel to designated roads and trails in specific areas to protect resource values, provide for public safety, and/or maintain an identified opportunity. These areas include urban interface and high density use areas. Refer to Appendix M for nonmechanized/nonmotorized route designations.		
Lands and Realty			
GOAL: Meet resource needs while providing public use authorizations such as Rights-of-Way (ROWs), renewable energy sources, permits, and leases.			
Objective: To respond, in a timely manner, to requests for utility and public use authorizations on public land, while considering environmental, social, economic, and interagency concerns.	Objective: Provide for the development and operation of transportation systems, pipelines, transmission lines, communication sites, renewable energy resources, and other land use authorizations in an environmentally responsible and timely manner.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Identify approximately 234,900 acres as unsuitable for public utilities. Deny proposals in these zones on the basis that utility project impacts could not be mitigated to prevent undue damage to the resources of concern. Areas of Resource Concern identified as unsuitable include (Figure 2-26, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Badger Wash (685 acres); ○ A portion of The Palisade (1,920 acres); ○ A portion of Pyramid Rock (470 acres); ○ A portion of Rough Canyon (2,560 acres); and ○ Unaweep Seep (80 acres). • Soils: ○ Douglas/Baxter Soil Slumps; and ○ Plateau Creek Slump. • Water Resources Management: ○ Badger Wash Study Area (685 acres); ○ Grand Junction municipal watershed; and ○ Indian Wash Dam. • Wildlife: ○ Rough Canyon • Threatened and Endangered	Allowable Use: ROW Exclusion Areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, and biomass development): Manage 204,200 acres as ROW exclusion areas that are not available for the location of ROWs or other realty authorizations under any conditions, to include the following (Figure 2-27, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Atwell Gulch (2,600 acres); ○ A portion of Badger Wash (1,800 acres); ○ Indian Creek; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield (excluding the Coal Canyon Corridor); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Rough Canyon; ○ South Shale Ridge (except for ROWs to existing oil and gas leases issued under the 1987 RMP without NSO stipulations); and ○ Unaweep Seep • Ant Study Area • LBCWHR (22,800 acres inside WSA) • Lands managed for wilderness	Allowable Use: ROW Exclusion Areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, and biomass development): Manage 365,800 acres as ROW exclusion areas that are not available for the location of ROWs or other realty authorizations under any conditions, to include the following (Figure 2-28, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Atwell Gulch (5,900 acres) ○ A portion of Badger Wash (1,800 acres); ○ Indian Creek; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield (excluding the Coal Canyon Corridor); ○ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ○ A portion of Prairie Canyon (2,800 acres within Prairie Canyon antelope migratory corridor); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Reeder Mesa; ○ Rough Canyon; ○ South Shale Ridge (allow for ROWs to existing oil and gas leases issued under the 1987 RMP without NSO stipulations); and ○ Unaweep Seep. • Ant Study Area	Allowable Use: ROW Exclusion Areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, and biomass development): Manage 104,100 acres as ROW exclusion areas that are not available for the location of ROWs or other realty authorizations under any conditions, to include the following (Figure 2-29, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Badger Wash (1,800 acres); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Rough Canyon; ○ A portion of The Palisade (1,400 acres); and ○ Unaweep Seep. • Indian Creek • LBCWHR (22,800 acres inside WSA) • Parachute penstemon occupied habitat • VRM Class I • WSAs

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Species: ○ Bald eagle concentrations areas; ○ Pyramid Rock; and ○ Unaweep Seep. • VRM: ○ Juanita Arch; ○ The Goblins; ○ Dolores River Canyon; ○ Gunnison River Corridor; ○ Mt. Garfield Cliffs; ○ Bangs Canyon Area; ○ Sinbad Valley; ○ Granite Creek; ○ Unaweep Canyon Area; ○ Hunter/Garvey Canyons Areas; and ○ Vega Reservoir Viewshed. • Cultural Resource Management: ○ Indian Creek; ○ Rough Canyon (1,000 acres); ○ Site 5ME1358; and ○ Ladder Springs. • Recreation Resource Management: ○ A portion of Rough Canyon ACEC (2,560 acres); and ○ The Palisade ONA. • Developed Recreation Sites: ○ Island Acres; ○ Vega Reservoir; and ○ Highline Reservoir. • Wilderness Management: ○ Sewemup Mesa WSA	characteristics • Parachute penstemon occupied habitat • SRMAs: ○ Dolores River Canyon (exception for 75-meter buffer along Highway 141); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1) (allow for ROWs to existing oil and gas leases issued under the 1987 RMP that do not impact developed recreation facilities or have NSO stipulations) • VRM Class I • Wildlife emphasis areas: ○ A portion of East Salt Creek (west of Highway 139 [4,100 acres]) • Within a 0.6-mile radius of sage-grouse leks • WSAs (allow for ROWs to existing leases without an NSO stipulation issued under the 1987 RMP) • High sensitivity zone of the Palisade municipal watershed, except for the Lands End Communication Site.	• LBCWHR, excluding the Coal Canyon Corridor (40,100 acres) • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • Parachute penstemon occupied habitat • SRMAs: ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1) • Suitable segments for inclusion in the NWSRS: ○ North Fork West Creek • VRM Class I • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ A portion of East Salt Creek (west of Highway 139 [4,100 acres]); and ○ Prairie Canyon antelope migratory corridor. • Within a 0.6-mile radius of sage-grouse leks for below-ground facilities and a 4-mile radius for above-ground facilities • WSAs • High sensitivity zone of the Palisade municipal watershed, except for the Lands End Communication Site.	

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Identify 441,400 acres as sensitive to public utility development. Design utility routes and projects in these zones to protect resources of concern from undue damage (Figure 2-26, Appendix A) (note: corresponding stipulations [i.e., NSO, CSU, TL] are found in Appendix B): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Badger Wash (1,230 acres); and ○ A portion of The Palisade (17,258 acres). • Soils: ○ Steep slopes • Water Resources Management: ○ Palisade municipal watershed; ○ Jerry Creek Reservoirs; and ○ Perennial streams. • Wildlife: ○ Deer and elk winter range; ○ Bighorn sheep winter range; and ○ Elk calving areas. • Threatened and Endangered Species: ○ Badger Wash uplands; ○ Cutthroat trout; ○ *Cryptantha eleta* site; ○ Peregrine falcon habitat; ○ Sensitive plant species; and ○ Colorado hookless cactus	Allowable Use: ROW Avoidance Areas: Manage 740,900 acres as ROW avoidance areas (Figure 2-27, Appendix A) (see Appendix B): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Atwell Gulch (260 acres) ○ A portion of Badger Wash (400 acres) ○ Dolores River Riparian ○ The Palisade ○ Sinbad Valley ○ Roan and Carr Creeks • Administrative sites (e.g., study sites, monitoring plots, range exclosures) • Developed recreation sites • Disposal parcels • Fragile soils • Floodplains • National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails (e.g., Old Spanish National Historic Trail) • LBCWHR (6,500 acres outside of WSA) • Mapped Mancos shale areas • OHV open areas (except for areas in delineated ROW corridors) • Owl banding station • Sage-grouse: occupied habitat	Allowable Use: ROW Avoidance Areas: Manage 627,000 acres as ROW avoidance areas (Figure 2-28, Appendix A) (see Appendix B): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Atwell Gulch (260 acres) ○ A portion of Badger Wash (400 acres) ○ Colorado River Riparian ○ Coon Creek ○ Dolores River Riparian ○ Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa ○ Hawxhurst Creek ○ The Palisade ○ Plateau Creek ○ A portion of Prairie Canyon (2,600 acres) ○ Sinbad Valley ○ Roan and Carr Creeks • Administrative sites (e.g., study sites, monitoring plots, range exclosures) • Developed recreation sites • Disposal parcels • Fragile soils • Floodplains • National Historic, Scenic, and Recreation Trails (e.g., Old Spanish National Historic Trail) • Mapped Mancos shale areas • Owl banding station • Palisade Watershed (low and moderate	Allowable Use: ROW Avoidance Areas: Manage 80,500 acres as ROW avoidance areas (Figure 2-29, Appendix A) (see Appendix B): • ACECs: ○ A portion of Badger Wash (400 acres) • Ant Study Area • LBCWHR (12,400 acres outside of WSA) • SRMAs: ○ Bangs, exception for Little Park Road and Monument Road (100-meter setback) ○ Castle Rock ○ Grand Valley ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1) ○ Palisade Rims • Old growth forests and woodlands

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
(formerly known as Uinta Basin hookless cactus). • LBCWHR: ○ Horse Range; ○ LBCWHR winter range; and ○ LBCWHR foaling area. • VRM: ○ Bang's Canyon area (25,920 acres); ○ Face of the Book Cliffs; ○ Grand Mesa slopes; ○ Granite Creek (12,760 acres); ○ Gunnison River Corridor (9,040 acres); ○ Highway corridors; ○ Hunter/Garvey Canyons area (11,400 acres); ○ South Shale Ridge; ○ Sinbad Valley (7,490 acres); and ○ Unaweep Canyon area (6,400 acres). • Cultural Resource Management: ○ Transect 7 • Recreation Resource Management: ○ Little Park Road; ○ Pine Mountain roadside; and ○ The Palisade ONA.	• Sage-grouse: within a 4-mile radius of leks • Scenic byways (except for areas within corridors) • SRMAs: ○ Bangs, exception for Little Park Road and Monument Road (75-meter setback) ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 2) • Special status species occupied and suitable habitat • Steep slopes greater than or equal to 40 percent • Streams/springs possessing lotic/lentic riparian characteristics • Segment suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS: ○ Dolores River • Areas designated as VRM Class II (except for areas within delineated ROW corridors). • Wetlands, springs, seeps, and riparian area • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Prairie Canyon antelope migratory corridor; ○ Rapid Creek (except for West-wide Energy Corridor); ○ Sunnyside (outside of West-wide Energy Corridor); and ○ Timber Ridge (exception along 9.8 Road).	sensitivity) • Sage-grouse: occupied, suitable habitat • Sage-grouse: within a 4-mile radius of leks • Scenic byways (except for areas within corridors) • SRMAs: ○ Bangs, exception for Little Park Road and Monument Road (50-meter setback) ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 2) • Special status species occupied, suitable, and potential habitat • Steep slopes greater than or equal to 40 percent • Streams/springs possessing lotic/lentic riparian characteristics • Segments suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS: ○ Blue Creek ○ Carr Creek ○ Colorado River Segments 1 and 2 ○ Dolores River ○ East Creek ○ Gunnison River Segment 2 ○ North Fork Mesa Creek ○ Roan Creek ○ Rough Canyon Creek ○ Ute Creek ○ West Creek • Areas designated as VRM Class II (except for areas within delineated	

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Wildlife habitat treatments • Old growth forests and woodlands.	ROW corridors) • Wetlands, springs, seeps, and riparian areas • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Hawxhurst; ○ Prairie Canyon (except for antelope migratory corridor); ○ Rapid Creek (except for West-wide Energy Corridor); ○ Red Mountain; ○ Sunnyside (outside of West-wide Energy Corridor); and ○ Timber Ridge (exception along 9.8 Road) • Wildlife habitat treatments • Old growth forests and woodlands	
Allowable Use: Manage the remaining public land not identified as ROW exclusion or avoidance areas as suitable for consideration for public utilities. Consider proposals in these zones.			
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (16,000 acres); and • Sunnyside (17,300 acres).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU -29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (24,400 acres); and • Sunnyside (24,000 acres).	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU -29: *Sub-surface Inventory*. Require sub-surface inventory for deep sub-surface-disturbing activities and buried ROW in the following locations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A: • Indian Creek (20,200 acres); • Grand Mesa Slopes (16,000 acres); and • Sunnyside (15,400 acres).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Renewable Energy			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 9,200 acres as Solar Energy Zones (SEZ) that allow for development of facilities that generate more than 20 megawatts (Figure 2-86, Appendix A). Manage additional areas as identified and determined suitable for development in an environmentally responsible and economically feasible manner. ROW exclusion areas apply. Manage for development through competitive leasing in identified and future SEZs. All other ROWs and realty authorizations shall be relocated to avoid sensitive resources. Special stipulations shall also be applied to protect sensitive resources in avoidance areas.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative B.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 12,200 acres as emphasis areas for solar energy development and operation, and 2,600 acres as emphasis areas for wind energy development and operation (Figure 2-87, Appendix A). Manage additional areas as identified and determined suitable for development in an environmentally responsible and economically	Action: Manage 5,300 acres as emphasis areas for solar energy development and operation, and 2,600 acres as emphasis areas for wind energy development and operation (Figure 2-88, Appendix A). Manage additional areas as identified and determined suitable for development in an environmentally responsible and economically feasible manner. ROW avoidance and exclusion areas apply. All	Action: Manage 36,300 acres as emphasis areas for solar energy development and operation, and 3,700 acres as emphasis areas for wind energy development and operation (Figure 2-89, Appendix A). Manage additional areas as identified and determined suitable for development in an environmentally responsible and economically

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	feasible manner. ROW avoidance and exclusion areas apply. Manage for development through competitive leasing in identified renewable energy emphasis areas, and in new emphasis areas as identified in the future. All ROWs and other realty authorizations shall be relocated to avoid sensitive resources. Special stipulations shall also be applied to protect sensitive resources in avoidance areas.	ROWs and other realty authorizations shall be relocated to avoid sensitive resources. Special stipulations shall also be applied to protect sensitive resources in avoidance areas.	feasible manner. ROW avoidance and exclusion areas apply. Manage for development through competitive leasing in identified renewable energy emphasis areas, and in new emphasis areas as identified in the future. All ROWs and other realty authorizations shall be relocated to avoid sensitive resources. Special stipulations shall also be applied to protect sensitive resources in avoidance areas.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Upon receipt of application for development and subsequent approval within solar and wind emphasis areas (Figures 2-87, 2-88, and 2-89, Appendix A), consider modification of route designations to accommodate development.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: During development of the 2 Road solar emphasis area (Figures 2-87 and 2-88, Appendix A), require special mitigation to ensure compatibility with the Prairie Canyon Wildlife Emphasis Area.		Action: No similar action.
Action: Approve applications for communication site facilities that meet resource program objectives.	Action: Communication Sites: Work with applicants to prioritize co-locating communication site facilities and use existing sites, as feasible. Consider new communication sites may if these requirements cannot be met.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage corridors for public utilities and other facilities, and establish new corridors in an environmentally responsible manner as necessary to meet future demands and protect sensitive resources.		
Allowable Use: Encourage use of existing corridors or upgrading of existing facilities in sensitive and suitable zones.	Allowable Use: Encourage the placement of new facilities or upgrades to existing facilities in delineated corridors or in other areas with previous disturbance and existing facilities, as consistent with other resource values.	Allowable Use: Require the placement of new facilities or upgrades to existing facilities in delineated corridors or in other areas with previous disturbance and existing facilities, as determined practical, consistent with other resource values.	Allowable Use: Determine the placement of new facilities or upgrades to existing facilities on a case-by-case basis.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Manage seven corridors (88,600 acres) as public utility corridors. Encourage utility companies to use these corridors, including: • Coal Canyon ○ Major power lines ○ 0.5-mile wide • Along MAPCO pipeline in West Salt Creek ○ Major pipelines and power lines ○ 0.5-mile wide • Along Northwest Pipeline and State Highway 139 ○ Major pipelines and power lines ○ 0.5-mile wide • From DeBeque to southern boundary of resource are ○ Major power lines ○ 4 miles wide • Along Roan Creek from DeBeque to Community Center ○ Railroads, power lines, major water and oil and gas pipelines ○ 1 mile wide • Along Clear Creek from Community Center to northern resource area boundary ○ Major power lines and pipelines ○ 0.5-mile wide • Unaweep Canyon ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power	Allowable Use: Manage six corridors (96,400 acres) (widths are approximate) for public utilities and other facilities, including: • Coal Canyon ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 0.5-mile wide • Dolores River ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 75 meters wide • Highway 139 ○ All facilities ○ 0.5-mile wide • Unaweep Canyon ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 0.5-mile wide • West Salt Creek ○ All facilities ○ 0.5-mile wide • West-wide Energy Corridor ○ All facilities ○ 1 to 5 miles wide	Allowable Use: Manage six corridors (92,100 acres) (widths are approximate) for public utilities and other facilities, including: • Coal Canyon ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 0.5-mile wide • Dolores River ○ Small telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 50 meters wide • Highway 139 ○ Major pipelines and subsurface power lines ○ 0.5-mile wide • Unaweep Canyon ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines (wood poles only) ○ 0.5-mile wide (0.25-mile wide adjacent to Bangs SRMA and Dominguez-Escalante NCA) • West Salt Creek ○ Major pipelines and power lines ○ 0.5-mile wide • West-wide Energy Corridor ○ All facilities ○ 1 to 5 miles wide	Allowable Use: Manage eight corridors (119,100 acres) (widths are approximate) for public utilities and other facilities, including: • Coal Canyon ○ All facilities ○ 1 mile wide • Dolores River ○ All facilities ○ 100 meters wide • Highway 139 ○ All facilities ○ 1 mile wide • Little Park Road Corridor ○ Telephone/fiber optic and power lines ○ 150 meters wide • Unaweep Canyon ○ All facilities ○ 0.5-mile wide • West Salt Creek ○ All facilities ○ 1 mile wide • West-wide Energy Corridor ○ All facilities ○ 1 to 5 miles wide

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
lines ○ 0.5-mile wide			
Allowable Use: No similar action in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Require bonding for projects within the Unaweep, Dolores River, and Highway 139 Corridors to ensure that reclamation, visual, and other objectives are met.		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Allowable Use: Delineate an additional corridor upon issuance of ROW grants for a pending utility project proposal: Grand Valley Conversion Project through Coal Canyon.	Allowable Use: Coal Canyon Corridor management is discussed above.		
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *LN-16 (Alternative A)*/LN-7 (Alternatives B and D)*:* *Powderhorn Ski Area*. If drilling operations are proposed, the lessee is hereby notified that there are concerns about ski lift structures, other facilities, and ski runs within the Powderhorn ski area. The lessee is hereby notified that special design, construction, and scheduling measures may be required in order to minimize the impacts of drilling and production operations. Proposed drilling and production facilities and operations would be relocated and rescheduled as needed to avoid physical interference with ski area facilities and recreation use. This can include relocations of more than 200 meters (656 feet) or seasonal closures of more than 60 days. (Refer to Appendix B.)		Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Same as Alternative A.
Objective: Provide for the development and operation of actions authorized under 2920 permits (such as site facilities and commercial filming) in an environmentally responsible and timely manner.			
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Restrict 2920 permit activities in areas identified as ROW avoidance areas and prohibit activities in areas identified as ROW exclusion areas.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Limit applications for filming permits involving motorized, mechanized, or	Action: Authorize film permits on a case-by-case basis.	Action: Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	other intensive uses to existing highways, roads, and pull-outs, and previously disturbed or cleared areas. Issue permits only if the following criteria of minimal impact are met without requiring any NEPA analysis. Prior to permit approval, filming projects that do not meet these criteria would be subject to site-specific NEPA analysis, or use of programmatic NEPA documents, including EAs that may be developed on a local, state, or BLM-wide basis. • Project would not impact sensitive habitat or species. • Project would not impact cultural resources or traditional cultural properties and natural resources of importance to Native Americans. • Project would not involve use of pyrotechnics. • Project would not involve more than minimum impacts to land, air, or water. (Minimum is defined as temporary impact only and does not include permanent impacts or surface disturbance that cannot be raked out or rehabilitated so that there is no sign of activity at the end of the		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	filming). • Project would not involve use of explosives. • Project would not involve use of exotic plant or animal species that could cause danger of introduction into the area. • Project would not involve WSAs or lands managed for wilderness characteristics. • Project would not involve adverse impacts to sensitive surface resource values including historic, cultural, or paleontological sites; sensitive soils; relict environments; wetlands or riparian areas; or ACECs. • Project would not involve substantial restriction of public access. • Project would not involve substantial use of domestic livestock. • Project would not involve 10 production vehicles within sensitive areas. • Project would not involve 60 or more people within sensitive areas. • Filming activity within sensitive areas would not continue in excess of 10 days.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Refueling would not occur within sensitive areas. • Aircraft use in area with wildlife concerns is not proposed during crucial wildlife periods. • Aircraft use in area with no wildlife concerns is proposed for no more than two days and does not exceed frequency of three projects per 30-day period. • Use of aircraft is not proposed within 0.5-mile of a designated campground located within a sensitive area, and the number of low-elevation passes would not exceed four passes per day. • Filming activities are not proposed in developed recreation sites on weekends or during times of anticipated high use.		
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Resolve trespass uses as they are identified and prioritized.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Monitor for trespass actions and manage as appropriate through ROW authorization or trespass procedures for removal and site restoration.		
GOAL: Adjust BLM land ownership patterns and implement other realty actions (e.g., withdrawals and easements) to meet resource and community needs.			
Objective: Adjust public land patterns to consolidate public land for improved management efficiency, and acquire suitable private land with special resource values.	Objective: Consolidate the BLM's land ownership patterns through land tenure adjustments.	Objective: Consolidate the BLM's land ownership patterns through land tenure adjustments to maximize resource protection.	Objective: Consolidate the BLM's land ownership patterns through land tenure adjustments to provide for community and economic development.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D

Allowable Use:
Disposals. Place 126 tracts totaling 16,100 acres in a disposal category. Disposal tracts are lands that will be considered for sale, transfer through exchange or the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act, or boundary adjustment. Public land to be considered for disposal includes (Figure 2-30, Appendix A):
• Land proximate to cities, towns, or development areas;
• Isolated nonurban tracts so located as to make effective and efficient management impractical; and
• Lands designated for agricultural, commercial, or industrial development as the highest use or otherwise most appropriate use.
 	
