

Table 2.1.1 Proposed RMP and Alternatives – Management Common to the Proposed RMP and All Alternatives

PROPOSED RMP	Alternative A (Draft RMP/EIS Preferred Alternative)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D Current Management (No Action)	Alternative E
MANAGEMENT COMMON TO THE PROPOSED RMP AND ALL ALTERNATIVES					
<p>INTRODUCTION</p> <p>The Proposed RMP and all alternatives within this RMP share several goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines that ensure protection of resources and compliance with applicable laws. In order to avoid redundancy within the Proposed RMP and alternatives, these types of guidance are categorized as “Management Common to All.”</p>					
<p>GOALS AND OBJECTIVES COMMON TO THE PROPOSED RMP AND ALL ALTERNATIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utah BLM Rangeland Health Standards, described below, apply to all resource programs and authorized activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upland soils exhibit permeability and infiltration rates that sustain or improve site productivity, considering the soil type, climate, and landform. ○ Riparian and wetland areas are in properly functioning condition. Stream channel morphology and functions are appropriate to soil type, climate, and landform. ○ Desired species, including native, threatened, endangered, and special-status species, are maintained at a level appropriate for the site and species involved. ○ The BLM would apply and comply with water quality standards established by the State of Utah (R317-2) and the Federal Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water Acts. Activities on BLM lands would support the designated beneficial uses described in the Utah Water Quality Standards (R317-2) for surface water and groundwater. • Joint monitoring and evaluation strategies would be implemented by the BLM and permittees to measure progress in accordance with Utah BLM Rangeland Health Standards based on site-specific conditions. Site-specific conditions must be documented in order to warrant modification of prescriptions. • The BLM recognizes that not all activities authorized by implementation of the Proposed RMP or any of the alternatives would comply with Rangeland Health Standards. All authorized activities would require reclamation and rehabilitation actions to ensure sustainability and productivity of the site. • Assure that counties and others, such as Native American tribes whose interests might be affected have a sufficient opportunity for productive participation in the BLM’s planning and resource management decision-making. 					
<p>CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS</p> <p>The BLM would continue to regularly monitor and evaluate climatic and vegetative data. This data would be shared and compiled with other land managing agencies of the VPA. Using a cooperative and collaborative approach, should the analysis of such data reveal a substantial shift (either upward or downward) in both the timing and level of production of native rangelands, either planning-area-wide or on specific sites within the VPA, the BLM would initiate actions to ensure any permitted/allowed use of such resources would not adversely affect the long-term productivity of such areas.</p>					
<p>EDUCATION, INTERPRETATION, AND RESEARCH</p> <p>The BLM would work with its partners, including local school districts and universities to develop a variety of opportunities to promote education, research, and interpretation on public lands. -</p>					
<p>FIRE, DROUGHT, AND NATURAL DISASTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BLM would coordinate appropriate management responses (AMR) with affected parties where natural resources may be impacted by fire, drought, insects and diseases, or natural disasters. A variety of emergency or interim actions may be necessary to minimize land health degradations, such as reduced forage allocations; reductions in the number of livestock; wildlife; increased mitigation measures to ensure reclamation; limitations on energy field activities; and recreational uses. • Current Utah BLM Rangeland Health Standards would be incorporated, as appropriate, across all resource programs as a minimum. Management prescriptions in the form of constraints to use, terms and conditions, and stipulations may be needed to sustain rangeland health and viability. Management prescriptions would consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Livestock Grazing — Use would be allowed in both quantity and timing that would not result in a downward shift in rangeland health. The BLM would work cooperatively to affect a grazing strategy specific to a grazing permittee’s individual grazing allotment(s), and make changes to the grazing authorizations as appropriate within the limits of the existing permit and in accordance with the grazing regulations. In the case of drought, the last recourse for the BLM would be to temporarily close the range, or portions of it, to livestock grazing. ○ Off Highway/Road Vehicles (OHV) — OHV use during period of prolonged dryness would be further restricted to existing routes; or, if site-specific conditions warrant, closure to OHVs would be implemented to minimize vehicle-induced injury or damage to rangeland and/or woodlands and forest and to minimize the potential of spark caused fires. ○ Recreation — During periods of prolonged dryness or drought, the BLM, in cooperation with local and state fire management agencies, would limit campfires to established fire rings or fully contained fires. The last resort would be to close the public lands to campfires of any kind. ○ Surface-disturbing Activities — These would be closely monitored to ensure compliance with authorizations/permits, conditions of approval, or terms and conditions. Actions minimizing new surface disturbance allowed by regulations, as well as actions insuring successful reclamation, would be of paramount concern. During periods of drought, the BLM would require additional actions such as changes to standard seed mix compositions, amounts of seed, and method of application. Methods to ensure successful revegetation following disturbance may include hydromulching, installation of drip irrigators, or fencing to exclude ungulate grazing/browsing. ○ Wild Horse Management — Wild or feral horses will be gathered and removed. Forage allocation has been allocated until removal. ○ Wildlife Management — During periods of prolonged dryness or drought, to the extent that wildlife grazing ungulate populations cannot be sustained due to competition for water and available forage, the BLM would enter into discussions with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) regarding herd numbers and overall management options to ensure that rangeland health is maintained and to address the effects of drought. 					
<p>INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriately manage noxious and invasive weeds and prevent introduction of new invasive species through the implementation of a comprehensive weed program per national guidance and local weed management plans, including coordination with partners; prevention and early detection; education; inventory and monitoring; and using the principles of integrated pest management. • All projects that involve ground-disturbing activities should incorporate best management practices (BMPs) for control of weeds with an emphasis on prevention. • Use of pesticides and herbicides shall comply with the applicable federal and state laws. Pesticides and herbicides shall be used only in accordance with their registered uses and within limitations imposed by the Secretary of the Interior. • Prior to the use of pesticides, project proponents shall obtain from the Authorized Officer written approval of Pesticide Use Proposal, which is a plan showing the type and quantity of material to be used; pest(s) to be controlled; method of application; 					

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location of storage and disposal of containers; and any other information deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer. Emergency use of pesticides shall be approved in writing by the Authorized Officer prior to use. In addition, within 24 hours of any pesticide application, a Pesticide Application Record must be completed. A similar procedure is required for the release of biological control agents.					
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS					
The VPA includes a wide array of geographical landscapes and ecosystems. The expansive nature of the RMP mandates a broad scale of decision-making.					
SURFACE STIPULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL SURFACE-DISTURBING ACTIVITIES					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix K lists by alternative surface stipulations referred to throughout the Final RMP/EIS. • Surface stipulations (including exceptions, modifications, and waivers), would be applied to all land use authorizations, permits, and leases issued on BLM-administered lands. 					
MANAGEMENT COMMON TO THE PROPOSED RMP AND ALL ACTION ALTERNATIVES, BY RESOURCE PROGRAM					
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goals and objectives described below apply to the Proposed Plan and Action Alternatives A, B, C, and E, not to the No Action Alternative D.D. • Goals and objectives for Alternative D are contained in the 1994 Diamond Mountain RMP and the 1985 Book Cliffs RMP. Acreage figures for Alternative D may reflect different sum totals, as calculations were determined using different technology. 					