



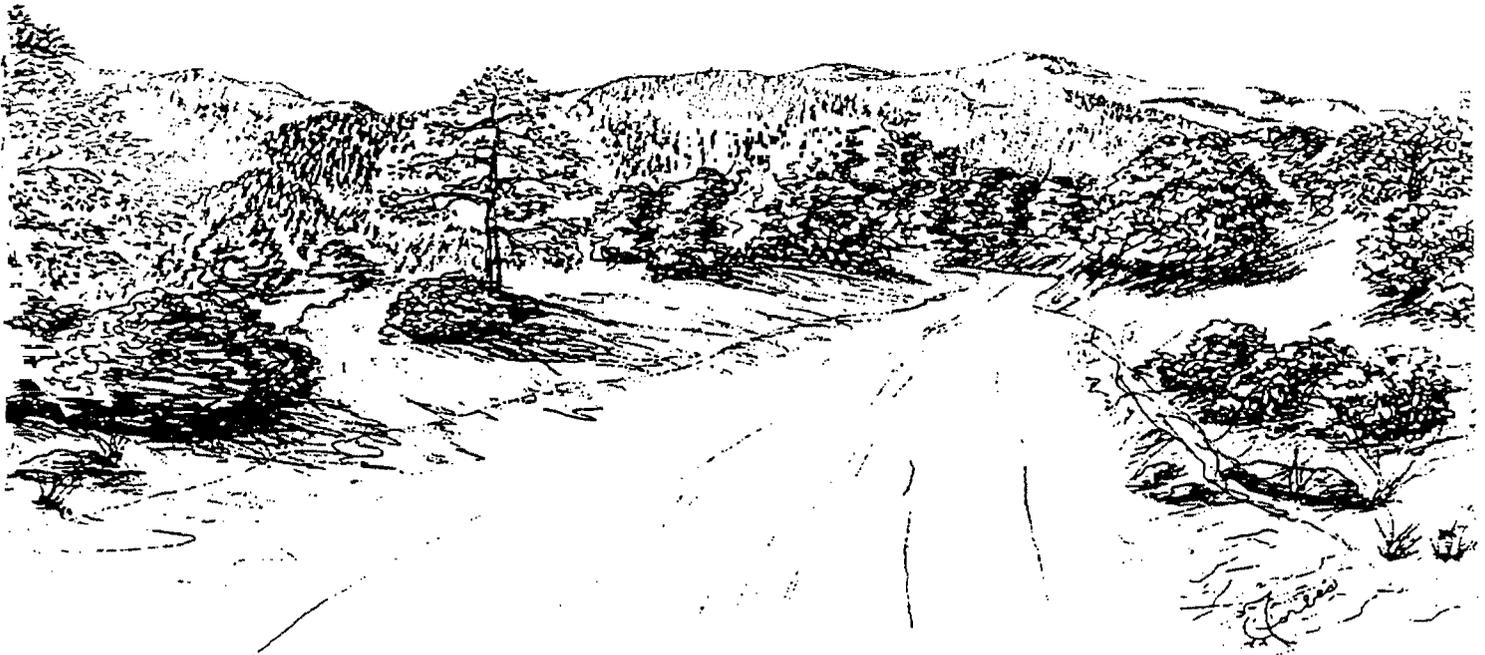
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Royal Gorge Resource Area
Cañon City District, Colorado

May 1996

ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA



Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan



**Record of Decision
for the
Royal Gorge Resource Area
Approved Resource Management Plan**

Prepared by:

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Cañon City District, Colorado
Royal Gorge Resource Area**

May 1996

RECORD OF DECISION FOR THE APPROVED ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of this document is to approve the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) decisions to manage approximately 653,000 acres of BLM administered land and 2,300,000 acres of BLM administered mineral estate within the Royal Gorge Resource Area (RGRA). These decisions will guide all management for the next 15 to 20 years.