When an application is submitted, work with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority on the potential airport expansion involving approximately 2,100 acres of public land.
	Allowable Use:
	Disposals. Identify 12,500 acres as available for disposal through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, R&PP Act leases and patents, leases under Section 302 of FLPMA, sales under Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA, and sales under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act. (Figure 2-31, Appendix A)
	
	Disposal lands would meet one or more of the following criteria:
	• Lands suitable for public purposes adjacent to or of special importance to local communities and to state or federal agencies for purposes such as community expansion, extended community services, or economic development.
	• Isolated parcels that are small or so located as to make effective and efficient management impractical.
	• Lands identified for the Grand Junction Regional Airport expansion (2,100 acres).*
	• Unintentional occupancy trespasses in existence prior to 2010.
	• Parcels containing or integral to
		Allowable Use:
		Disposals. Identify 2,600 acres as available for disposal through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, R&PP Act leases and patents, leases under Section 302 of FLPMA, sales under Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA, and sales under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act. (Figure 2-32, Appendix A)
		
		Disposal lands would meet one or more of the following criteria:
		• Same as Alternative B, with the following exception: retain lands that contain special status species occupied or potential habitat and other resource values of interest such as big game critical and severe winter range.
			Allowable Use:
			Disposals. Identify 18,000 acres as available for disposal through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, R&PP Act leases and patents, desert land entries, leases under Section 302 of FLPMA, sales under Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA, and sales under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act. (Figure 2-33, Appendix A)
			
			Disposal lands would meet one or more of the following criteria:
			• Same as Alternative B, plus:
			  ○ Lands proximate to cities, towns, or development areas.
			  ○ Isolated parcels of any configuration that makes the land difficult or uneconomic to manage.
			  ○ Lands without legal public access.
			  ○ Lands identified for future industrial growth north of the Grand Junction Regional Airport expansion area (2,100 acres).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	significant habitat for special status species would be disposed of only if the habitat for the species of concern can be maintained and if the Fish and Wildlife Service concurs. • Parcels containing or integral to NRHP eligible cultural resources would be disposed of only if the resources can be mitigated through data recovery and if the SHPO concurs with the proposed mitigation. • Additional lands may be identified for disposal in urbanizing areas on a case-by-case basis to meet community expansion needs and where the public interest would be well served. * Lands identified for the Grand Junction Regional Airport expansion may be reclassified as retention lands if a future update to the Airport Master Plan determines that the lands are not needed for airport expansion.		
Action: Dispose isolated tracts of public lands not presently shown on the base map (Alternative A) that become known in the future and that are not required to meet other resource objectives. See Figure 2-30 (Alternative A), 2-31 (Alternative B), 2-32 (Alternative C), and 2-33 (Alternative D), in Appendix A.			
Action: Reserve public access in patents where it would benefit the public.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: Place five tracts totaling 240 acres in a cooperative management agreement category (Figure 2-30, Appendix A). Offer these tracts to qualified agencies or interest groups for management or exchange. Retain any tracts not exchanged or managed cooperatively, but generally expend no public funds for their management.	Allowable Use: Identify 22 tracts totaling 5,600 acres for cooperative management (Figure 2-31, Appendix A). Offer these tracts to qualified agencies or entities for management, transfer, or exchange. Tracts that are not in the process of being transferred or do not have a cooperative management agreement in place within 10 years of signing of the record of decision for this RMP would become available for disposal.	Allowable Use: Identify 12 tracts totaling 3,000 acres for cooperative management (Figure 2-32, Appendix A). Offer these tracts to qualified agencies or entities for management, transfer, or exchange. Tracts that are not in the process of being transferred or do not have a cooperative management agreement in place within 10 years of signing of the record of decision for this RMP would become available for disposal.	Allowable Use: Identify 13 tracts totaling 2,700 acres for cooperative management (Figure 2-33, Appendix A). Offer these tracts to qualified agencies or entities for management, transfer, or exchange. Tracts that are not in the process of being transferred or do not have a cooperative management agreement in place within 10 years of signing of the record of decision for this RMP would become available for disposal.
Action: *Retention Areas.* Identify the remaining public land (not identified for disposal) (1,035,900 acres) for retention (Figure 2-30, Appendix A).	Action: *Retention Areas.* Retain for long-term management the remaining public lands (not identified for disposal), totaling 1,043,300 acres (Figure 2-31, Appendix A).	Action: *Retention Areas.* Retain for long-term management the remaining public lands (not identified for disposal), totaling 1,055,800 acres (Figure 2-32, Appendix A).	Action: *Retention Areas.* Retain for long-term management the remaining public lands (not identified for disposal), totaling 1,040,700 acres (Figure 2-33, Appendix A).
Action: Consider land exchanges in retention areas on a case-by-case basis in order to meet resource objectives if the exchange is in the public interest and would: 1) improve management efficiency; or 2) result in the acquisition of private property with high resource values.			
Allocation: Identify 7,800 acres within the Grand Mesa Slopes Special Management Area (Figure 2-18, Appendix A) as available for exchanges with the City of Grand Junction or Town of Palisade.	Allocation: No similar allocation.		
Action: Consider applications in retention areas to meet community or organization needs under the R&PP Act in accordance with resource objectives.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-33: *Disposal Tracts.* Special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required on disposal tracts. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.	Action: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Same as Alternative B.
Objective: Acquire lands or interests in lands through exchanges, purchases, easements, or donations to facilitate resource goals and objectives.			
Action: Consider acquisition of lands that meet the following criteria: • Private land within areas recommended as suitable for designation as wilderness; • Private land needed for management of Wild and Scenic Rivers; • Potential national or historic trails; • Potential natural or RNAs; • Potential areas for cultural or natural history designation; • Potential ACECs; • Private land within designated wild horse preserves; • Private land with potential for other congressional designations; • Threatened or endangered species habitat areas;	Action: Consider acquisition of lands that meet the following criteria: • Lands within or adjacent to WSAs; • Lands needed for management of Wild and Scenic Rivers; • National cultural, historic, or scenic trails and byways; • Areas for cultural, paleontological, or natural history designation; • Lands within or adjacent to ACECs; • Habitat for species of concern (including, but not limited to, special status species); • Lands that would help conserve, enhance, or restore sage-grouse habitat; • Lands within or adjacent to lands	Action: Consider acquisition of lands that meet the following criteria: • Same as Alternative B, plus the following: ○ Lands within or adjacent to wildlife emphasis areas; ○ Habitat for species of concern (including, but not limited to, special status species); ○ Big game critical and severe winter range; ○ Riparian areas; and ○ Valuable recreation areas.	Action: Consider acquisition of lands that meet the following criteria: • Lands within or adjacent to WSAs; and • Lands within or adjacent to ACECs.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Riparian habitat areas; • Valuable recreation areas; • Wetland areas as defined in Executive Order 11990, dated May 24, 1977; and • Floodplain areas (100-year) as defined in Executive Order 11988, dated May 24, 1977.	managed for wilderness characteristics; • Lands within or adjacent to the LBCWHR; • Lands within or adjacent to SRMAs; • Lands that provide public or administrative access; • Lands that consolidate BLM ownership and improve management efficiency; • Lands that meet the intent of the Land and Water Conservation Fund or Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act; • Wetland areas as defined in Executive Order 11990, dated May 24, 1977; • Floodplain areas (100-year) as defined in Executive Order 11988, dated May 24, 1977; and • Other lands for other administrative purposes.		
Action: Manage lands or interests in acquired lands in a manner consistent with management of other public lands in the surrounding area.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Meet resource and other agency needs by withdrawing lands from the public land laws or mining laws.		
Action: Continue to manage approximately 20,100 acres as withdrawn from mineral entry (Figure 2-54, Appendix A): • West Creek and the Unaweep Seep (1,500 acres) • Rough Canyon ACEC (2,700 acres) • Pup Tent Mine (1 acre)			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

<table>
<tr><th>Alterative A (No Action)</th><th>Alternative B (Preferred)</th><th>Alternative C</th><th>Alternative D</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">• Developed recreation sites
○ Mud Springs (40 acres)
○ Miracle Rock (50 acres)
• Grand Junction Regional Airport expansion withdrawal (2,100 acres)
• Department of Energy uranium withdrawal (5,800 acres)
• Existing Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) withdrawals (7,900 acres[1])

Also see Locatable Minerals section.
[1] Of the 7,900 acres of BOR withdrawals, 4,700 surface acres are managed by BOR and 3,200 surface acres are managed by BLM.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Action:
Review withdrawals, as needed, and recommend their renewal, continuation, or termination. Continue all existing withdrawals initiated by other agencies unless the initiating agency requests that the withdrawal be terminated. Following revocation of a withdrawal and issuance of an opening order, manage the lands in a manner consistent with adjacent or comparable public land within the planning area.

Existing BOR withdrawals include:
• Grand Valley Project (2,400 acres);
• Grand Valley Salinity Unit, Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Project (900 acres);
• Collbran Project (1,000 acres);
• Dominguez Project (3,000 acres)*; and
• Horsethief State Wildlife Area (600 acres).

*Project not authorized for construction.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td colspan="3">Action:
Recommend termination of the Dominguez Project withdrawal as requested by the BOR. Following termination of the withdrawal and issuance of an opening order, manage the lands in a manner consistent with adjacent or comparable public land within the planning area.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td>Action:
Petition the Secretary of Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (20,700 acres) from mineral entry and close the area to mineral location and development (Figure 2-55, Appendix A):</td><td>Action:
Petition the Secretary of Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (45,100 acres) from mineral entry and close the area to mineral location and development (Figure 2-56, Appendix A):
• ACECs:</td><td>Action:
Petition the Secretary of Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (1,300 acres) from mineral entry and close the area to mineral location and development (Figure 2-57, Appendix A):</td></tr>
</table>

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• ACECs: ○ Badger Wash; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ A portion of The Palisade (5,600 acres); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Sinbad Valley; • Recreation sites: ○ Campgrounds; ○ Target shooting zones; ○ Trailheads/picnic areas; and • Logan Wash Mine Site. Also see Locatable Minerals section.	○ Badger Wash; ○ Dolores River Riparian; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ○ A portion of The Palisade (5,600 acres); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Reeder Mesa; and ○ Sinbad Valley; • East and West Creek (Unaweep Canyon); • Municipal watersheds (Grand Junction and Palisade); • Recreation sites: ○ Campgrounds; ○ Target shooting zones; and ○ Trailheads/picnic areas. Also see Locatable Minerals section.	• Pyramid Rock ACEC; and • Recreation sites ○ Campgrounds ○ Target shooting zones ○ Trailheads/picnic areas. Also see Locatable Minerals section.
Action: No similar current action.	Action: Consider disposal of any withdrawn lands only upon concurrence by the holding agency and revocation or modification of the withdrawal.		
Coal			
GOAL: Provide opportunities for environmentally sound exploration and development of coal resources.			
Objective: Maintain coal leasing, exploration, and development within the planning area while minimizing impacts to other resource values.			
Allowable Use: Within the coal resource development potential area, manage 300,700 acres* as acceptable for further coal leasing and development	Allowable Use: Within the coal resource development potential area, manage 253,400 acres* as acceptable for further coal leasing and	Allowable Use: Within the coal resource development potential area, manage 251,200 acres* as acceptable for further coal leasing and development per Screens 1 and 3, set	Allowable Use: Within the coal resource development potential area, manage 265,600 acres* as acceptable for further coal leasing and

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
per Screens 1 and 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1. See Figure 2-34, Appendix A. *Acreage based off a maximum development depth of 1,500 feet.	development per Screens 1 and 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1. See Figure 2-35, Appendix A. *Acreage based off a maximum development depth of 2,500 feet.	forth in 43 CFR 3420.1. See Figure 2-36, Appendix A. *Acreage based off a maximum development depth of 2,500 feet.	development per Screens 1 and 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1. See Figure 2-37, Appendix A. *Acreage based off a maximum development depth of 2,500 feet.
Allowable Use: Manage areas identified in Screen 2 criteria, set forth in 43 CFR 3461.5, as acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing but unsuitable for surface mining or surface mining operations, and subject to the resource objectives outlined in the RMP (Appendix N, Coal Screening Criteria in the GJFO).			
Allowable Use: Manage 36,700 acres in the coal resource development potential area as unacceptable for further consideration of leasing and development per Screen 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1 (Appendix N, Coal Screening Criteria in the GJFO). See Figure 2-34 in Appendix A): • Demaree Canyon WSA; and • Little Book Cliffs WSA.	Allowable Use: Manage 56,000 acres in the coal resource development potential area as unacceptable for further consideration of leasing and development per Screen 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1 (Appendix N, Coal Screening Criteria in the GJFO). See Figure 2-35 in Appendix A): • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ Colorado River corridor; and ○ The Grand Junction and Palisade municipal watersheds.	Allowable Use: Manage 58,200 acres in the coal resource development potential area as unacceptable for further consideration of leasing and development per Screen 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1 (Appendix N, Coal Screening Criteria in the GJFO). See Figure 2-36 in Appendix A): • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ Colorado River Corridor; ○ The Grand Junction and Palisade municipal watersheds; ○ Mesa/Powderhorn source water protection area; ○ Plateau Creek ACEC; ○ Pyramid Rock ACEC; and ○ Roan Creek WSR segment.	Allowable Use: Manage 43,800 acres in the coal resource development potential area as unacceptable for further consideration of leasing and development per Screen 3, set forth in 43 CFR 3420.1 (Appendix N, Coal Screening Criteria in the GJFO). See Figure 2-37 in Appendix A): • Same as Alternative A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Apply special conditions that must be met during more-detailed planning, lease sale, or post-lease activities, including measures required to protect other resource values, as outlined in Appendix B (Stipulations Applicable to Fluid Mineral Leasing and Other Surface-disturbing Activities) and Appendix H (Best Management Practices and Standard Operating Procedures).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-34 (CSU CO-25): *Federally Leased Coal.* Where applicable, apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to oil and gas operations within the area of federally leased coal. Relocate oil and gas operations outside the area to be mined or locate to accommodate room and pillar mining operations. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B), 2-48 (Alternative C), and 2-49 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.		
Fluid Minerals (Oil and Gas, Geothermal, and Oil Shale Resources)			
GOAL: Provide opportunities for environmentally responsible exploration and development of fluid mineral resources subject to appropriate BLM policies, laws, and regulations. Establish conditions of use to protect other resource values.			
Oil and Gas and Geothermal Resources			
Objective: Make federal oil and gas resources available for leasing, except where prohibited by law or where administrative action is justified in the national interest. Make public land available for economically and environmentally sound exploration and development projects. Allow geothermal leasing on a case-by-case basis, using the oil and gas leasing designations as a guide for geothermal resources.	Objective: Facilitate orderly, economic, and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas and geothermal resources, using the best available technology.		
Action: Lease Notices (all Lease Notices): Use a Lease Notice to alert oil and gas and geothermal lessees of special inventory requirements or reporting requirements in certain areas to protect resources. (Refer to Appendix B.)			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Apply lease stipulations and lease notices to all new leases.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: BLM has the discretion to modify surface operations to change or add specific mitigation measures when supported by scientific analysis. All mitigation/conservation measures not already required as stipulations would be analyzed in a site-specific NEPA document, and be incorporated, as appropriate, into COAs of the permit, plan of development, and/or other use authorizations.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Develop and apply COAs for authorizations such as, but not limited to, applications for permit to drill, sundry notices, and geophysical exploration to supplement regulation and policy, provided the COAs are consistent with lease rights granted.			
Action: In areas being actively developed, the operator would be encouraged to submit a Master Development Plan (formerly known as Geographic Area Proposal) that describes a minimum of two to three years activity for operator-controlled federal leases within a reasonable geographic area (to be determined jointly with BLM). Use the Master Development Plan to plan development of federal leases within the area to account for well locations, roads, and pipelines, and to identify cumulative environmental effects and appropriate mitigation. The extent of the analysis would be dependent on the extent of surface ownership, extent of lease holdings, topography, access, and resource concerns. This requirement for a Master Development Plan may be waived for individual or small groups of exploratory wells, for directional wells drilled on previously developed well pads.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Require proper containment and prompt removal of refuse to avoid attracting predators.		Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Resource condition objectives identified in this RMP would guide reclamation activities of areas that are currently under development and areas to be developed prior to their abandonment.		
Allowable Use: **Leasing:** Place 1,134,600 acres of the federal mineral estate in the open leasing category: • BLM surface/federal minerals: 964,800 acres (Figure 2-38, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 169,800 acres.	Allowable Use: **Leasing:** Manage 1,028,800 acres of the federal mineral estate as open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration: • BLM surface/federal minerals: 878,700 acres (Figure 2-39, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 150,100 acres	Allowable Use: **Leasing:** Manage 607,600 acres of the federal mineral estate as open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration: • BLM surface/federal minerals 506,700 acres (Figure 2-40, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 100,900 acres	Allowable Use: **Leasing:** Manage 1,133,700 acres of the federal mineral estate as open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration: • BLM surface/federal minerals 961,400 acres (Figure 2-41, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 169,300 acres
Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *BLM surface/federal minerals.* Manage 96,500 acres of the federal mineral estate underlying BLM surface as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *BLM surface/federal minerals.* Manage 182,700 acres of the federal mineral estate underlying BLM surface as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *BLM surface/federal minerals.* Manage 554,700 acres of the federal mineral estate underlying BLM surface as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *BLM surface/federal minerals.* Manage 100,000 acres of the federal mineral estate underlying BLM surface as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
(Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-38 in Appendix A: • Unaweep Seep ACEC; and • WSAs.	exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 in Appendix A: • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ Occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat; ○ ACECs: ▪ Badger Wash (1,700 acres) ▪ Dolores River Riparian (7,400 acres) ▪ Juanita Arch (1,600 acres) ▪ The Palisade (32,200 acres) ▪ Rough Canyon (2,800 acres) ▪ Sinbad Valley (6,400 acres) ○ Lands managed for wilderness characteristics (24,400 acres) ○ SRMAs: ▪ Bangs (17,300 acres) ▪ Dolores River Canyon (16,900 acres) ○ Watersheds: ▪ Grand Junction (1,900 acres) ▪ Palisade (5,200 acres)	Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A: • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ Occupied Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat ○ ACECs: ▪ Atwell Gulch (6,100 acres) ▪ Badger Wash (2,200 acres) ▪ Dolores River Riparian (7,400 acres) ▪ Glade Park – Pinyon Mesa (27,200 acres) ▪ John Brown Canyon (1,400 acres) ▪ Juanita Arch (1,600 acres) ▪ Mt. Garfield (5,700 acres) ▪ The Palisade (32,200 acres) ▪ Prairie Canyon (6,900 acres) ▪ Pyramid Rock (1,300 acres) ▪ Roan and Carr Creek (33,600 acres) ▪ Rough Canyon (2,800 acres) ▪ Sinbad Valley (6,400 acres) ▪ South Shale Ridge (28,200 acres) ○ Lands managed for wilderness characteristics (171,200 acres) ○ Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ▪ Beehive (4,700 acres) ▪ Blue Mesa (9,300 acres) ▪ Bull Hill (4,800 acres) ▪ Casto (4,200 acres) ▪ East Salt Creek (26,100 acres)	exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-41 in Appendix A: • Same as Alternative A, plus the following: ○ BOR withdrawals where the surface is managed by BLM.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		▪ Indian Point (11,400 acres) ▪ Prairie Canyon (15,300 acres) ▪ Rapid Creek (28,600 acres) ▪ South Shale Ridge (3,500 acres) ▪ Timber Ridge (11,900 acres) ○ SRMAs: ▪ Bangs (17,300 acres) ▪ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1) (23,800 acres) ○ LBCWHR (35,200 acres) ○ Watersheds: ▪ Collbran source water protection area (2,100 acres) ▪ Grand Junction (1,900 acres) ▪ Jerry Creek (2,200 acres) ▪ Mesa/Powderhorn source water protection area (15,300 acres) ▪ Palisade (5,200 acres)	
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 19,700 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 in Appendix A: • City of Grand Junction Municipal Watershed (1,300 acres); • Palisade Municipal Watershed (7,100 acres); and • Occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat (12,700 acres).	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 68,900 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A: • City of Grand Junction Municipal Watershed (1,300 acres); • Palisade Municipal Watershed (7,100 acres); • Occupied Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat (28,600 acres); • Dolores River Corridor (5,600 acres);	Allowable Use: **No Leasing:** *Split-estate.* Manage 500 acres of Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate as closed to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-41 in Appendix A: • A portion of BOR withdrawals (500 acres)

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Glade Park (600 acres); • Bangs Canyon (700 acres); • Chalk Mountain (1,200 acres); • Sunnyside (100 acres); • Plateau Creek (200 acres); • Atwell Gulch (700 acres); • Hunter Canyon (600 acres); • Prairie Canyon (600 acres); • Collbran sourcewater protection area (14,100 acres) • Mesa/Powderhorn sourcewater protection area (15,300 acres); • Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area (530 acres); • Jerry Creek Reservoir State Wildlife Area (490 acres); • Plateau Creek State Wildlife Area (300 acres); • Highline State Park (350 acres); and • Vega State Park (470 acres).	
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (State Wildlife Areas)*. Prohibit occupancy and other activities in the following areas (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42 in Appendix A: • Highline Reservoir recreation site (1,800 acres) • Horsethief Canyon (1,300 acres) • Jerry Creek Reservoir (7,200 acres)	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-33: *Jerry Creek Reservoir, Plateau Creek, and Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Areas, and Highline and Vega State Parks.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in areas where BLM manages the fluid mineral rights under the following state wildlife areas and state parks (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Vega Reservoir Recreation Site (1,980* acres) *Acreage includes surface water resources.	43 in Appendix A: • Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area (1,400 acres) • Jerry Creek Reservoir State Wildlife Area (870 acres) • Plateau Creek State Wildlife Area (1,400 acres) • Highline State Park (350 acres) • Vega State Park (2,000 acres)		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Where drainage is likely, the BLM may issue new leases with an NSO stipulation with appropriate exception, waiver, and modification criteria.		
Allowable Use: STIPULATION *NSO* (all NSOs): Apply major constraints (NSO/no surface-disturbing activities) to 433,000 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with fluid minerals NSO stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 433,000 acres (Figure 2-42, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 0 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *NSO* (all NSOs): Apply major constraints (NSO/no surface-disturbing activities) to 429,100 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with fluid minerals NSO stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 382,200 acres (Figure 2-43, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 46,900 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *NSO* (all NSOs): Apply major constraints (NSO/no surface-disturbing activities) to 302,900 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with fluid minerals NSO stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 266,300 acres (Figure 2-44, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 36,600 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *NSO* (all NSOs): Apply major constraints (NSO/no surface-disturbing activities) to 400,900 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with fluid minerals NSO stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 349,700 acres (Figure 2-45, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 51,200 acres.
Allowable Use: STIPULATION *CSU* (all CSUs): Apply moderate constraints (CSUs) to 74,100 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *CSU* (all CSUs): Apply moderate constraints (CSUs) to 563,500 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *CSU* (all CSUs): Apply moderate constraints (CSUs) to 326,800 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *CSU* (all CSUs): Apply moderate constraints (CSUs) to 445,800 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
exploration. Lease areas with CSU stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 74,100 acres (Figure 2-46, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 0 acres.	exploration. Lease areas with CSU stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 527,500 acres (Figure 2-47, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 36,000 acres.	areas with CSU stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 303,500 acres (Figure 2-48, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 23,300 acres.	exploration. Lease areas with CSU stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 433,000 acres (Figure 2-49, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 12,800 acres.
Allowable Use: STIPULATION *TL* (all TLs): Apply moderate constraints (TLs) to 233,000 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with TL stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 233,000 acres (Figure 2-50, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 0 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *TL* (all TLs): Apply moderate constraints (TLs) to 401,600 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with TL stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 349,400 acres (Figure 2-51, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 52,200 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *TL* (all TLs): Apply moderate constraints (TLs) to 241,600 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with TL stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 197,600 acres (Figure 2-52, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 44,000 acres.	Allowable Use: STIPULATION *TL* (all TLs): Apply moderate constraints (TLs) to 438,700 acres that are open to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. Lease areas with TL stipulations to protect resources (Refer to Appendix B): • BLM surface/federal minerals: 405,900 acres (Figure 2-53, Appendix A) • Private and State surface/federal fluid mineral estate: 32,800 acres.
Oil Shale			
Objective: Maintain opportunities to lease oil shale with further NEPA analysis while minimizing impacts to other resources.			
Allowable Use: Accept applications to lease oil shale on 560 acres of the federal mineral estate within the GJFO, as identified in the *Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments/ROD for Oil Shale and Tar Sands Resources to Address Land Use Allocations in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (BLM 2008c). See Figure 2-90 in Appendix A. Other decisions related to oil shale leasing made in the *Oil Shale and Tar Sands PEIS* (BLM 2008) are also incorporated here by reference. These decisions are currently being revisited by the BLM in a programmatic planning process and any additional decisions would be adopted by this RMP, as applicable.			
Allowable Use: Applications for commercial leases using surface mining technologies would not be permitted.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: Accept applications for commercial leasing using underground mining technologies. The BLM would then publish a notice in the Federal Register. Prior to making any leasing decision, the BLM would conduct site specific NEPA analysis and assess the conformance of leasing with this RMP. If the application is not in conformance with the RMP, then a plan amendment would be required.			
Action: Consider and give priority to the use of land exchanges, where appropriate and feasible, to consolidate land ownership and mineral interests within the oil shale basins.		Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative A.
Locatable Minerals, Mineral Materials, and Non-energy Leasable Minerals			
GOAL: Provide opportunities to develop locatable minerals, mineral materials, and non-energy leasable minerals consistent with other resource goals and uses to meet local and national energy and mineral needs.			
Locatable Minerals			
Objective: Make public land available for exploration and development under the general mining laws unless otherwise withdrawn from mineral entry to protect other resources.	Objective: Facilitate environmentally responsible exploration and development of locatable minerals subject to BLM policies, laws, and regulations.		
Action: Allow mineral exploration and development (locatable minerals) under the General Mining Law of 1872 on all BLM-administered lands unless it is proposed for administrative withdrawal or wilderness designation. Regulate locatable mineral exploration and development on BLM land under 43 CFR 3800. Open all surface estate (1,061,400 acres), except the withdrawn areas identified below, to location of mining claims activity (Figure 2-54, Appendix A).			

Allowable Use:
Maintain the following areas as withdrawn from mineral entry, per the Secretary of the Interior:
• West Creek and the Unaweep Seep (1,500 acres)
• Rough Canyon ACEC (2,700 acres)
• Pup Tent Mine (1 acre)
• Developed recreation sites
  ○ Mud Springs (40 acres)
  ○ Miracle Rock (50 acres)
• Grand Junction Regional Airport expansion withdrawal (2,100 acres)			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Existing BOR withdrawals (7,900 acres) Also see Lands and Realty section.			
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Action: Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (15,200 acres) from mineral entry (Figure 2-55, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ Badger Wash; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ A portion of The Palisade (5,600 acres); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Sinbad Valley; • Recreation sites: ○ Campgrounds; ○ Target shooting zones; ○ Trailheads/picnic areas; and • Logan Wash Mine Site. Also see Lands and Realty section.	Action: Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (45,400 acres) from mineral entry (Figure 2-56, Appendix A): • ACECs: ○ Badger Wash; ○ Dolores River Riparian; ○ Juanita Arch; ○ Mt. Garfield; ○ Nine-mile Hill Boulders; ○ A portion of The Palisade (5,600 acres); ○ Pyramid Rock; ○ Reeder Mesa; and ○ Sinbad Valley; • East and West Creek (Unaweep Canyon); • Municipal watersheds (Grand Junction and Palisade); • Recreation sites: ○ Campgrounds; ○ Target shooting zones; and ○ Trailheads/picnic areas. Also see Lands and Realty section.	Action: Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal of the following areas (1,300 acres) from mineral entry (Figure 2-57, Appendix A): • Pyramid Rock ACEC; and • Recreation sites: ○ Campgrounds; ○ Target shooting zones; ○ Trailheads/picnic areas. Also see Lands and Realty section.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Petition lands for withdrawal from locatable mineral development on a case-by-case basis for the protection of important resource values. The size of any mineral withdrawal would be commensurate with what is desirable to protect the values requiring the withdrawal.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Mineral Materials (Salable Minerals)			
Objective: Make areas available for the disposal of mineral material (salable minerals) while protecting other resource values.	Objective: Manage mineral material (salable minerals) resources to provide for the needs of individuals, municipalities, and businesses while ensuring compatibility with other resource objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify additional common use areas in locations and sizes to meet the existing and reasonably foreseeable demand for the commodity(ies) available at each site, where compatible with resource objectives.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Prohibit commercial sales of petrified wood products due to limited availability of such resources.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Permit future common use areas where compatible with resource objectives. Establish sites in appropriate locations and with sufficient capacity while avoiding a proliferation of sites for similar materials in a given area.		
Action: Maintain designated bentonite common use area on Little Park Road.		Action: Close the bentonite common use area on Little Park Road.	Action: Same as Alternative A.
Allowable Use: Allow disposal of mineral material (salable minerals) on public land not closed to such development (787,100 acres). (Figure 2-58, Appendix A)	Allowable Use: Identify 809,000 acres as open for consideration for mineral material disposal on a case-by-case basis. (Figure 2-59, Appendix A)	Allowable Use: Identify 609,400 acres as open for consideration for mineral material disposal on a case-by-case basis. (Figure 2-60, Appendix A)	Allowable Use: Identify 906,100 acres as open for consideration for mineral material disposal on a case-by-case basis. (Figure 2-61, Appendix A)
Allowable Use: Close 274,300 acres to mineral material disposal (Figure 2-58, Appendix A): • Badger Wash hydrologic research area; • Grand Junction municipal watershed; • Jerry Creek Reservoirs; • Baxter/Douglas soil slump hazard	Allowable Use: Close 252,400 acres to mineral material disposal (Figure 2-59, Appendix A): • Colorado, Dolores, and Gunnison River Corridors; • WSAs; • ACECs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics;	Allowable Use: Close 452,000 acres to mineral material disposal (Figure 2-60, Appendix A): • Colorado, Dolores, and Gunnison River Corridors; • WSAs; • ACECs; • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics; and • SRMAs.	Allowable Use: Close 155,300 acres to mineral material disposal (Figure 2-61, Appendix A): • Colorado, Dolores, and Gunnison River Corridors; • WSAs; • ACECs; • SRMAs: ○ Bangs;

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
area; • Plateau Creek soil slump hazard area; • Elk calving area; • Unaweep Seep; • Pyramid Rock; • Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range; • Cultural sites; • Recreation sites and VRM Class II areas; • Areas recommended for wilderness designation; and • Utility corridors.	• SRMAs: ○ Bangs; ○ Dolores River(exception for area near Niche Road); and ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1).		○ Castle Rock; ○ Gunnison River Bluffs; ○ North Fruita Desert (RMZ 1); and ○ Palisade Rims.
Non-energy Leasable Minerals			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Provide opportunities for non-energy leasable exploration and/or development subject to standard stipulations (e.g., NSO, CSU, TL).		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Identify 567,500 acres as open for consideration of non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (e.g., potash), subject to stipulations in Appendix B (Figure 2-62, Appendix A).	Allowable Use: Identify 298,600 acres as open for consideration of non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (e.g., potash), subject to stipulations in Appendix B (Figure 2-63, Appendix A).	Allowable Use: Identify 925,400 acres as open for consideration of non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (e.g., potash), subject to stipulations in Appendix B (Figure 2-64, Appendix A).
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Close 493,900 acres in the following areas to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (Figure 2-62, Appendix A): • WSAs	Allowable Use: Close 762,900 acres in the following areas to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (Figure 2-63, Appendix A): • WSAs • ACECs	Allowable Use: Close 136,000 acres in the following areas to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development (Figure 2-64, Appendix A): • WSAs

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• ACECs • Occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • LBCWHR • SRMAs • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Blue Mesa ○ Bull Hill ○ Glade Park ○ Timber Ridge • Watersheds: ○ Grand Junction ○ Palisade • VRM Class I and II areas	• All occupied sage-grouse habitat • Lands managed for wilderness characteristics • LBCWHR • SRMAs • Wildlife Emphasis Areas: ○ Beehive ○ Blue Mesa ○ Bull Hill ○ Casto ○ East Salt Creek ○ Indian Point ○ Prairie Canyon ○ Rapid Creek ○ South Shale Ridge ○ Timber Ridge • Watersheds: ○ Collbran source water protection area ○ Grand Junction ○ Mesa/Powderhorn source water protection area ○ Palisade ○ Jerry Creek • VRM Class I and II areas	• ACECs • SRMAs: ○ Gunnison River Bluffs ○ Palisade Rims
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Issue prospecting permits in areas where potash values are not known, which could lead to issuance of a preference right lease.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (Administrative Designation)			
GOAL: Manage ACECs to protect significant resource values and prevent damage to important natural, biological, cultural, recreational, or scenic resources and values, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.			
Objective: Continue to manage those areas within the GJFO that require some special management and that meet the criteria for ACEC designation.			
Action: Continue to manage the following areas as ACECs and as either RNAs or ONAs (28,900 acres) (Figure 2-65, Appendix A): • Badger Wash (1,900 acres); • The Palisade (23,600 acres); • Pyramid Rock (550 acres); • Rough Canyon (2,700 acres); and • Unaweep Seep (80 acres).	Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (106,000 acres). (Figure 2-66, Appendix A): • Atwell Gulch (2,900 acres); • Badger Wash (2,200 acres); • Dolores River Riparian (7,400 acres); • Indian Creek (1,700 acres); • Juanita Arch (1,600 acres); • Mt. Garfield (3,500 acres) • The Palisade (32,200 acres); • Pyramid Rock (1,300 acres); • Roan and Carr Creeks (15,700 acres); • Rough Canyon (2,800 acres); • Sinbad Valley (6,400 acres); • South Shale Ridge (28,200 acres); and • Unaweep Seep (85 acres).	Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (168,000 acres). (Figure 2-67, Appendix A): • Atwell Gulch (6,100 acres); • Badger Wash (2,200 acres); • Colorado River Riparian (880 acres); • Coon Creek (110 acres); • Dolores River Riparian (7,400 acres); • Glade Park–Pinyon Mesa (27,200 acres); • Gunnison River Riparian (460 acres); • Hawxhurst Creek (860 acres); • Indian Creek (1,700 acres); • John Brown Canyon (1,400 acres); • Juanita Arch (1,600 acres); • Mt. Garfield (5,700 acres); • Nine-mile Hill Boulders (90 acres); • The Palisade (32,200 acres); • Plateau Creek (220 acres); • Prairie Canyon (6,900 acres); • Pyramid Rock (1,300 acres); • Reeder Mesa (470 acres); • Roan and Carr Creeks (33,600 acres); • Rough Canyon (2,800 acres);	Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (33,200 acres). (Figure 2-68, Appendix A): • Badger Wash (2,200 acres); • The Palisade (26,900 acres); • Pyramid Rock (1,300 acres); • Rough Canyon (2,700 acres); and • Unaweep Seep (80 acres).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Sinbad Valley (6,400 acres); and • South Shale Ridge (28,200 acres); • Unaweep Seep (85 acres).	
Allowable Use No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Close all ACECs to mineral material disposal and non-energy solid leasable mineral exploration and development.		
Allowable Use No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: Close all ACECs to wood product sales and/or harvest, including Christmas tree cutting.		
Atwell Gulch			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Atwell Gulch ACEC (2,900 acres) to protect rare plants, cultural resources, scenic values, and wildlife habitat. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Close to mechanized travel. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close 2,600 acres to livestock grazing (approximately 250 acres would remain unallotted). • Manage 2,600 acres as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 260 acres as a ROW avoidance area for natural gas pipelines, water pipelines, and produced water pipelines.	Action: Designate the Atwell Gulch ACEC (6,100 acres) to protect rare plants, cultural resources, scenic values, and wildlife habitat. Management actions are the same as Alternative B, plus the following: • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow motorized travel, except for Sunnyside Road. • Close to mechanized travel, except for Sunnyside Road. • Close 2,900 acres to livestock grazing (approximately 700 acres would remain unallotted). • Open 2,500 acres to livestock grazing. • Manage 5,900 acres as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 260 acres as a ROW avoidance area for natural gas pipelines, water pipelines, and produced water pipelines. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Only allow vegetation treatments for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Close to fossil collection. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.	exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	
Badger Wash			
Action: Continue to manage the Badger Wash ACEC (1,900 acres) to protect rare plants and use as a hydrologic study area. Management actions include the following: • Manage the hydrologic study area (685 acres) as unsuitable for ROWs. • No new roads may be built in conjunction with pipeline ROWs. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • ROWs will not be cleared. • No construction or maintenance activities will be performed in the spring thaw. • All surface use plans would be developed jointly by BLM, United States Geological Survey (USGS), and the proponent. • Close a portion of the paired study	Action: Designate the Badger Wash ACEC (2,200 acres) to protect rare plants and use as a hydrologic study area. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class III. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to grazing in the paired study watersheds (1,800 acres). • Open to grazing outside of the paired watersheds (400 acres). • Manage the paired watersheds (1,800 acres) as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 400 acres as ROW avoidance areas. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from	Action: Designate the Badger Wash ACEC (2,200 acres) to protect rare plants and use as a hydrologic study area. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. Existing roads within the paired study watershed (1,800 acres) would be closed and reclaimed (re-contouring and reseeding). • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to grazing in the paired watersheds (1,800 acres). • Open to grazing outside of the paired watersheds (400 acres). • Manage 1,800 acres as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 400 acres as ROW avoidance areas. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry.	Action: Designate the Badger Wash ACEC (2,200 acres) to protect rare plants and use as a hydrologic study area. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class IV. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. Existing roads within the paired study watersheds (1,800 acres) would be closed and reclaimed (re-contouring and reseeding). • Close to grazing in the paired watersheds (1,800 acres). • Open to grazing outside of the paired watersheds (400 acres). • Manage 1,800 acres as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 400 acres as ROW avoidance areas. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION**