DECISION

This Record of Decision (ROD) provides the necessary approval for the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the RGRA and fulfills the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) OF 1976 (43 CFR 1600). A draft and final environmental impact statement (EIS) were prepared for these plans in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Chapter 2 of the attached Approved Resource Management Plan (ARMP) contains the same decisions as the Proposed Resource Management Plan (PRMP) and the associated Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) published in January 1995. The 716 resource objective decisions, land use allocation decisions, and management action decisions in this ARMP will guide all future uses and activities within the resource area.

ALTERNATIVES

Four management alternatives were considered in the development of this plan. These were identified as the Existing Management Alternative, the Resource Conservation Alternative, the Resource Utilization Alternative, and the Preferred Alternative. Each alternative was described and analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS and in the Proposed RMP/EIS.

The Existing Management Alternative (the no action alternative) would have continued present levels, methods, and mix of multiple use resource management, utilization, and protection. Decisions within the existing land use plans and other documents would have continued to be implemented.

The Resource Conservation Alternative would have had a modified level of management with emphasis on natural resource conditions and actions beneficial for the natural resources. Decisions would have given a mix of objectives, allocations, and actions with a strong emphasis on preserving and conserving natural resources.

The *Resource Utilization Alternative* would have had a modified level of management with emphasis on development and use of all resources. Decisions would have given a mix of objectives, allocations, and actions with a strong emphasis on development, production, and transportation of resources.

The *Preferred Alternative* would have had a modified level of management with emphasis on natural resource conditions, like the *Conservation Alternative* but would have also provided for moderate levels of resource use, development, etc. like the *Utilization Alternative*. Decisions would have given a mix of objectives, allocations, and actions blending the preservation and use of natural resources. This alternative best reflects the resulting decisions described within the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING DECISIONS

Decisions in the ARMP will be implemented over a period of years and must be tied directly to the BLM budgeting process. An implementation schedule will be developed and signed by the District Manager within 90 days of the signing of this ROD/ARMP. This schedule will provide for the systematic accomplishment of all decisions

in this ARMP. Decisions will be continually monitored and tracked in order that subsequent integration into the budget system occurs on a timely basis. All decisions will be reviewed quarterly to ensure that correct decision implementing and monitoring are occurring. An annual assessment of the decisions within this plan will be completed by the District Manager and forwarded to the State Office.

MAINTAINING AND AMENDING DECISIONS

Decisions in this plan will be continually maintained to reflect minor changes in information. Maintenance is limited to refining or further clarifying a plan decision and cannot expand the scope of the decision nor change the terms or conditions of the decisions. Maintenance will be documented in supporting records. Plan decision amendments may become necessary if major changes are needed or if large quantities of maintenance refinements occur. Plan decision amendments are accomplished with public input and environmental analysis.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The views and concerns of the public were actively solicited

Royal Gorge RMP ROD

throughout this planning process. Public participation is summarized in Chapter 1 of this ARMP and is detailed in Chapter 2 of the published PRMP.

CONSISTENCY

This plan is consistent with the plans, programs, and policies of other federal, state, and local governmental agencies as well as those of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

AVAILABILITY OF THIS DOCUMENT

Copies of the Royal Gorge ARMP/ROD are available from the Royal Gorge Resource Area Office, 3170 East Main, Canon City, Co 81212 or from the Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, CO 80215-7076.

for *Robert V. Abley*
Donald Glaser
Colorado State Director
Bureau of Land Management

5-13-96
Date

Approved Royal Gorge Resource Management Plan

Prepared by:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Cañon City District, Colorado
Royal Gorge Resource Area

March 1996

Prepared by:	<u>Levi D. Dake</u>	<u>4-18-96</u>
Area Manager, Royal Gorge Resource Area		Date
Recommended by:	<u>Thomas L. Fre</u>	<u>4/22/96</u>
District Manager, Cañon City District		Date
Approved by:	<u>P. Robert Abbey</u>	<u>5-13-96</u>
Colorado State Director	Associate	Date