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
watersheds to grazing (186 acres). • Open to grazing outside of the paired watersheds (400 acres). • Close the hydrologic study area (685 acres) to mineral material disposal. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the hydrologic study area (700 acres). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42, Appendix A.	mineral entry. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION**: NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.	• **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the paired study watersheds (1,800 acres). See Figure 2-45, Appendix A.
Colorado River Riparian			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Colorado River Riparian ACEC (880 acres) to protect unique fish, wildlife, scenic values, riparian habitat, and plants. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Only allow vegetation treatments for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area. • Classify as unsuitable for coal leasing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Coon Creek			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Coon Creek ACEC (110 acres) to protect from loss of riparian habitat and fisheries values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class III. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Close to livestock grazing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.
Dolores River Riparian			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Dolores River Riparian ACEC (7,400 acres) to protect riparian, hydrology, scenic and paleontological resources, and special status species. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Only allow vegetation treatments for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Classify as *limited to designated routes.* • Only allow camping in designated sites.	Action: Designate the Dolores River Riparian ACEC (7,400 acres) to protect riparian, hydrology, scenic and paleontological resources, and special status species. Management actions are the same as for Alternative B, plus: • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Open to livestock grazing. • Close to recreational placer mining. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.		
Glade Park–Pinyon Mesa			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Glade Park-Pinyon Mesa ACEC (27,200 acres) to protect occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Only allow vegetation treatments and wildlife habitat improvements for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Open to livestock grazing outside of occupied sage-grouse habitat. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	
Gunnison River Riparian			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Gunnison River Riparian ACEC (460 acres) to protect riparian and fisheries values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Only allow camping in designated sites. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area. • Open to livestock grazing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.
Hawxhurst Creek			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Hawxhurst Creek ACEC (860 acres) to protect from loss of riparian habitat and fisheries values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class III. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Open to livestock grazing.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	
Indian Creek			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Indian Creek ACEC (1,700 acres) to preserve wildlife and cultural values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Open to livestock grazing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Action: No similar action.
John Brown Canyon			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the John Brown Canyon ACEC (1,400 acres) to preserve old growth pinion-juniper woodlands. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Open to livestock grazing. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	
Juanita Arch			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Juanita Arch ACEC (1,600 acres) to protect rare plants and geologic values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized travel. • Open to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.	Action: Designate the Juanita Arch ACEC (1,600 acres) to protect rare plants and geologic values. Management actions are the same as for Alternative B, plus: • Close to mechanized travel.	Action: No similar action.
Mt. Garfield			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Mt. Garfield ACEC (3,500 acres) to protect its scenic values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class I.	Action: Designate the Mt. Garfield ACEC (5,700 acres) to protect its scenic values. Management actions include the following: • Same as Alternative B, plus:	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Close to motorized travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Prohibit target shooting. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area (excluding Coal Canyon corridor). • Close to livestock grazing. • Close to fossil collection. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • Classify as unsuitable for coal leasing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.	○ **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	
Nine-mile Hill Boulders			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Nine-mile Hill Boulders ACEC (90 acres) to protect paleontological values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized travel, including over- snow travel. • Close to mechanized travel. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Open to livestock grazing.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry.	
The Palisade			
Action: Continue to manage the Palisade ACEC/ONA (23,600 acres) to protect its natural, geologic, and scenic values. Management actions include the following: • Classify 4,100 acres as *closed* to OHV use and 19,300 acres as *limited to existing routes*. • Designate 4,100 acres as VRM Class I. • Designate 18,000 acres as VRM Class II. • Designate 1,400 acres as VRM Class III. • Limit forestry cutting units to 20 acres or less in the pinyon-juniper woodlands. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Manage 15,000 acres as unsuitable for ROWs. • Manage 7,700 acres as sensitive for ROWs. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42, Appendix A.	Action: Designate the Palisade ACEC (32,200 acres) to protect rare plant populations and special status wildlife. Management actions include the following: • Manage 26,700 acres that overlap with The Palisade WSA as VRM Class I. • Manage 5,500 acres as VRM Class II. • Classify 26,700 acres as *closed* to OHV use and 5,500 acres as *limited to designated routes*. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area. • Open to livestock grazing. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-39 (Alternative B) and 2-40 (Alternative C), Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.)	Action: Designate the Palisade ACEC (32,200 acres) to protect rare plant populations and special status wildlife. Management actions are the same as Alternative B, plus: • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry (5,600 acres outside of the Palisade WSA).	Action: Designate the Palisade ACEC (26,900 acres) to protect rare plant populations and special status wildlife. Management actions are the same as Alternative A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		
Plateau Creek			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Plateau Creek ACEC (220 acres) to protect special status fish species. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Only allow camping in designated sites. • Prohibit target shooting. • Only allow vegetation treatments and wildlife habitat improvements for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area. • Close to all types of collection (e.g., fossil, vegetation, rocks, etc.). • Classify as unsuitable for coal leasing. • Issue only Class I and II SRPs. • Close to livestock grazing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.
Prairie Canyon			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Designate the Prairie Canyon ACEC (6,900 acres) to protect rare plants and	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		wildlife habitat. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Only allow vegetation treatments and wildlife habitat improvements for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Manage 2,800 acres within Prairie Canyon antelope migratory corridor as a ROW exclusion area. • Manage 2,600 acres as a ROW avoidance area. • Close to vegetative materials sales. • Open to livestock grazing. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	
Pyramid Rock			
Action: Continue to manage the Pyramid Rock ACEC/RNA (550 acres) to preserve habitat for two plant species, one a sensitive and the other a threatened species. Management actions include the following:	Action: Designate the Pyramid Rock ACEC (1,300 acres) to preserve habitat for rare plant species and protect cultural resources. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized, mechanized,	Action: Designate the Pyramid Rock ACEC (1,300 acres) to preserve habitat for rare plant species and protect cultural resources. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized, mechanized,	Action: Designate the Pyramid Rock ACEC (1,300 acres) to preserve habitat for rare plant species and protect cultural resources. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to motorized, mechanized,

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Classify as *closed* to OHV use. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to mineral materials disposal. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs).* Prohibit surface occupancy to protect Pyramid Rock State Natural Area for threatened and sensitive plants. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42, Appendix A.	and equestrian travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Prohibit target shooting. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to camping. • Close to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to all types of collection (e.g., fossil, vegetation, rocks, etc.). • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43, Appendix A.	equestrian, and foot travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Prohibit target shooting. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to camping. • Close to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to all types of collection (e.g., fossil, vegetation, rocks, etc.). • Classify as unsuitable for coal leasing. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	and equestrian travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to camping. • Close to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to all types of collection (e.g., fossil, vegetation, rocks, etc.). • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45, Appendix A.
Reeder Mesa			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Manage the Reeder Mesa ACEC (470 acres) to protect plant resources. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class III. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Close to fossil and vegetation collection.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
		• Open to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44, Appendix A.	
Roan and Carr Creeks			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Roan and Carr Creeks ACEC (15,700 acres) to protect riparian habitats and genetically pure populations of cutthroat trout. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Only allow vegetation treatments for the benefit of the identified relevant and important values. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Close to mechanized travel. • Open to livestock grazing. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 (Alternative B)	Action: Designate the Roan and Carr Creeks ACEC (33,600 acres) to protect unique riparian habitats, genetically pure populations of cutthroat trout, and greater sage-grouse habitat. Management actions are the same as for Alternative B, plus: • Classify the portion of the ACEC within the coal resource development potential area as unsuitable for coal leasing. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	and 2-44 (Alternative C), Appendix A.		
Rough Canyon			
Action: Continue to manage the Rough Canyon ACEC/RNA (2,700 acres) to protect geologic, wildlife habitat, archaeological, and plants. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Actively manage as a high value site area. • Manage as unsuitable for public utilities. • Withdrawn from mineral entry. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42, Appendix A.	Action: Designate the Rough Canyon ACEC (2,800 acres) to protect geologic, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, and plants. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Open to livestock grazing. • Withdrawn from mineral entry. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C), Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		Action: Designate the Rough Canyon ACEC (2,700 acres) to protect geologic, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, and plants. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as ROW exclusion area. • Withdrawn from mineral entry. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-45 in Appendix A.
Sinbad Valley			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the Sinbad Valley ACEC (6,400 acres) to protect rare plants, wildlife, cultural resources, geologic and scenic values. Management actions include the following: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Closed to motorized travel, except for Tabeguache Trail. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area. • Open to livestock grazing.		Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• Petition to the Secretary of the Interior for withdrawal from mineral entry. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-39 (Alternative B) and 2-40 (Alternative C), Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		
South Shale Ridge			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Designate the South Shale Ridge ACEC (28,200 acres) to protect rare plants, wildlife habitat, and scenic values. • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Classify as *limited to designated routes*. • Manage as VRM Class II • Open to livestock grazing. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.	Action: Designate the South Shale Ridge ACEC (28,200 acres) to protect rare plants, wildlife habitat, and scenic values. Management actions are the same as for Alternative B, plus: • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A.	Action: No similar action.
Unaweep Seep			
Action: Continue to manage the Unaweep Seep ACEC/RNA (80 acres) to protect habitat for the rare Great	Action: Designate the Unaweep Seep ACEC (85 acres) to protect habitat for the rare Great Basin silverspot butterfly, rare plants, riparian habitat, and hydrologic values. Management actions are the same as those described in Alternative A,		Action: Designate the Unaweep Seep ACEC (80 acres) to protect habitat for the rare Great Basin silverspot

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Basin silverspot butterfly. Management actions include the following (BLM 1999): • Manage as VRM Class II. • Close to unauthorized motorized travel activities, including over-snow travel (see 43 CFR 8342.1). • Closed to mechanized travel. • Prohibit commercial wood product sales, harvesting forest and woodland products, and Christmas tree cutting. • Prohibit camping. • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to fossil collection. • Open to livestock grazing. • Withdrawn from mineral entry. • Close to mineral material disposal. • **No Leasing:** *ACECs.* Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-38, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** *NSO-1: No Surface Occupancy (ACECs).* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-42, Appendix A.	except: • Issue no SRPs for competitive events; and • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		butterfly, rare plants, riparian habitat, and hydrologic values. Management actions are the same as those described in Alternative A, plus: • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-12: *ACECs*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-45 in Appendix A.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Wilderness Study Areas (Administrative Designation)			
GOAL: Preserve the wilderness characteristics of WSAs.			
Objective: Preserve wilderness characteristics in WSAs in accordance with non-impairment standards as defined under the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (BLM Manual H-8550-1 [BLM 1995c]), until Congress either designates these lands as wilderness or releases them for other purposes.			
Action: Manage the four WSAs (96,500 acres) under BLM's Interim Management Policy pending congressional action on wilderness recommendations (Figure 2-69, Appendix A). • Demaree Canyon (22,700 acres) • Little Book Cliffs (29,300 acres) • The Palisade (26,700 acres) • Sewemup Mesa (17,800 acres)			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage all WSAs as VRM Class I.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage all WSAs as closed to motorized and mechanized travel. Travel required for valid existing rights would be allowed.		
Allowable Use: **NO LEASING**. Close the WSAs to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-38 and 2-69 (Alternative A), 2-39 and 2-69 (Alternative B), 2-40 and 2-69 (Alternative C), and 2-41 and 2-69 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.			
Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-43: *Wilderness Study Areas.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in WSAs in accordance with the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (BLM Manual H-8550-1 [BLM 1995c]). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-42 (Alternative A), 2-43 (Alternative B), 2-44 (Alternative C), and 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.			
Action: In the event Congress designates any of the WSAs as Wilderness, management direction would be adapted to the actions defined in the designating legislation in a manner consistent with the 1964 Wilderness Act, until an activity plan is developed detailing management direction for the area(s).			
GOAL: No similar goal in current RMP.	**GOAL:** Implement management strategies for lands within WSAs, should Congress release one or more of these areas from wilderness consideration.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

<table>
<tr><th>Alterative A (No Action)</th><th>Alternative B (Preferred)</th><th>Alternative C</th><th>Alternative D</th></tr>
<tr><td>Objective:
Following congressional action, manage those WSAs designated non-wilderness as described in other sections of the 1987 RMP.</td><td colspan="3">Objective:
If Congress releases one or more WSAs from wilderness consideration, manage those lands consistent with underlying land use designations.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Action:
If Congress releases one or more WSAs from wilderness consideration, update the wilderness characteristics inventory for lands that were formerly WSAs (FLPMA Section 201).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
No similar action in current RMP.</td><td colspan="3">Action:
If Congress Releases WSAs from wilderness consideration, reconsider acceptability for further coal leasing using the Coal Screening Criteria (Appendix N).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Action:
If Congress designates Sewemup Mesa WSA as non-wilderness (i.e., released), manage as described in other sections of the 1987 RMP as follows:
• Close to motor vehicles
• Make unsuitable for forest harvest
• Manage a portion as sensitive to public utility development.
• Manage a portion as unsuitable for public utilities.
• Close to mineral material sales
• Manage as VRM Class I.
• Close to fluid mineral leasing.</td><td>Action:
If Congress releases Sewemup Mesa WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the area to protect wilderness characteristics by applying the following management:
• Issue no SRPs for competitive events.
• Close to motorized and mechanized travel, including over-snow motorized travel.
• Close to wood product sales and/or harvest (including Christmas tree harvest).
• Manage as a ROW exclusion area.
• Close to mineral material disposal
• Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development
• Manage as VRM Class II.</td><td>Action:
If Congress releases Sewemup Mesa WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the area to protect wilderness characteristics by applying the following management:
• Same as Alternative B</td><td>Action:
If Congress releases Sewemup Mesa WSA from Wilderness consideration apply the following management:
• Consider SRPs for competitive events.
• Limit motorized and mechanized travel to designated routes.
• Close to wood product sales and/or harvest.
• Manage as a ROW avoidance area.
• Manage as VRM Class III.</td></tr>
</table>

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	• **No Leasing**: *Lands with wilderness characteristics outside WSAs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-39 (Alternative B) and 2-40 (Alternative C) in Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-43 (Alternative B) and 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.		
Action: If Congress designates Little Book Cliffs WSA as non-wilderness, manage as described in other sections of the 1987 RMP as follows : • Limit motorized travel to designated routes on a portion. • Open to all modes of travel on a portion. • Apply a seasonal closure for motorized vehicles on a portion. • Make unsuitable for forest harvest. • Manage a portion as sensitive to public utility development.	Action: If Congress releases Little Book Cliffs WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the portion of the WSA within LBCWHR in accordance with the Alternative B management prescriptions for the LBCWHR. For the remainder of the WSA: • Consider SRPs for competitive events. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow travel. • Limit mechanized travel to	Action: If Congress releases Little Book Cliffs WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the portion of the WSA within the LBCWHR in accordance with the Alternative C management prescriptions for the LBCWHR. For the remainder of the WSA: • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow travel. • Close to mechanized travel • Close to wood product sales and/or harvest (including Christmas tree	Action: If Congress releases Little Book Cliffs WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the portion of the WSA within the LBCWHR in accordance with the Alternative D management prescriptions for the LBCWHR. For the remainder of the WSA: • Consider SRPs for competitive events. • Limit motorized and mechanized travel to designated routes. • Manage as ROW avoidance area.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Manage a portion as unsuitable for public utilities. • Manage a portion as a public utility corridor. • Close the following lands to mineral material sales: LBCWHR, VRM class II, utility corridors. • Manage a portion as VRM Class II. • Manage a portion as VRM Class III. • Manage a portion as VRM undesignated. • Close to fluid mineral leasing.	designated routes. • Close to wood product sales and/or harvest (including Christmas tree harvest). • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	harvest). • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development. • Manage as VRM Class II. • **No Leasing**: *Lands with wilderness characteristics outside WSAs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40 in Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	• Manage as VRM Class III.
Action: If Congress designates Demaree Canyon WSA as non-wilderness, manage as described in other sections of the 1987 RMP as follows: • Seasonal closure for motorized vehicles on a portion. • Limit motorized travel to existing routes on a portion. • Make unsuitable for forest harvest. • Manage as sensitive to public utility development.	Action: If Congress releases Demaree Canyon WSA from Wilderness consideration: • Consider SRPs for competitive events. • Limit motorized and mechanized travel to designated routes. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for*	Action: If Congress releases Demaree Canyon WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the area to protect wilderness characteristics by applying the following management: • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow travel. • Close to mechanized travel • Close to wood product sales and/or harvest (including Christmas tree	Action: If Congress releases Demaree Canyon WSA from Wilderness consideration: • Consider SRPs for competitive events. • Limit motorized and mechanized travel to designated routes. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Manage as VRM Class III.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Manage as unsuitable for public utilities. • Manage public utility corridors. • Close the following lands to mineral material sales: utility corridors. • Manage a portion as VRM Class III. • Manage a portion as VRM undesignated. • Close to fluid mineral leasing.	*Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-43 in Appendix A.	harvest). • Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development. • Manage as VRM Class II. • **No Leasing**: *Lands with wilderness characteristics outside WSAs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Action: If Congress designates The Palisade WSA as non-wilderness, manage as described in other sections of the 1987 RMP as follows: • Limit motorized travel to existing routes on a portion. • Limit motorized travel to designated routes on a portion. • Close a portion to motor vehicles. • Make unsuitable for forest harvest. • Manage a portion as sensitive to public utility development.	Action: If Congress releases The Palisade WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage in accordance with the Alternative B management prescriptions for The Palisade ACEC with the following exceptions: • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow motorized travel. • Limit mechanized travel to designated routes.	Action: If Congress releases The Palisade WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage the area to protect wilderness characteristics by applying the following management: • Issue no SRPs for competitive events. • Close to motorized travel, including over-snow travel. • Close to mechanized travel. • Close to wood product sales and/or harvest (including Christmas tree harvest).	Action: If Congress releases The Palisade WSA from Wilderness consideration, manage in accordance with the Alternative D management prescriptions for The Palisade ACEC with the following exceptions: • Limit motorized and mechanized travel to designated routes. • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as a ROW avoidance area.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Manage a portion as unsuitable for public utilities. • Close the following lands to mineral material sales: The Palisade ACEC/ONA, VRM Class II. • Manage aportion as VRM Class I. • Manage a portion as VRM Class II. • Manage a portion as VRM class III. • Close to fluid mineral leasing.	• Manage as VRM Class II.	• Manage as a ROW exclusion area. • Close to mineral material disposal. • Close to non-energy leasable mineral exploration and/or development. • Manage as VRM Class II. • **No Leasing**: *Lands with wilderness characteristics outside WSAs*. Close to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-40, Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-41: *Lands Managed for Wilderness Characteristics*. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed for wilderness characteristics outside of existing WSAs. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A.	
Wild and Scenic Rivers (Administrative Designation)			
GOAL: Protect NWSRS-eligible segments in accordance with the Wild and Scenic River Act and BLM guidance (see BLM Manual 8351 [BLM 1993c].	**GOAL:** Evaluate eligible river segments and identify suitable segments for inclusion in the NWSRS, protecting them in accordance with the Wild and Scenic River Act and BLM guidance (see BLM Manual 8351 [BLM 1993c]).		
Objective: Preserve the tentative classification of each eligible segment by protecting its free-flowing nature, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable value(s) (ORV), pending congressional action or for the duration of the RMP (Figure 2-70, Appendix A).	Objective: Preserve the recommended classification of each suitable segment by protecting its free-flowing nature, water quality, and ORV(s), pending congressional action or for the duration of the RMP (Figures 2-71 [Alternative B] and 2-70 [Alternative C], Appendix A).		Objective: No similar objective.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D

Action:
Identify the following 14 stream segments as eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS. See Table 2-4, Summary of Wild and Scenic River Study Segments, for total segment lengths and segment study corridor acreages, as well as segment lengths on BLM land and segment study corridor acreages on BLM land (a description of each segment is provided in Appendix C):
• Colorado River (three segments);
• Dolores River;
• North Fork Mesa Creek;
• Blue Creek;
• Gunnison River Segment 2;
• Roan Creek;
• Carr Creek;
• Rough Canyon Creek;
• Unaweep Canyon (two segments):
  ○ East Creek; and
  ○ West Creek;
• North Fork West Creek; and
• Ute Creek.
	Action:
	Determine all eligible stream segments as not suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS, except for the Dolores River (see action below), and release them from interim management protections afforded eligible segments. This concludes the suitability study phase for these segments. See Table 2-4, Summary of Wild and Scenic River Study Segments, for total segment lengths and segment study corridor acreages, as well as segment lengths on BLM land and segment study corridor acreages on BLM land (a description of each segment is provided in Appendix C).
		Action:
		Determine the following 14 stream segments as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. See Table 2-4, Summary of Wild and Scenic River Study Segments, for total segment lengths and segment study corridor acreages, as well as segment lengths on BLM land and segment study corridor acreages on BLM land (a description of each segment is provided in Appendix C):
		• Colorado River Segment 1 (recreational classification);
		• Colorado River Segment 2 (recreational classification);
		• Colorado River Segment 3 (scenic classification)
		• Dolores River (recreational classification);
		• North Fork Mesa (scenic classification);
		• Blue Creek (scenic classification);
		• Gunnison River Segment 2 (recreational classification);
		• Roan Creek (scenic classification);
		• Carr Creek (scenic classification);
		• Rough Canyon Creek(scenic classification);
		• East Creek (recreational classification);
		• West Creek (recreational classification);
		• North Fork West Creek (wild classification); and
		• Ute Creek (scenic classification).
			Action:
			Determine all 14 eligible stream segments as not suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and release them from interim management protections afforded eligible segments. This concludes the suitability study phase for these segments. See Table 2-4, Summary of Wild and Scenic River Suitable Segment Lengths and Corridor Acreages, for total segment lengths and segment study corridor acreages, as well as segment lengths on BLM land and segment study corridor acreages on BLM land (a description of each segment is provided in Appendix C).

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Determine that 11.53 miles of the Dolores River are suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. Manage the suitable stream miles according to interim protective management guidelines for suitable stream segments until Congressional action occurs. Determine that 7.07 miles are not suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. Release stream miles determined not suitable from interim management protection afforded to eligible segments. Refer to Wild and Scenic River Suitability Analysis (Appendix C) for exact description of the stream miles determined to be suitable and not suitable.	Action: No similar action.	Action: No similar action.
Action: Establish the following interim protective management guidelines for all eligible segments pending Congressional action or for the duration of the RMP. All interim protective management is subject to valid existing rights. • Approve no actions altering the free-flowing nature of eligible segments through impoundments, diversions, channeling, or riprapping.	Action: Establish the following interim protective management guidelines for segments of the Dolores River determined suitable. All interim protective management is subject to valid existing rights. In addition to actions described in Alternative A: • Manage as VRM Class II. • Manage as ROW avoidance area. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-35: *WSR Study Segments Classified as Scenic and Recreational.*	Action: Establish the following interim protective management guidelines for all suitable segments pending Congressional action or for the duration of the RMP. All interim protective management is subject to valid existing rights. In addition to actions described in Alternative A: • Manage Wild and Scenic River study segments classified as "wild" as VRM Class I. • Manage Wild and Scenic River study segments classified as "scenic" and	Action: No similar action.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
• Approve no action that will have an adverse effect on an eligible segment's identified ORV(s). Enhance identified ORV(s) to the extent practicable. • Approve no action that will modify an eligible segment or its corridor to the degree that its eligibility or tentative classification would be affected. • Approve no action that would diminish water quality to the point that the water quality would no longer support the ORV(s).	Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.25-mile on either side of the active river channel (bank-full stage). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-47 in Appendix A.	"recreational" as VRM Class II. • Manage Wild and Scenic River study segments classified as "wild" as ROW exclusion areas. • Manage Wild and Scenic River study segments classified as "scenic" and "recreational" as ROW avoidance areas. ○ Exception: Dolores River – 50 meter ROW corridor on the west side of Highway 141. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-44: *WSR Study Segments Classified as Wild.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.25-mile of either side of the active river channel (bank-full stage). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 in Appendix A. • Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-35: *WSR Study Segments Classified as Scenic and Recreational.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 0.25-mile on either side of the active river channel (bank-full stage). (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	
National Trails (Congressional Designation)			
GOAL: Enhance, promote, and protect the scenic, natural, and cultural resource values associated with current and future designated National Scenic and Historic Trails.			

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Objective: Manage the congressionally designated Old Spanish National Historic Trail in consideration of the BLM and National Park Service (NPS) jointly developed trail-wide comprehensive plan and in coordination with the NPS (Figures 2-91 [Alternative A], 2-92 [Alternative B], 2-93 [Alternative C], and 2-94 [Alternative D], Appendix A). Identify the nature and purposes of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, and, to the greatest extent possible, manage the trail in a manner so as to safeguard the nature and purpose of the trail and in a manner that protects the values for which the trail was designated.			
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Identify the National Trail Management Corridor for the Old Spanish Trail after additional cultural resource Class III inventories are conducted. The congressionally designated Old Spanish Trail route (currently 6.9 miles on BLM lands within the GJFO planning area) is not based on completed field inventories. Where extant portions of the Old Spanish Trail may exist, complete Class III cultural resource inventories on all BLM parcels. Pursue partners for grant funding where practical to conduct surveys on adjacent lands with land owner's permission. The National Historic Trail designation allows for small location changes without congressional authorization. If the location of the trail changes as a result of Class III inventory the management actions in this RMP would apply to the newly mapped location(s) and may be modified to better address the findings of the inventory. That land no longer identified as trail location, as proven through the archaeological survey, would be managed for similar purposes and with similar VRM class to the adjacent public land.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Establish collaborative partnerships with academic institutions, professional and non-profit organizations, individual scholars, tribes, and other entities to perform research on Old Spanish Trail-related topics. Coordinate with partner groups, interest groups, interested individuals, local communities, and other stakeholders on Old Spanish Trail issues and projects.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Recreation opportunities would be provided consistent with the Old Spanish Trail. Facilities would be developed and placed outside the trail corridor when feasible to protect resource values, provide for visitor safety, and support selected use opportunities. Facilities would be developed within the trail corridor only when needed to protect trail integrity and resources, or to establish an Old Spanish Trail recreation retracement route.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Scientific and historical studies of cultural landscapes, sites, historic trails, and other resources, including excavation, would be allowed by qualified researchers on a case-by-case basis within the Old Spanish Trail corridor with written authorization.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Retain or cooperatively manage	Action: Retain BLM-administered lands and	Action: Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	BLM-administered lands to assure long-term use, protection, and access to areas along the Old Spanish Trail.	acquire available state and private lands and/ or easements to assure long-term use, protection, and access to areas along the Old Spanish Trail. Lands along the Old Spanish Trail corridor shall not be made available for Recreation and Public Purposes Act sales or leases, agricultural entries, or state grants, and shall be classified for retention in accordance with 43 CFR 2400.	
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Acquire parcels that exhibit characteristics consistent with the landscape setting, or important to management of the Old Spanish Trail, from willing buyers when funds are available.	Action: No similar action.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage the Old Spanish Trail as VRM Class IV (50 meter buffer). Manage newly located sections of the trail according to their VRI classification.	Action: Manage the Old Spanish Trail as VRM Class III (50 meter buffer). Manage newly located sections of the trail according to their VRI classification.	Action: Manage the Old Spanish Trail as VRM Class IV (50 meter buffer). Manage newly located sections of the trail according to their VRI classification.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Manage 50 meters on both sides of the Old Spanish Trail as a ROW avoidance area.		
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-45: *Old Spanish National Historic Trail.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 200-meter (656-foot) buffer from the center line. (Refer to Appendix	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-46: *Old Spanish National Historic Trail.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer from the center line. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-44 (Alternative C) in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** NSO-47: *Old Spanish National Historic Trail.* Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 50-meter (164-foot) buffer from the center line. (Refer to Appendix B.)

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	B.) See Figure 2-43 (Alternative B) in Appendix A.		See Figure 2-45 (Alternative D) in Appendix A.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-36: *Old Spanish National Historic Trail.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions within 5 miles of either side of the Old Spanish Trail. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-48 in Appendix A.	Allowable Use: No similar allowable use.
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Manage the Tabeguache Trail to provide for the ever-increasing outdoor recreation needs of an expanding urban population and to promote the preservation of public access to, travel within, and enjoyment and appreciation of the scenic, natural and cultural resources of the Tabeguache.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Petition the Secretary of Interior to designate the Tabeguache Trail as a National Recreation Trail as described in the National Trails System Act of 2002 (PL 90-543). If designated as a National Recreation Trail, develop an implementation plan according to the guidelines of the National Recreation Trail System Act.		
Action: Seek to acquire legal access for full-size vehicles along the Tabeguache Trail from Little Park Road to Colorado State Highway 141 near Whitewater.	Action: Same as Alternative A.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Same as Alternative A.
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Seek to acquire easements and/or ROWs on non-federal lands where a trail or facility must cross or be built.		
National, State, and BLM Byways (Administrative Designation)			
GOAL: Enhance, promote, and protect the scenic, natural, and cultural resource values associated with current and future designated byways.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Support efforts of corridor management plans for the designated byways and provide assistance, where feasible, in the development of byway facilities consistent with other decisions of the RMP (Figures 2-92 [Alternative B], 2-93 [Alternative C], and 2-94 [Alternative D], Appendix A).		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Support efforts of corridor management plans for the Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; provide assistance, where feasible, in the development of byway facilities consistent with other decisions of the RMP.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Support efforts of corridor management plans for the Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (National Scenic Byway and All American Road); provide assistance, where feasible, in the development of byway facilities consistent with other decisions of the RMP.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Support efforts of corridor management plans for the Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway (Colorado Scenic and Historic Byway); provide assistance, where feasible, in the development of byway facilities consistent with other decisions of the RMP.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: No similar action.	Action: No similar action.	Action: Nominate for designation the following BLM Backcountry Byways: • Lands' End; • John Brown Canyon; • Niche to Blue Mesa – Uranium Trail; and, • Winter Flats Road.
Action: No similar action in current RMPs.	Action: Manage the following byways as VRM Class II: • A portion of Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (from the Bookcliffs north); • Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; and • Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.	Action: Manage the following byways as VRM Class II: • Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway; • Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; and • Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.	Action: Manage the following byways as VRM Class II: • Lands End Backcountry Byway; • John Brown Canyon Backcountry Byway; • Niche to Blue Mesa – Uranium Trail Backcountry Byway; and • Winter Flats Road.
Action: No similar action in current RMPs.	Action: Manage a portion of Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway (from	Action: No similar action.	Action: Manage the following byways as VRM Class III:

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	the Bookcliffs south) as VRM Class III.		• Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Highway; • Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway; and • Unaweep-Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.
Allowable Use: No similar allowable use in current RMP.	Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-37: *Scenic Byways.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to fluid mineral leasing and other surface-disturbing activities within 0.5-mile of scenic byways. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figures 2-47 (Alternative B) and 2-48 (Alternative C), in Appendix A.		Allowable Use: **STIPULATION** CSU-38: *Scenic Byways.* Apply CSU (site-specific relocation) restrictions to fluid mineral leasing and other surface-disturbing activities within 0.25-mile of scenic byways. (Refer to Appendix B.) See Figure 2-49 in Appendix A.
SUPPORT			
Interpretation and Environmental Education			
GOAL: Provide interpretation, education, and information that promote the health of the land, the appreciation and protection of cultural and natural resources to foster greater community stewardship; and enhance users' experience and safety.			
Objective: No similar objective in current RMP.	Objective: Increase outreach efforts and provide the public with environmental education opportunities.		
Action: Provide interpretation, informational, and educational materials.	Action: Develop an interpretive and information services plan that outlines partnership development, product and service delivery methods (media), key messages or themes, and associated markets (audience).		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Seek to develop partnerships with local education institutions, visitor centers, tribes, field institutes, museums, visitor centers, and cooperators.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Provide opportunities for tribal participation in developing key messages and themes.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Pursue multicultural interpretation and environmental education opportunities for outreach, development, and implementation programs. Apply learning modalities and incorporate various learning styles in program design and delivery. Encourage the use of multiple intelligence or other theories for program presentations.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Establish repository of photographs and images that illustrate BLM's mission, including digital photographs and slides for program design.		
Action: No similar action in current RMP.	Action: Allow interpretation signs, facilities, and other delivery methods that address key messages, themes, or program/resource goals and objectives, including those for recreation, travel management, cultural resources, wildlife, and others.		
Transportation Facilities			
GOAL: No similar current goal in current RMP.	**GOAL:** Provide a transportation system that is manageable, maintainable, and meets the needs, as defined by the goals and objectives, for resources and resource uses.		
Objective: Provide access to allow multiple use management of BLM lands.	Objective: Maintain BLM roads and trails to identified maintenance intensity levels (appropriate intensity, frequency, and type of maintenance) consistent with public safety and land use plan objectives.		
Action: No similar in current RMP.	Action: All system roads and trails would be given a unique road/trail number to aid in public navigation, safety, Emergency Medical Services, and maintenance.		
Action: Acquire public or administrative access into 37 areas of public land where legal access does not exist.	Action: Acquire public or administrative access to public lands as opportunities become available.		
Action: Use and improve designated roads where feasible.			
Action: Construct new roads and trails where none exist or where existing roads and trails are inadequate for BLM needs.	Action: No similar action. Refer to the Travel Management section and Appendix M for actions specific to new roads and trails.		

Table 2-2 *(continued)*
Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alterative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Action: In the remainder of the resource area, consider requests from resource specialists for additional acquisition as needs arise.	Action: No similar action. Refer to the Lands and Realty section for actions specific to new roads and trails.		

Table 2-3
Drought Severity Classification

Category[1]	Description	Possible Impacts	Ranges				
			Palmer Drought Index	Climate Prediction Center Soil Moisture Model (Percentiles)	USGS Weekly Streamflow (Percentiles)	Standardized Precipitation Index	Objective Short and Long-term Drought Indicator Blends (Percentiles)[2]
D0	Abnormally Dry	Going into drought: short-term dryness slowing planting, growth of crops or pastures. Coming out of drought: some lingering water deficits; pastures or crops not fully recovered	-1.0 to -1.9	21-30	21-30	-0.5 to -0.7	21-30
D1	Moderate Drought	Some damage to crops, pastures; streams, reservoirs, or wells low, some water shortages developing or imminent; voluntary water-use restrictions requested	-2.0 to -2.9	11-20	11-20	-0.8 to -1.2	11-20
D2	Severe Drought	Crop or pasture losses likely; water shortages common; water restrictions imposed	-3.0 to -3.9	6-10	6-10	-1.3 to -1.5	6-10
D3	Extreme Drought	Major crop/pasture losses; widespread water shortages or restrictions	-4.0 to -4.9	3-5	3-5	-1.6 to -1.9	3-5

Table 2-3
Drought Severity Classification

Category[1]	Description	Possible Impacts	Ranges				
			Palmer Drought Index	Climate Prediction Center Soil Moisture Model (Percentiles)	USGS Weekly Streamflow (Percentiles)	Standardized Precipitation Index	Objective Short and Long-term Drought Indicator Blends (Percentiles) [2]
D4	Exceptional Drought	Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses; shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating water emergencies	-5.0 or less	0-2	0-2	-2.0 or less	0-2

Source: University of Nebraska Lincoln, National Drought Mitigation Center 2008. A partnership consisting of the US Department of Agriculture (Joint Agricultural Weather Facility and National Water and Climate Center), the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center, National Climatic Data Center, and the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska Lincoln produces the Drought Monitor. However, advice from many other sources is incorporated in the product, including virtually every government agency dealing with drought.

[1]Drought intensity categories are based on five key indicators and numerous supplementary indicators. This drought severity classification table shows the ranges for each indicator for each dryness level. Because the ranges of the various indicators often do not coincide, the final drought category tends to be based on what the majority of the indicators show. The analysts producing the map also weight the indices according to how well they perform in various parts of the country and at different times of the year. Also, additional indicators are often needed in the West, where winter snowfall has a strong bearing on water supplies.

D0-D4: The drought monitor summary map identifies general drought areas, labeling droughts by intensity, with D1 being the least intense and D4 being the most intense. D0, drought watch areas, are either drying out and possibly heading for drought, or are recovering from drought but not yet back to normal, suffering long-term impacts such as low reservoir levels.

[2]Short-term drought indicator blends focus on 1- to 3-month precipitation. Long-term blends focus on 6 to 60 months. Additional indices used, mainly during the growing season, include the US Department of Agriculture/National Agricultural Statistics Service Topsoil Moisture, Keetch-Byram Drought Index, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service satellite Vegetation Health Indices. Indices used primarily during the snow season and in the West include snow water content, river basin precipitation, and the Surface Water Supply Index. Other indicators include groundwater levels, reservoir storage, and pasture/range conditions.

Table 2-4
Summary of Wild and Scenic River Study Segments

River or Creek	Total Segment Length (miles)	Length on BLM Land (miles)	Total Wild and Scenic River Study Corridor (acres)	Area on BLM Land (acres)	Tentative Classification	Outstandingly Remarkable Values
Blue Creek	11.2	10.0	3,200	2,900	Scenic	Scenic, Fish, Cultural
Carr Creek	9.8	5.1	3,100	1,700	Scenic	Fish
Colorado River Segment 1	17.8	7.3	5,600	2,200	Recreational	Scenic, Fish, Wildlife
Colorado River Segment 2	3.5	1.3	1,200	100	Recreational	Fish
Colorado River Segment 3	19.7	19.1	6,400	5,700	Scenic	Scenic, Recreation, Fish, Wildlife, Geologic, Historic
Dolores River	32.0	18.6	9,600	6,100	Recreational	Scenic, Fish, Recreation, Geologic, Paleontological
East Creek	18.9	9.0	5,800	2,900	Recreational	Geologic
Gunnison River Segment 2	6.0	3.8	1,900	1,000	Recreational	Fish, Historic
North Fork Mesa Creek	2.1	2.1	700	900	Scenic	Vegetation
North Fork West Creek	3.3	3.3	1,100	1,100	Wild	Scenic
Roan Creek	15.8	6.5	4,500	2,000	Scenic	Fish
Rough Canyon Creek	4.2	4.2	1,400	1,200	Scenic	Scenic, Wildlife, Geologic
Ute Creek	4.2	4.2	1,400	1,400	Scenic	Scenic, Vegetation
West Creek	5.8	4.9	1,900	1,700	Recreational	Scenic, Wildlife, Geologic, Vegetation

2.8 SUMMARY COMPARISON OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Theme: CURRENT MANAGEMENT	Theme: BLENDED (Preferred)	Theme: CONSERVATION	Theme: RESOURCE USE
RESOURCES			
Air			
Potential impacts on air quality due to increased oil and gas and solid mineral development as well as predicted increases in OHV use may occur. Impacts on air quality include potential increases in concentrations of ozone forming pollutants, visibility degradation, fugitive dust, and greenhouse gases.	Potential impacts on air quality would be managed more effectively compared to Alternative A due to the implementation of the ARMP (**Appendix G**) and associated strategies. Restrictions and stipulations related to solid mineral leasing and development would result in reduced impacts on air quality from these sources. A higher rate of oil and gas leasing was assumed for this alternative than for Alternative A which may result in greater impacts on air quality from this source category for Alternative B than Alternative A. However, Alternative B also includes emission control strategies which would be effective at minimizing emissions.	Potential impacts on air quality are likely to be the lowest for this alternative due to the combination of implementation of the ARMP (**Appendix G**), restrictions and stipulations on solid and fluid mineral leasing and development, and emission control strategies.	This alternative assumes the maximum level of reasonably foreseeable development for oil and gas predicted over the life of the plan. Potential impacts on air quality are likely to be greatest for this alternative due to the potential for increased oil and gas and solid mineral development. However, Alternative D also includes implementation of the ARMP (**Appendix G**) and emission control strategies, which would be effective at minimizing emissions.
Soil Resources			
Loss of vegetation, destruction of soil crusts, and destabilization of surface soils would result from	Effects on soils would be reduced through elimination of cross-country motorized use and	Effects on soils would be reduced through elimination of cross-country motorized use. In addition,	Effects on soils would be reduced through elimination of cross-country motorized use and

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
dispersed recreation and managing the most acres as open to cross-country and intensive motorized use. Soil productivity is expected to decline over time as user-created routes and dispersed off-road use increase. Fewest NSO and CSU stipulations (433,000 acres and 74,100 acres respectively) of any alternative would limit protection of resources and soil impacts.	reduction in acres open to intensive use (reduced 57 percent from Alternative A). In addition, roads and trails open to public use would decline by 784 miles (24 percent) compared to Alternative A. More areas would be closed to fluid mineral leasing than under Alternative A, and 614,000 and 656,200 acres would be limited by NSO and CSU stipulations, respectively, to protect resources, which would minimize related soil impacts. Minimal overall change to soil health; could decline locally where disturbed, but soil productivity not expected to decline over time.	roads and trails open to public use would decline by 1,267 miles (39 percent) compared to Alternative A. More areas would be closed to fluid mineral leasing than under any other alternative, and 858,000 and 664,400 acres, respectively, would be limited by NSO and CSU stipulations to protect resources, which would minimize related soil impacts. Overall improvement to soil health. Soil productivity expected to increase over time.	reduction in acres open to intensive use (reduced 18 percent from Alternative A). In addition, roads and trails open to public use would decline by 278 miles (8 percent) compared to Alternative A. Fewer NSO and CSU stipulations (497,800 and 471,500 acres respectively) to protect soil resources than under Alternatives B or C. Soil productivity expected to decline over time. Alternative meets Public Land Health Standard 1 only with extensive monitoring, mitigation, and reclamation.
Water Resources			
Current management would maintain or improve water quality, natural stream morphologic conditions, sustainability of water resources (water quantity), groundwater aquifer properties, and natural stream hydrographs. Continue to apply NSO (433,000 acres) and CSU (74,100 acres) stipulations for protect water	Specific actions would maintain or improve water quality, natural stream morphologic conditions, sustainability of water resources (water quantity), groundwater aquifer properties, and natural stream hydrographs. Restrict surface-disturbing activities by applying NSO (614,000 acres) and CSU (656,200 acres)	Similar to Alternative B, but additional actions would maintain or improve water quality, natural stream morphologic conditions, sustainability of water resources (water quantity), groundwater aquifer properties, and natural stream hydrographs. Apply more restrictions on surface-disturbing activities (858,000 acres	Similar to Alternative A, but would provide slightly more protection for water resources, mainly due to the NSO stipulation for major river corridors (totaling 11,800 acres).

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
resources. ROW activities, mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing are primary land uses that could impact water quality and quantity. Land use restrictions designed to protect water quality and quantity would be relatively limited, and would generally be handled at the project level with design features and mitigation measures.	stipulations, which provide protection for water resources. NSO stipulation specific to major river corridors (totaling 11,800 acres). Compared with Alternative A, fewer areas open to fluid mineral leasing, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing would reduce impacts on water quality, channel stability, and watershed health. Increased protection of water resources through more lands designated as ACECs and managed to protect wilderness characteristics.	of NSO and 664,400 acres of CSU stipulations) than Alternatives A, B, or D. NSO stipulation specific to major river corridors (totaling 11,800 acres). Compared with Alternative A, fewer lands open to fluid mineral leasing, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing would reduce impacts on water quality, channel stability, and watershed health over a greater area. More lands than Alternative B would be protected through special designations, which would limit impacts to a smaller area.	
Vegetation			
General Vegetation and Desired Plant Communities			
ROW activities, mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing are primary land uses that could impact vegetation. Land use restrictions designed to protect vegetation and plant communities would be relatively limited, and would generally be handled at the project level with	Protective management measures for vegetation and stipulations and restrictions to reduce impacts from resource uses would be implemented. Desired plant communities would be prioritized. More restrictions on surface-disturbing activities (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest,	Similar to Alternative B but management would focus on improving vegetation for special status species habitat, which would improve and protect desired plant communities. Alternative C also would emphasize use of fire over mechanical treatments, which could limit vegetation improvement or restoration. This alternative provides the most	Similar to Alternative B but emphasis would be on managing vegetation for commodities and resource uses, as well as maintaining vegetation conditions. As a result, there would be fewer opportunities for resource protection and vegetation improvement or restoration. Fewer restrictions (e.g., NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations) and ROW avoidance and exclusion areas,

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
design features and mitigation measures.	recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing, which would reduce impacts related to vegetation disturbance, changes in condition, and fragmentation. Increased protection of vegetation resources with more lands designated as ACECs and managed to protect wilderness characteristics.	restrictions on land use (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and the fewest areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing, which would reduce impacts on vegetation over a greater area.	which reduce surface-disturbing activities and in turn reduce protections for vegetation.
Riparian and Wetland Vegetation			
Timber and woodland harvest would be prohibited in riparian and wetland areas, which would maintain or improve functioning condition. An NSO stipulation would continue on 6,145 acres of riparian vegetation, and 3,000 acres managed for aquatic riparian vegetation would improve or protect these areas. Recreation would have increasing impacts on riparian and wetland areas as regional population and subsequent recreation use increases, by increasing the likelihood for soil compaction, vegetation trampling, and weed introduction and spread.	Applying NSO and CSU stipulations around major river corridors and managing riparian areas and major river corridors as ROW avoidance areas with special stipulations would protect riparian vegetation and reduce impacts from surface-disturbing activities. Actions such as modifying recreation use and prohibiting firewood harvest would reduce impacts on riparian areas. Comprehensive route designation would help reduce impacts on riparian vegetation. Approximately 2,300 acres of riparian areas would be closed to motorized vehicles, 7,100 acres would be limited to designated routes, and 600 acres	Types of impacts on riparian and wetland vegetation from casual use, permitted activities, and changes to vegetation conditions would be the same as under Alternative B, but would occur over a smaller area. Motorized and mechanized travel would be limited to designated routes on 5,300 acres of riparian vegetation, closed on 4,100 acres, and 400 acres would be seasonally closed to motorized travel. Similar to Alternative B, several ACECs would be maintained or designated to protect riparian and wetland vegetation. Fourteen WSR segments would be suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and restrictions to preserve the	Types of impacts on riparian and wetland vegetation would be the same as under Alternative B, but this alternative would provide slightly less protection to riparian areas around major river corridors; require less stringent design, construction, maintenance, and reclamation plans; and apply ROW avoidance and CSU stipulations around riparian and wetland areas. Motorized and mechanized travel would be limited to designated routes on 8,600 acres, closed on 600 acres, and 600 acres would be seasonally closed to motorized travel. Riparian areas would not benefit from WSR protections since no

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Approximately 3,500 acres of riparian vegetation would be open to all modes of travel, 5,400 acres would be either limited to existing or limited to designated routes for motorized travel, and 700 acres would be seasonally closed to motorized travel. Fourteen WSR segments would be eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS and restrictions to preserve the ORVs, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification of the segments would protect riparian vegetation in these areas.	would be seasonally closed to motorized travel. Several ACECs would be maintained or designated to protect riparian and wetland vegetation. One segment along the Dolores River would be suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and restrictions to preserve the ORVs, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification of this segment would protect riparian vegetation in this area.	ORVs, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification of the segments would protect riparian vegetation in these areas.	segments would be managed as eligible or suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS.
Forest and Woodland Vegetation			
No forest and woodland management plans would guide BLM forestry practices in specific areas to improve forest health, diversity, and achievement of multiple age classes for species.	Current acreage of old growth pinyon and juniper would be maintained. Old growth woodlands would be managed as ROW avoidance areas, and a CSU stipulation would protect these areas from surface-disturbing activities. Planned and unplanned fire and variety of fuel treatments would assist in managing for multiple age classes in non-old-growth forest and woodland areas. Forestry plans would improve forest health, diversity, and	Types of impacts on forest and woodland vegetation from casual use, permitted activities, and changes to vegetation conditions would be the same as under Alternative B. Greater emphasis would be placed on increasing the acreage of old growth pinyon-juniper woodlands and closing the greatest acreage to wood harvest to maintain late seral forest vegetation over the long term.	Types of impacts on forest and woodland vegetation from casual use, permitted activities, and changes to vegetation conditions would be the same as under Alternative B. Alternative D would emphasize mid-seral pinyon-juniper forest and woodlands for harvest and treatment, likely preventing the expansion of old-growth forest communities.

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	achievement of multiple age classes for species such as pinyon-juniper, aspen, Douglas fir, spruce, and ponderosa pine.		
Weeds			
Lands and realty management actions (i.e., relatively few exclusion or avoidance areas) would reduce the likelihood of weed spread. Increased recreation users and vehicles would increase weed introduction and spread throughout the decision area. Fewer restrictions on surface disturbing activities would increase likelihood of weeds colonizing disturbance sites. Lack of interpretation and environmental education activities could result in user actions that introduce or spread weeds.	Soil and water protections would decrease the likelihood of weed spread by maintaining topsoil and native seed. Concentrating recreation facilities and visitor use through implementation of SRMAs could increase weed vectors; however, weeds may be easier to manage because use would be concentrated in discrete areas. More restrictions, such as NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations, on surface-disturbing activities (e.g., mining, recreation, grazing) would decrease the likelihood of weeds colonizing disturbed sites.	Types of impacts from casual use, permitted activities, and changes to vegetation conditions on weeds would be the same as under Alternative B. However, with its greater conservation emphasis and additional management actions to restrict surface-disturbing activities, there would be less potential for weed introduction or spread.	Types of impacts on weeds would be the same as those under Alternative B. Increased surface-disturbance from mining, recreation, grazing, and other permitted activities would result from fewer restrictions on surface-disturbing activities. Consequently, this alternative would result in the greatest potential for weed introduction and spread among the action alternatives.
Fish and Wildlife			
Potential for direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife species and their habitats. Land use restrictions designed to protect fish and wildlife and their habitat would be relatively limited, and would	Protective management measures would be implemented for fish and wildlife habitats, including 170,500 acres that would be managed as wildlife emphasis areas. Stipulations and restrictions would be	Similar to Alternative B; however, management would focus on improving vegetation for special status species habitat, which would improve and protect fish and wildlife. Approximately 145,500	Similar to Alternative B; however, managing vegetation for commodities and resource uses, as well as maintaining vegetation conditions, would be emphasized. As a result, there would be less

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
generally be handled at project level with design features and mitigation measures. No wildlife emphasis areas would be proposed, making it more difficult to effectively and efficiently manage for wildlife.	implemented to reduce impacts from resource uses, which would protect fish and wildlife populations and habitats. More restrictions (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternative A would reduce impacts related to disturbance from casual use, disturbance from permitted activities, and changes to habitat condition. Healthier vegetation for fish and wildlife would be more resistant to invasive weeds and drought conditions.	acres would be managed as wildlife emphasis areas. More restrictions (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternatives A and B would provide protection to fish and wildlife over a greater area.	opportunity for resource protection through wildlife emphasis areas (33,400 acres), and fewer ACECs and improvement or habitat restoration projects. Fewer protective measures, such as NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations, as well as ROW avoidance and exclusion areas, which reduce or limit surface-disturbing activities and thereby protect for fish and wildlife.
Special Status Species			
Potential for direct and indirect impacts on special status species and their habitats. ROW activities, mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing are primary land uses that could impact species and their habitat. Land use restrictions designed to	Protective management measures for fish, wildlife, and plants, and stipulations and restrictions to reduce impacts from resource uses, would be implemented, which would protect special status species populations and habitats. More restrictions (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy	Similar to Alternative B; however, management would focus on improving vegetation for special status species habitat, which would improve and protect special status species. More restrictions (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest,	Similar to Alternative B; however, managing vegetation for commodities and resource uses, as well as maintaining vegetation conditions, would be emphasized. As a result, there would be less opportunity for resource protection through wildlife emphasis areas and ACECs and improvement or habitat

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
protect fish and wildlife and their habitat would be relatively limited, and would generally be handled at project level with design features and mitigation measures. Few restrictions within Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat, including PPH and PGH. For example, 5,600 acres (100 percent) of PPH and 6,400 acres (72 percent) of PGH would remain open to all types of vehicles (motorized travel on routes within the remaining PGH would be closed seasonally), increasing the possibility of disturbance and death or injury from collisions. All PPH and PGH would remain open to fluid minerals leasing, resulting in further disturbances to sage-grouse.	development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternative A would reduce impacts related to disturbance from casual use; disturbance from permitted activities; and changes to habitat condition. Limiting motorized vehicle travel to designated routes on 5,200 acres (93 percent) of PPH and 8,100 acres (91 percent) of PGH would reduce disturbance and risk of collision from cross-country travel. Closing all occupied Gunnison sage-grouse habitat (10,600 acres) to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration would protect Gunnison sage-grouse from impact associated with resource development.	recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternatives A and B would provide protection to special status species over a greater area. Closing 4,900 acres (82 percent) of PPH and 3,500 acres (39 percent) of PGH to motorized travel would reduce disturbance and risk of collision. Closing all occupied Gunnison and greater sage-grouse habitat (18,900 acres) to fluid mineral leasing and geophysical exploration would protect sage-grouse from impact associated with resource development.	restoration. Fewer measures, such as NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations, as well as ROW avoidance and exclusion areas, to reduce or limit surface-disturbing activities which would reduce protections for special status species. Limiting motorized vehicle travel to designated routes on all PPH and PGH would reduce disturbance and risk of collision from cross-country travel. Applying CSU and TL stipulations to leks and nesting and early brood-rearing habitat would provide limited protection for sage-grouse.
Wild Horses			
Greater potential for direct and indirect impacts on wild horses and their habitats compared to the action alternatives. Zero acres would are closed to motorized use, 2,600 would be managed as ROW exclusion area, and zero acres would continue to	Establishment of an AML and allowing adjustments based on defined conditions would benefit wild horses. More restrictions (NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, and	Managing desired plant communities with an emphasis on maintaining or enhancing special status species habitat would have a greater impact on wild horses than under Alternative B. Approximately 23,600 acres would be closed to motorized use and	Types of impacts from desired plant community management would be the same as under Alternative C. Approximately 22,800 acres would be closed to motorized use, 22,800 acres would be managed as ROW exclusion area, and zero acres

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
be managed as an ACEC, providing minimal protection to the wild horses and their habitat. Mineral and energy development, forest harvest, and recreation are other primary land uses that could impact the wild horses and their habitat. Stipulations TL-10, Wild Horse Winter Range, and TL-11, Wild Horse Foaling Area, would prevent forage degradation or harassment of wild horses from other uses of public land.	recreation would reduce impacts related to disturbance from casual use, disturbance from permitted activities, and changes to habitat condition. Approximately 23,400 acres would be closed to motorized use and 24,000 acres would be managed as ROW exclusion area, which would reduce the harassment of wild horses. Designating the Mt. Garfield ACEC (of which 2,000 acres overlaps the LBCWHR) would indirectly protect forage, water sources, and the free-roaming nature of wild horses through ROW exclusions and restrictions on mineral development. Prohibiting target shooting in the Coal Canyon and Main Canyon areas of the LBCWHR would provide more protection for wild horses by reducing the risk of harassment or accidental death.	33,600 acres would be managed as ROW exclusion area, limiting harassment of wild horses. Alternative C would provide additional protection of wild horses by prohibiting mineral material sales, fluid mineral leasing, and non-energy mineral leasing activities. Similar to Alternative B, the Mt. Garfield ACEC would be designated, however under this alternative 3,100 acres would overlap the LBCWHR, providing additional protection for forage, water sources, and the free-roaming nature of wild horses through ROW exclusions and restrictions on mineral development. Similar to Alternative B, target shooting would be prohibited in the Coal Canyon and Main Canyon areas of the LBCWHR.	would be designated as an ACEC, providing more protection to the wild horses and their habitat than Alternative A. Fewer measures (e.g., NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations) and land use restrictions could result in more impacts from casual use, disturbance from permitted activities, and changes to habitat condition. No SRMAs within the LBCWHR would be identified, providing fewer focused recreation opportunities and fewer impacts on wild horses than under Alternative A.
Cultural Resources			
Impacts could occur from any surface-disturbing activities, as well as from natural events (such as soil erosion), all of which could affect	Impacts would vary little from Alternative A; however, more restrictions on surface-disturbances (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations),	Impacts would be much the same as under Alternative B; however, more restrictions on land use (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and	Impacts on cultural resources would be similar to those under Alternative A and B; however, restrictions in this alternative, while

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
the integrity of cultural sites. Authorized surface-disturbing activities could result in the discovery of previously unknown cultural resources, which would lead to the expansion of local knowledge about the history or prehistory of an area. Natural events and unregulated activities (such as from illegal artifact collection, trespass, largely uncontrolled OHV use, and livestock concentrations in sensitive areas) would create impacts on cultural resources that likely would not be mitigated.	emphasis on travel management, and greater use of BMPs and COAs for permitted activities would reduce impacts. More attention to protecting visual resources, soils, and vegetation would result in fewer naturally caused impacts. Uncontrolled impacts (such as from illegal artifact collection), would still occur, much the same as under Alternative A; however, restrictions on access could reduce opportunities for activities that would impact cultural resources.	fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing would provide protection to cultural resources over a greater area.	less stringent than under Alternatives B and C, would provide greater protection for cultural resources than would be provided under Alternative A.
Paleontological Resources			
Impacts could result from any surface-disturbing activities in areas where sediments are prominent. Impact could also result from natural events (such as soil erosion), which could affect the integrity of paleontological sites and damage fossils. Actual impacts on paleontological resources from permitted surface disturbances rarely occur due to the requirements of inventory in advance of any surface disturbance, followed by avoidance or site	Impacts would vary little from Alternative A; however, more restrictions on surface-disturbing activities (especially motorized use), emphasis on travel management, and greater use of BMPs and COAs for permitted activities would reduce impacts. More attention to protecting soils and vegetation would result in fewer naturally caused impacts. Uncontrolled impacts (such as from illegal fossil collection), would still	Impacts would be much the same as under Alternative B; however, more restrictions on land use (NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternatives A and B would provide protection to paleontological resources over a greater area.	Impacts would be similar to those under Alternative A and B; however, restrictions in this alternative, while less stringent than under Alternatives B and C, would provide greater protection for paleontological resources than would be provided under Alternative A.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
mitigation measures designed to protect the integrity of those resources. Authorized surface-disturbing activities could result in discovery of previously unknown fossil resources, which would lead to expanding local knowledge about the prehistory of an area. Natural events and unregulated activities (such as from illegal fossil collection, trespass, largely uncontrolled OHV use, and livestock concentrations in sensitive areas) would result in impacts that likely would not be mitigated.	occur, much the same as under Alternative A; however, restrictions on access could reduce opportunities for activities that would impact paleontological resources.		
Visual Resources			
Majority of BLM-managed public lands would remain undesignated. Activities that are not controlled by a use authorization (such as cross-country travel) could result in unmitigated impacts to the visual character of an area or to a landscape. Approximately 110,700 acres of VRI Class II lands, 38,800 acres of VRI Class III lands, and 9,900 acres of VRI Class IV lands are managed	Impacts would be the same as under Alternative A, but the intensity and extent of those impacts would be reduced due to increased acreage in VRM Classes I and II. More acres of VRI Class II, III, and IV lands would be managed as VRM Class I or II than under Alternative A, which would preserve or retain the existing character of the landscape, including the underlying	Impacts would be similar to Alternative B; however more acres would be managed as VRM Class I and II, resulting in less flexibility in designing projects to meet visual resource protection requirements. The most acres of VRI Class II, III, and IV lands would be managed as VRM Class I or II than under the other alternatives. This alternative provides the most protection to visual resources.	Impacts would be similar to Alternative B; however, large areas would remain in VRM Class III and IV, providing flexibility in designing projects to meet visual resource protection requirements. More acres of VRI Class II, III, and IV lands would be managed as VRM Class I or II than under Alternative A, but fewer than the other action alternatives, which would preserve or retain the existing character of

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
as VRM Class I or II, which would preserve or retain the existing character of the landscape, including the underlying scenic quality of the area. Approximately 117,400 acres of VRI Class II lands, 72,600 acres of VRI Class III lands, and 15,700 acres of VRI Class IV lands are managed as VRM Class III which would partially retain the existing character of the landscape. Nearly all of the acres that are managed as VRM Class III or Undesignated are scenic quality B landscapes and have high visual sensitivity, so changes to these landscapes would be perceived as more intense than in lower value landscapes. In total, 696,100 acres of the remaining lands do not have an assigned VRM class. VRM classes are assigned to these areas on a case-by-case basis as projects arise.	scenic quality of the area. All of the VRI Class II scenic quality A landscapes and 83 percent of scenic quality B landscapes would be managed as either VRM Class I or II. In addition, 84 percent of the VRI Class II high sensitivity landscapes and 79 percent of VRI Class II medium sensitivity landscapes would be managed as either VRM Class I or II. All of the VRI Class II lands that would be managed as VRM Class III are of scenic quality B. Furthermore, 49,800 acres of VRI Class II high sensitivity landscapes would be managed as VRM Class III, which could result in more intense impacts than modifications to lower value landscapes.	Within the VRI Class II lands that would be managed as VRM Class III, all are of scenic quality B ranking and most (79 percent) have medium sensitivity. The remaining 21 percent are high sensitivity landscapes, and the intensity of perceived impact would be greatest in these areas. However, this only accounts for 800 acres within the decision area.	the landscape, including the underlying scenic quality of the area. Approximately 118,300 acres of VRI Class II lands would be managed according to VRM Class III or IV objectives, which would allow for moderate to major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. This alternative has the greatest potential for impacts to scenic quality of any of the action alternatives. Within the VRI Class II lands that would be managed as VRM Class III, 7,700 acres (8 percent) are scenic quality A landscapes and an additional 85,000 acres (92 percent) are scenic quality B landscapes. Furthermore, 62,300 acres (67 percent) are of high sensitivity and the remaining acres (33 percent) are of medium sensitivity. Within the VRI Class II lands that would be managed as VRM Class IV, all are scenic quality B landscapes but have high sensitivity. Impacts from landscape modifications in these areas would be perceived as more intense than modifications in areas with lower visual value.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Wildland Fire Management			
Wildland fires would continue. There would also be a need to grow and expand the wildland fire and hazardous fuels program as demand on this program increases.	Similar to Alternative A, wildland fires would continue. Alternative B would be the most permissive in allowing unplanned wildland fire as a management tool to meet resource benefit objectives, which would increase flexibility and efficiency by mitigating against unplanned, damaging fires. Most management actions are intended to improve, create, or re-establish healthy ecological conditions in various vegetative types and reduce the risk of catastrophic fire, especially in the WUI. This would promote the most efficient use of wildland fire management program resources. Alternative B provides management flexibility along with reduced large fire costs by maximizing the range of fuel treatment options and providing the possibility to use unplanned wildland fire for resource benefit where appropriate.	Similar to Alternative B; however, this alternative provides the least amount of flexibility in methods used for fuel-reduction treatments.	Alternative D has less flexibility than the other alternatives to manage wildland fires and would require suppression in more circumstances due to fewer acres allowing the management of unplanned wildland fires for resource benefit. This would reduce the efficiency of the wildland fire management program and result in the highest large fire costs of any alternative.
Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Outside Existing WSAs			
Lands with wilderness characteristics outside existing WSAs would not be managed to	Three lands with wilderness characteristics units (24,400 acres or 14 percent) would be managed	Twelve lands with wilderness characteristics units (171,200 acres or 100 percent) would be managed	Impacts on lands with wilderness characteristics would be similar to Alternative A because no special

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
protect those characteristics. Management actions to protect other resources and special designation areas would offer some protection of wilderness characteristics, though surface-disturbing activities such as fluid mineral extraction and casual use (e.g., motorized recreation) would have the potential to alter the natural setting as well as reduce opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation for all lands with wilderness characteristics units. Therefore, degradation of wilderness characteristics would be likely.	to protect their wilderness characteristics. Closing these units to fluid minerals leasing, mineral material disposal, and non-energy leasable development and exploration would protect wilderness characteristics by prohibiting development and infrastructure related to those actions, subject to valid existing rights. While NSO restrictions would prevent alteration of wilderness characteristics, the potential for impacts on other lands with wilderness characteristics units would remain. The remaining 146,800 acres of lands with wilderness characteristics would not receive any direct protection. Therefore, degradation of wilderness characteristics in those areas would be likely.	to protect their wilderness characteristics. As a result, protection of wilderness characteristics would be increased in comparison to Alternative A. More restrictions on land use (e.g., NSO and CSU stipulations) and fewer areas open to mineral and energy development, forest harvest, recreation (especially motorized use), and livestock grazing than Alternatives A would also provide greater protection of wilderness characteristics.	management would be enacted to preserve wilderness characteristics in inventoried lands with wilderness characteristics units. While some protection of these qualities may be provided by management actions for other resources program, lack of management actions for lands with wilderness characteristics increases the potential for degradation of these characteristics.

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
RESOURCE USES			
Forestry			
Approximately 542,700 acres would be classified as unsuitable for harvest. Harvest of forest and woodland product would continue to be impacted by NSO stipulations for cultural resources that limit or prohibit actions and treatments in areas where they would conflict with cultural resource protection. Management of some ACECs, including Unaweep Seep and the Palisade, would restrict forestry activities and limit the harvest of products from these areas. Management of the 14 WSR study segments would allow for removal of forest products from eligible segments when forestry harvest does not conflict with the protection of ORVs, free-flowing nature, or tentative classification. Restricting development of new roads and trails could result in additional costs or restrictions on harvest because of reduced access. No impact on biomass utilization.	Approximately 203,100 acres (63 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) would be closed to wood product sales or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). Management actions for other resources would place additional limitations (beyond Alternative A) on forestry product development. Increased fuels treatments have the potential to impose additional limits on forest harvest by reducing the quantity of forest products available for harvest. Impacts from WSR management would be similar to those described under Alternative A, but would only apply to the Dolores River pending a suitability determination. Making biomass available represents a direct impact on the regional ability for biomass resources to be utilized.	Approximately 435,300 acres (20 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) would be closed to wood product sales or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). Impacts on forestry from other management actions and fuels treatments would be similar to Alternative B. Restrictions from WSRs would be the same as under Alternative A. Biomass impacts would be the similar to Alternative B.	Approximately 108,600 acres (80 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) would be closed to wood product sales or harvest (not including Christmas tree harvest). Significant impacts on forestry product harvest would be less likely. Manual and mechanical fuels treatments over the fewest acres of any alternative, thereby protecting the quantity of forest products. There would be no management for lands managed for wilderness characteristics or WSRs under Alternative D, and, as such, there would be no restrictions from these two programs on forestry management or harvest. Tamarisk and Russian olive would be targeted for removal, with the same types of impacts on biomass resource development as under Alternative B.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Livestock Grazing			
Includes the largest area open to livestock grazing; there would be no net change in the 978,600 acres available for livestock grazing or the assigned AUMs. Acres of allotments open to grazing that would be acceptable for coal leasing and development, open to fluid mineral leasing, and open to mineral material sales under Alternative A represent the greatest potential impact on livestock grazing practices of any alternative. Recreation use would result in more conflicts with livestock grazing under Alternative A than under Alternatives B, C, or D, given the large expanse of undesignated routes.	Provides third-largest area open to grazing: approximately 961,100 acres of allotments would be open to grazing (2 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A), with 176,800 (18 percent) of those acres open with seasonal limitations. Within the acres available to livestock grazing, 60,633 AUMs would be allocated (approximately 1 percent fewer AUMs than under Alternative A). Types of impacts would be the same as under Alternative A, but would occur over a smaller area.	Provides the smallest area open to grazing: approximately 586,600 acres of allotments (40 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) would be open to grazing and 440,400 acres (43 percent), including all portions of allotments below 6,000 feet, would be closed to grazing. Within the acres available to livestock grazing, 32,658 AUMs would be allocated (approximately 47 percent fewer AUMs than under Alternative A). Types of impacts would be the same as those under Alternative A, but would occur over a smaller area than under any other alternative.	Provides the second-largest area open to grazing: approximately 977,200 acres of allotments (less than 1 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) would be open to grazing, with seasonal limitations applied on a case-by-case basis. Within the acres available to livestock grazing, 61,270 AUMs would be allocated (the same amount as under Alternative A). Types of impacts would be the same as those under Alternative A, but would occur over a slightly smaller area.
Recreation and Visitor Services			
Certain areas, such as Palisade Rims and the Gunnison River Bluffs, receive heavy recreation use that currently falls under ERMA management. Not providing focused recreation management for these types of areas would likely inhibit desired opportunities, outcomes, and experiences, and	Three SRMAs would be managed for their unique value, importance, and/or distinctiveness. Management actions would largely maintain or enhance the desired recreation setting characteristics. Likewise, anticipated growth in cross-country OHV use and	Two SRMAs would be managed for their unique value, importance, and/or distinctiveness. More stringent resource protection and less focus on proactive recreation management would promote quiet, dispersed recreation at the expense of motorized recreation experiences and those visitors	Six SRMAs would be managed for their unique value, importance, and/or distinctiveness. Greater emphasis on promoting recreation would likely result in an even greater increase in use than Alternative A. The six SRMAs, in particular, would become increasingly popular destinations. A

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
result in user conflict and displacement. Similar impacts would be expected where management plans for popular areas like the Grand Valley IRMA fail to provide adequate management direction for emerging recreation trends and increased visitation. These impacts would likely become significant in localized areas over the life of the plan.	competitive events in the Grand Valley Open Area may necessitate SRMA management.	looking for a structured setting. With little emphasis on promotion of the GJFO as a recreation destination, users could eventually gravitate to other parts of the region, making it difficult to sustain front and middle country social setting characteristics in the SRMAs.	resulting demand for additional facilities would likewise push most or all SRMAs towards a rural setting instead of the desired middle and back country setting characteristics.
Lands and Realty			
Managing 234,900 acres as unsuitable for utilities (i.e., ROW exclusion areas) would prohibit the placement of ROWs in these areas, thereby reducing options for ROW placement in the decision area. Areas identified as sensitive for utility development (i.e., ROW avoidance areas) would cover 441,400 acres. These areas could impose design and siting requirements and associated costs on new ROWs or assigned, amended, or renewed ROWs at existing sites. No solar or wind emphasis areas would be identified.	Managing ROW exclusion and avoidance areas would have the same types of impacts as under Alternative A, except that there would be 204,200 acres managed as ROW exclusion areas (13 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) and 740,900 acres managed as ROW avoidance areas (42 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Alternative B would identify 12,200 acres of solar emphasis areas (including 9,200 acres of SEZs within the solar emphasis area boundaries) and 2,600 acres of wind emphasis areas; processing solar and wind applications would be more efficient.	Managing ROW exclusion and avoidance areas would have the same types of impacts as under Alternative A, except that there would be 365,800 acres managed as ROW exclusion areas (56 percent more acres than under Alternative A), and 627,000 acres as ROW avoidance areas (42 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Alternative C would identify 5,300 acres of solar emphasis areas (57 percent fewer acres than under Alternative B) and 2,600 acres of wind emphasis areas (same as Alternative B). Areas considered for acquisition would be similar to under Alternative B, except that	Managing ROW exclusion and avoidance areas would have similar impacts as under Alternative A, except that there would be 104,100 acres managed as ROW exclusion areas (56 percent fewer than Alternative A), and 80,500 acres managed as ROW avoidance areas (82 percent less than under Alternative A). Alternative D would identify 36,300 acres of solar emphasis areas (3 times more than under Alternative B) (including 9,200 acres of SEZs that are entirely within the solar emphasis area boundaries) and 2,600 acres of wind emphasis areas (same as Alternative B). The boundary of the Grand Valley

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	Areas considered for acquisition would be similar to Alternative A, except this alternative would include additional acquisition criteria that could result in additional areas being acquired. A petition to withdraw 20,700 acres from locatable mineral entry would promote resource protection but also limit the location of mineral activities and associated facilities.	Alternative C includes five additional criteria focused on habitat and wildlife range, riparian areas, and recreation areas, which could result in additional areas being acquired. A petition to withdraw 45,100 acres from locatable mineral entry would result in the same type of impacts as those described under Alternative B, but occurring over a larger area.	Open Area could be modified to make more land in the decision area available for solar development, a long-term, direct effect on the utilization of solar resources. Identifying 13 cooperative management agreement tracts would have similar impacts to those described under Alternative A, but impacts would affect 8 more tracts, almost 10 times more than Alternative A. A petition to withdraw 1,300 acres from locatable mineral entry would result in the same type of impacts as those described under Alternative B, but occurring only in the Pyramid Rock ACEC.
Energy and Minerals			
Solid Leasable Minerals – Coal			
11 percent of the decision area with coal potential would remain unacceptable for further coal leasing and development. Management actions that would make other areas unacceptable for coal mining would have little effect on industry's current interest in coal mining.	18 percent of the coal potential area would be managed as unacceptable for coal leasing and development (53 percent more acres than under Alternative A). NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations would restrict the locations and sizes of surface disturbance allowed for potential future exploration and	19 percent of the area with coal potential would be managed as unacceptable for coal leasing and development (59 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Similar to Alternative B, NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations would restrict the locations and sizes of areas of surface disturbance	14 percent of the area with coal potential would be managed as unacceptable for coal leasing and development (19 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Types of impacts from applying stipulations within the coal resource potential development area would be similar to under

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	mining activities.	associated with mining activities. Alternative C would be the most restrictive alternative with more NSO stipulations applied than any other alternative.	Alternative B, but Alternative D would apply fewer NSO stipulations than Alternatives B or C and would thus be less restrictive.
Solid Leasable Minerals – Non-Energy Leasables, Potash			
No acres would be closed to non-energy solid minerals leasing; availability of non-energy minerals would remain unrestricted. Sewemup WSA, which overlaps the eastern edge of the potash potential area, would remain closed to potash mining. In the remaining potash potential area, TLs would impact the timing of development.	Within the 2,800-acre potash development potential area, 1,900 acres would be closed and an additional 20 acres open to leasing would be covered by an NSO stipulation, leaving 880 acres available for exploration or development of potential potash resources in the decision area. Impacts from the Sewemup WSA would be the same as those described under Alternative A.	Impacts on potash resources would be the same as those described under Alternative B.	Impacts on potash resources would be similar to those described under Alternative B. However, within the 2,800-acre potash development potential area, 500 acres would be closed and an additional 250 acres open to leasing would be covered by an NSO stipulation, leaving 2,050 acres available for exploration or development of potential potash resources in the decision area.
Fluid Leasable Minerals – Oil, Gas, and Geothermal			
1,134,600 acres (92 percent) of federal mineral estate would remain open to oil and gas and geothermal leasing, and 96,500 acres (8 percent) would remain closed. NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations would restrict where surface-disturbing activities may occur, the manner in which they may be implemented, and when they may	1,028,800 acres (84 percent) of federal mineral estate would be open to future oil and gas and geothermal leasing, a 9 percent decrease from Alternative A. Approximately 202,400 acres (16 percent) would be closed. Approximately 15 percent of the area with geothermal resource potential would be closed to geothermal leasing, including the	607,600 acres (49 percent) of federal mineral estate would be open to future oil and gas and geothermal leasing (46 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A), and 623,600 acres (51 percent) would be closed (6.5 times more acres than under Alternative A). Approximately 53 percent of the area with potential for geothermal resources would be closed to	1,130,700 acres (92 percent) of federal mineral estate would be open to future oil and gas and geothermal leasing (1 percent less acres than under Alternative A), and 100,500 acres (9 percent) would be closed (4 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Approximately 7 percent of the area with potential for geothermal resources would be closed to

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
occur in areas where they are applied. 774,200 acres has development potential and would remain open to leasing, 281,500 acres (36 percent) of which would have an NSO stipulation, 59,300 acres (8 percent) would be open with a CSU stipulation, and 179,100 acres (23 percent) would be open with a TL. 344,300 acres (44 percent) has development potential and no stipulations. 6 percent of the area with geothermal potential would remain closed to geothermal leasing.	Bangs Canyon area and the Palisade municipal watershed area. Much of the geothermal potential area east of Palisade would be subject to NSO stipulations. 757,000 acres has development potential and would be open to leasing, 335,400 acres of which would have an NSO stipulation (19 percent more acres than under Alternative A), 435,300 acres would have a CSU stipulation (because many CSU stipulations under Alternative A do not have mapped acreages, an acreage-based comparison is not considered accurate), and 278,700 acres would have a TL stipulation (56 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Stipulations would restrict the locations and sizes of surface disturbance allowed for potential future exploration and development activities.	geothermal leasing, the highest of any alternative. 607,600 acres has development potential and would be open to leasing, 243,000 acres of which would have an NSO stipulation (14 percent less acres than under Alternative A), 228,000 acres would have a CSU stipulation (because many CSU stipulations under Alternative A do not have mapped acreages, an acreage-based comparison is not considered accurate), and 158,800 acres would have a TL stipulation (11 percent less acres than under Alternative A). Stipulations would restrict the locations and sizes of surface disturbance allowed for potential future exploration and development activities.	geothermal leasing, the fewest of the action alternatives. 773,400 acres has development potential and would be open to leasing, 274,100 acres of which would have an NSO stipulation (3 percent less acres than under Alternative A), 316,600 acres would have a CSU stipulation (because many CSU stipulations under Alternative A do not have mapped acreages, an acreage-based comparison is not considered accurate), and 265,000 acres would have a TL stipulation (48 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Stipulations would restrict the locations and sizes of surface disturbance allowed for potential future exploration and development activities.
Locatable Minerals			
No new areas would be recommended for withdrawal from the location of mining claims; therefore, there would be no change in the area currently available to the claiming of locatable	20,700 acres would be petitioned for withdrawal from locatable mineral entry. Combined with the 20,100 acres previously withdrawn (under Alternative A), the availability of locatable minerals	45,100 acres would be petitioned for withdrawal from locatable mineral entry. Combined with the additional 20,100 acres previously withdrawn (under Alternative A), availability of locatable minerals	1,300 acres would be petitioned for withdrawal from locatable mineral entry. Combined with the additional 20,100 acres previously withdrawn (under Alternative A), availability of locatable minerals

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
minerals. The areas with high gold potential along the Dolores River would continue to not be withdrawn from future claim staking.	would be limited on 40,800 acres, or 4 percent of the mineral estate underlying BLM-administered lands (2.2 times more acres than under Alternative A). Withdrawing the proposed Sinbad Valley ACEC from mineral entry would reduce potential for the development of a future copper/silver mine in the decision area.	would be limited on 65,200 acres, or 6 percent of the mineral estate underlying BLM-administered lands (3.2 times more acres than under Alternative A). The area with high gold potential along the Dolores River would be withdrawn from claiming under Alternative C, reducing the potential for gold development. Impacts on copper/silver mining would be similar to those described under Alternative B.	would be limited on 21,400 acres, or 2 percent of the mineral estate underlying BLM-administered lands (6 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Impacts along the Dolores River would be similar to those described under Alternative A.
Salable Minerals			
274,300 acres (26 percent) of mineral estate underlying BLM-administered lands would remain closed to the disposition of salable minerals, precluding future mining activities in these areas.	586,600 acres (55 percent) would be closed or limited to the disposition of salable materials. This includes 252,400 acres closed to mineral material development (8 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A) plus 307,000 acres open to mineral material development with NSO stipulations. NSO stipulations would effectively close these areas to mining mineral materials unless an exception is granted. CSU and TL stipulations would restrict the locations, sizes, and timing of surface disturbance	817,600 acres (77 percent) would be closed or limited to the disposition of salable materials. This includes 452,000 acres closed to mineral material development (57 percent more acres than under Alternative A) plus 365,600 acres open to mineral material development with NSO stipulations. Similar to Alternative B, NSO stipulations would effectively close these areas to mining mineral materials unless an exception is granted. Alternative C would be the most restrictive because more	462,800 acres (44 percent) would be closed or limited to the disposition of salable materials. This includes 155,300 acres closed to mineral material development (40 percent fewer acres than under Alternative A), plus 307,500 acres open to mineral material development with NSO stipulations. Similar to Alternative B, NSO stipulations would effectively close these areas to mining mineral materials unless an exception is granted. Alternative D would be more flexible than Alternatives A, B, and

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	allowed for potential future mining activities.	stipulations would be applied than under any other alternative.	C with the use of fewer stipulations.
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS			
Wilderness Study Areas			
Resource uses in WSAs that maintain each area's suitability for preservation as wilderness and protects the viability of current wilderness characteristics would be allowed.	Where lands managed for wilderness characteristics are adjacent to WSAs, a wider expanse of contiguous land containing wilderness characteristics could heighten protection within WSAs and further ensure the integrity of their wilderness characteristics.	Impacts would be similar to those under Alternative B.	Impacts would be similar to those under Alternative A since no lands would be managed for wilderness characteristics contiguous with any existing WSAs.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern			
Impacts to values of existing ACECs would continue from authorized land uses including forestry, grazing, recreation, motorized use, and utility development. NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations would be applied within ACECs. Ninety-five percent of ACECs would continue to be open to fluid mineral leasing with an NSO stipulation applied. These restrictions would protect ACEC values from surface-disturbing activities associated with leasing fluid minerals.	Fewer impacts to relevant and important values would occur in comparison to Alternative A because more areas would be managed as ACECs (3.7 times more acres than under Alternative A). Acquisition of lands within or adjacent to ACECs could provide for more contiguous BLM-administered land, prevent encroachment of private development, and enhance the relevant and important values for which the ACEC was designated. Management actions, including stipulations (e.g., NSO, CSU, and	Fewer impacts to relevant and important values would occur in comparison to Alternative A because more areas would be managed as ACECs (5.8 times more acres than under Alternative A). Impacts from recreation, land acquisitions, mineral and energy development, grazing, recreation, and travel management would be similar to those described under Alternative B, but would occur over a larger area. Approximately 163,200 acres (97 percent) of ACECs would be closed to fluid mineral leasing,	Fewer impacts to relevant and important values would occur in comparison to Alternative A because more areas would be designated (15 percent more acres than under Alternative A). Impacts from recreation, land acquisitions, mineral and energy development, grazing, recreation, and travel management would be similar to those described under Alternative B, but would occur over a smaller area. The 80-acre Unaweep Seep ACEC (less than one percent of ACECs in this alternative) would be closed to fluid mineral leasing, protecting the

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	TL), would be applied to mineral and energy development, grazing, recreation, and travel management in order to protect the values within each ACEC. Approximately 52,800 acres (50 percent) of ACECs would be closed to fluid mineral leasing, protecting relevant and important values by prohibiting related development that could degrade those values.	protecting relevant and important values by prohibiting related development that could degrade those values.	ACEC's relevant and important values by prohibiting related development that could degrade those values.
Wild and Scenic Rivers			
14 river segments identified as eligible for inclusion in NWSRS. Protection of the free-flowing nature, ORVs, and tentative classifications (i.e., wild, scenic, recreational) of the segments until a suitability determination is made for the segments. No action that would adversely affect the free-flowing nature of any of the 14 WSR segments, their ORVs, or tentative classifications would be approved. Potential impacts on WSR values would be minimized where other special management designation overlap a stream segment.	Only the Dolores River would be determined suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and receive specific management protection. While fewer segments would managed as eligible or suitable than under Alternatives A or C, Alternative B would provide different forms of protection to study segments through VRM objectives, applying travel restrictions, identifying ROW avoidance areas, designating ACECs, and applying stipulations. When compared to Alternative A, 8 percent more acres of stream segments would be protected by NSO stipulations, 1 percent fewer acres would be protected by CSU	All segments would be determined suitable for inclusion in NWSRS. Continued management of segments to protect the free-flowing nature, associated ORVs, and tentative classification. Impacts would be similar to or the same as those described under Alternative A, as no action that would adversely affect the free-flowing nature of any of the 14 WSR segments, their ORVs, or tentative classifications would be approved. Potential impacts to WSR values would be minimized where other special management designation overlap a stream segment.	Least amount of protection for the 14 eligible segments. All eligible segments would be determined nonsuitable, a potential long-term impact on the WSR characteristics of these segments as the ORVs, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification identified during eligibility would not be protected by either eligibility or suitability management. While the BLM would not be obligated to protect the ORVs, free-flowing nature, or tentative classification of the segments, they could still receive indirect protection from other resource management actions.

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	stipulations, and 4.3 times more acres would be protected by TL stipulations.	Alternative C would provide the most protection to WSR study segments via stipulations. Compared to Alternative A, 9 percent more acres would be protected by NSO, 1 percent more acres would be protected by CSU, and 4.3 times more acres would be protected by TL stipulations.	
National Trails			
No special restrictions for surface occupancy or fluid mineral leasing surrounding the Old Spanish Trail, which could result in impacts on visual resources or setting for the trail. Visual resource management could impact natural scenic qualities of the trail. Development may be permitted that could impact scenic qualities of the trail. Under Alternative A, the Tabeguache Trail is not a National Recreation Trail.	Applying NSO stipulation (200-meter buffer) and managing 50-meter buffer on either side of the Old Spanish Trail as a ROW avoidance area would provide more protection from surface-disturbing activities than under Alternative A. Managing a 50-meter buffer around the Old Spanish Trail as VRM Class IV would provide limited protection from visual disturbances. No NSO stipulation would be applied on the Tabeguache Trail. Protection against soil erosion and improvement of soils to maintain vegetative cover could impose restrictions on recreational development and management	Applying more-restrictive NSO stipulations (0.5-mile buffer) and managing a 50-meter buffer as VRM Class III would provide more protection from surface-disturbing activities in comparison to Alternative A. Impacts from managing areas as ROW avoidance would be similar to Alternative B. Impacts from fluid mineral leasing on the Old Spanish and Tabeguache Trails would be minimal due to restrictions in place and low development potential adjacent to the trails. Impacts from protecting against soil erosion and improving soils would be similar to Alternative B. Management actions to protect	Applying NSO stipulation (50-meter buffer) and managing a 50-meter buffer on either side of the Old Spanish Trail as a ROW avoidance area would be more restrictive than Alternative A but less than Alternative C. Impacts from VRM on the Old Spanish Trail would be the same as described under Alternative B. Impacts from protecting against soil erosion and improving soils would be similar to Alternative B.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
	activities associated with trails. Potential listing of the Tabeguache Trail as a National Recreation Trail could increase recreational use of the trail, thus providing the potential for greater opportunities for interpretation and education, while also increasing pressure on trail resources. Without land acquisitions or easements, access to portions of the trail that currently pass through private property could be restricted or closed.	Rough Canyon Creek, which would be found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS, may impact the Tabeguache Trail. All other impacts on the Tabeguache Trail would be similar to those under Alternative B.	
National, State, and BLM Byways			
Efforts to protect scenic ORVs along eligible WSR segments would benefit scenic values of the byways by prohibiting or limiting most surface-disturbing activities. Impacts on adjacent landscapes from fluid mineral development are unlikely due to the limited mineral potential adjacent to byways. Lack of interpretation and environmental education resources could degrade historic or natural qualities of lands adjacent to byways. By not establishing any BLM	No new BLM byways; impacts would be the same as those under Alternative A. Management of the Dolores River WSR segment determined suitable would aid in protection of natural and historic resources along the Unaweep-Tabeguache Byway. Lands adjacent to byways have low fluid mineral potential. As such, fluid minerals development is not likely to impact scenic or historic values of byways. Surface use restrictions proposed for cultural resource protection	No new BLM byways; impacts would be the same as those under Alternative A. Impacts from WSR management actions would be the same as those described under Alternative A. Impacts from fluid minerals would be the same as those described under Alternative B. Impacts from surface use restrictions proposed for cultural resource protection would be the same as those described under Alternative B.	There would be 4 new BLM byways totaling 48 miles; increased visitor traffic could enhance awareness and appreciation and potentially require increased protective actions for lands adjacent to byways. Increased use may enhance awareness and appreciation, as well as strain resources. Impacts from fluid minerals would be the same as those described under Alternative B. Impacts from surface use restrictions proposed for cultural

Table 2-5
Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
byways, resources along those roads would not receive public recognition and traffic would not increase at levels commensurate with an official byway.	would limit impacts on visual resources and therefore protect scenic qualities associated with any adjacent byways.		resource protection would be the same as those described under Alternative B.
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS			
Native American Tribal Uses			
There are no known Indian Trust Assets or treaty-based rights or responsibilities of the BLM in the planning area; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
Public Health and Safety			
Lands open for consideration for mineral material sales and fluid minerals leasing would have potential for future health and safety risks related to mining activities. Lands open for fluid minerals leasing would have potential for future health and safety risks related to oil, gas, and geothermal exploration, development, operation, and decommissioning. Lands acceptable for coal leasing and development would have potential for future health and safety risks related to coal mining. Surface waters and groundwaters	Delisting of impaired water bodies (303d listed) could improve water quality in impaired water bodies and result in lower health risks for users of those waters. Chemical treatments in wildland fire management could increase potential for human health risks through exposure. Risks would be less than Alternative A by implementing safety signs in shooting areas and providing safety guidelines on safe shooting practices. Alternative B contains the most No Shooting Areas.	Similar to Alternative B; however, Alternative C contains fewer No Shooting Areas.	Similar to Alternative B; however, Alternative D contains fewer No Shooting Areas, but more than Alternative C.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
indirectly impacted over the long term from development activities and livestock grazing, which could introduce both chemical and biological (e.g., fecal coliform, nitrogen) contamination into waters. Managing No Shooting Areas would improve public health and safety by limiting the risk of the public being injured by gunfire.			
Socioeconomics			
Note: Dollar amounts and employment numbers provided below represent the quantifiable economic impacts based on the level of activity predicted by alternative in the year 2029. These numbers are estimates based on best available data and should be utilized only for comparison of impacts by alternative. Refer to Section 4.6.3 for detailed assumptions and methodology utilized in economic modeling.			
Livestock grazing under Alternative A would generate $2.8 million in total spending, just under $700,000 in total value added (incomes) and 17.1 full-time equivalent jobs. Economic contributions of energy development would be highest under Alternative A. Three scenarios were analyzed for natural gas drilling; 11, 39 and 197 federal wells per year. Using the mid-level estimate of an average of 39 wells drilled per year, gas drilling would generate nearly $301 million in total spending, $141 million in total value added and 869.6 full time	Livestock grazing economic effects would be slightly less than Alternative A; total spending would be reduced by approximately $7,000 and value added (incomes) would be reduced by approximately $2,000. Full time equivalent jobs would be similar to Alternative A at 17.0 jobs Economic effects from gas drilling would be similar to Alternative A. Fewer acres would be available for coal development so economic effects could be reduced. Emphasis areas for renewable energy development may increase	Livestock grazing economic effects under Alternative C would be reduced by approximately 42 percent in comparison to Alternative A. This alternative would lower sales by nearly $1.16 million, lower value added (incomes) by almost $287,000, and lower employment by 7.2 jobs. Economic effects from gas drilling would be reduced by approximately 9 percent compared to Alternative A. Using an average of 39 wells drilled per year, gas drilling would generate nearly $273 million in total spending, $127	Livestock grazing economic effects would be the same as those discussed under Alternative A. Economic effects from gas drilling would be similar to Alternative A. Acres available for coal development would be less under this alternative; therefore economic effects may be reduced. Alternative D has the most acres identified as emphasis areas for renewable energy development, which may increase both development and associated economic effects.

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Summary of Environmental Consequences of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B (Preferred)	Alternative C	Alternative D
equivalent jobs by 2029. If NSO stipulations result in higher costs to operators, economic effects would be further increased. Coal, locatable minerals, saleable minerals and renewable energy development would continue to contribute to economic effects in line with current trends and market conditions. Recreation would generate nearly $7.2 million in total spending, $4.4 million in total value added and 90 full-time equivalent jobs by 2029. Specific types of businesses in which spending occurred would be influenced by the type of recreational activities that the visitors participate in.	development and associated economic effects. Locatable and saleable minerals would have similar effects to that described under Alternative A. Economic effects from recreation would be similar but slightly less than Alternative A. Motorized use is anticipated to be slightly less under this alternative, while mechanized and non-mechanized use may increase.	million in total value added (incomes), and 788 full-time equivalent jobs by 2029. Acres available for coal and salable minerals development would be less than Alternative A; therefore economic effects may be reduced. Emphasis areas for renewable energy development would be identified under this alternative but at a lower level than other action alternatives, therefore economic effects may decrease. Locatable minerals would have similar economic effects to that described under Alternative A. Economic effects from recreation would be similar but slightly less than Alternative A; the lowest economic contributions are anticipated under this alternative. Motorized and mechanized uses are anticipated to be less than Alternative A, while non-mechanized use may increase.	Locatable minerals would have similar effects to those described under Alternative A. Lands available for saleable minerals would slightly increase, therefore economic effects may increase. Economic effects from recreation would be similar but slightly less than Alternative A. Motorized and non- mechanized use are anticipated to be slightly reduced under this alternative, while mechanized use may increase.
Environmental Justice			
This alternative would not disproportionately affect low-income or minority populations.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

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