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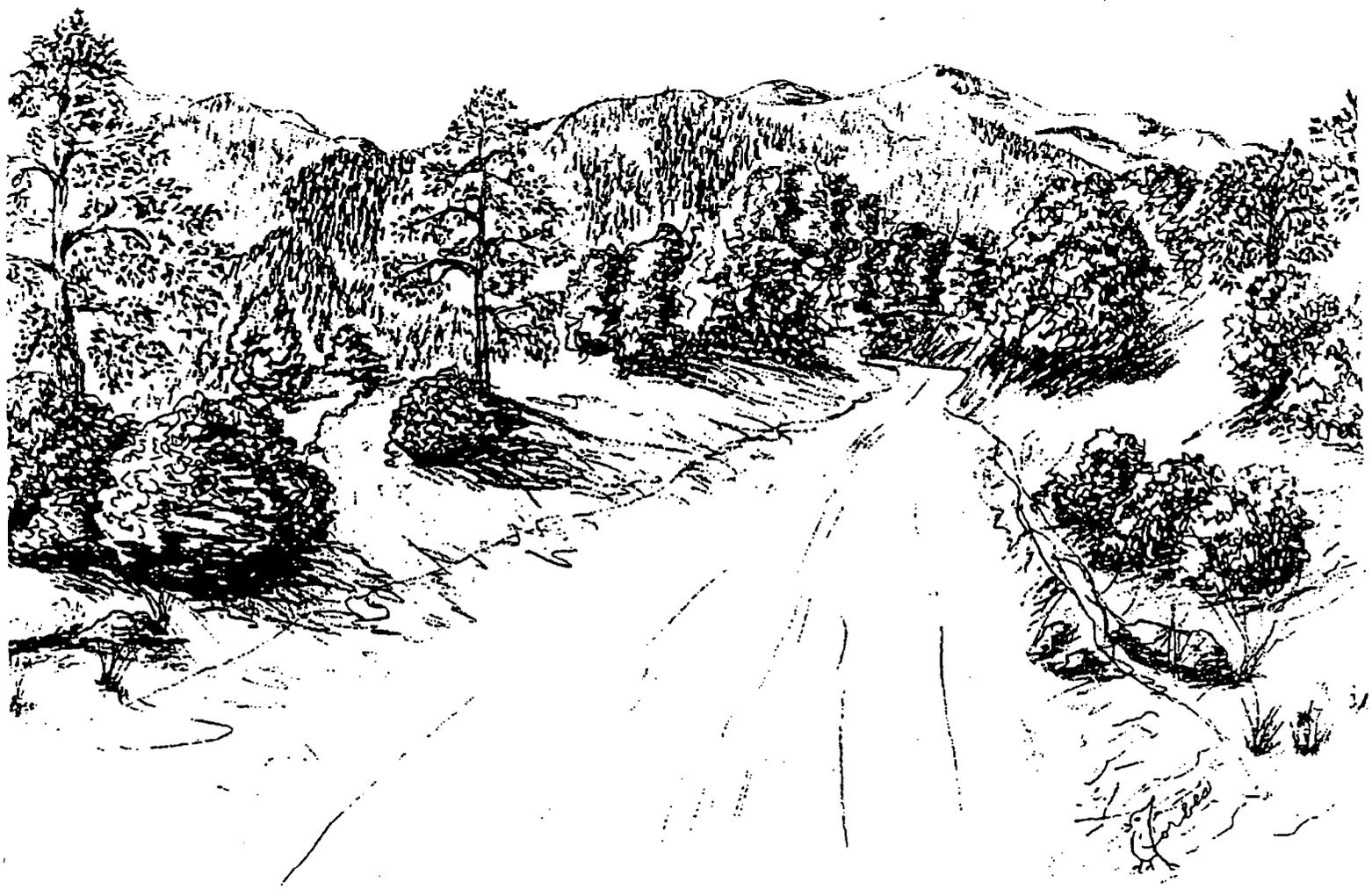


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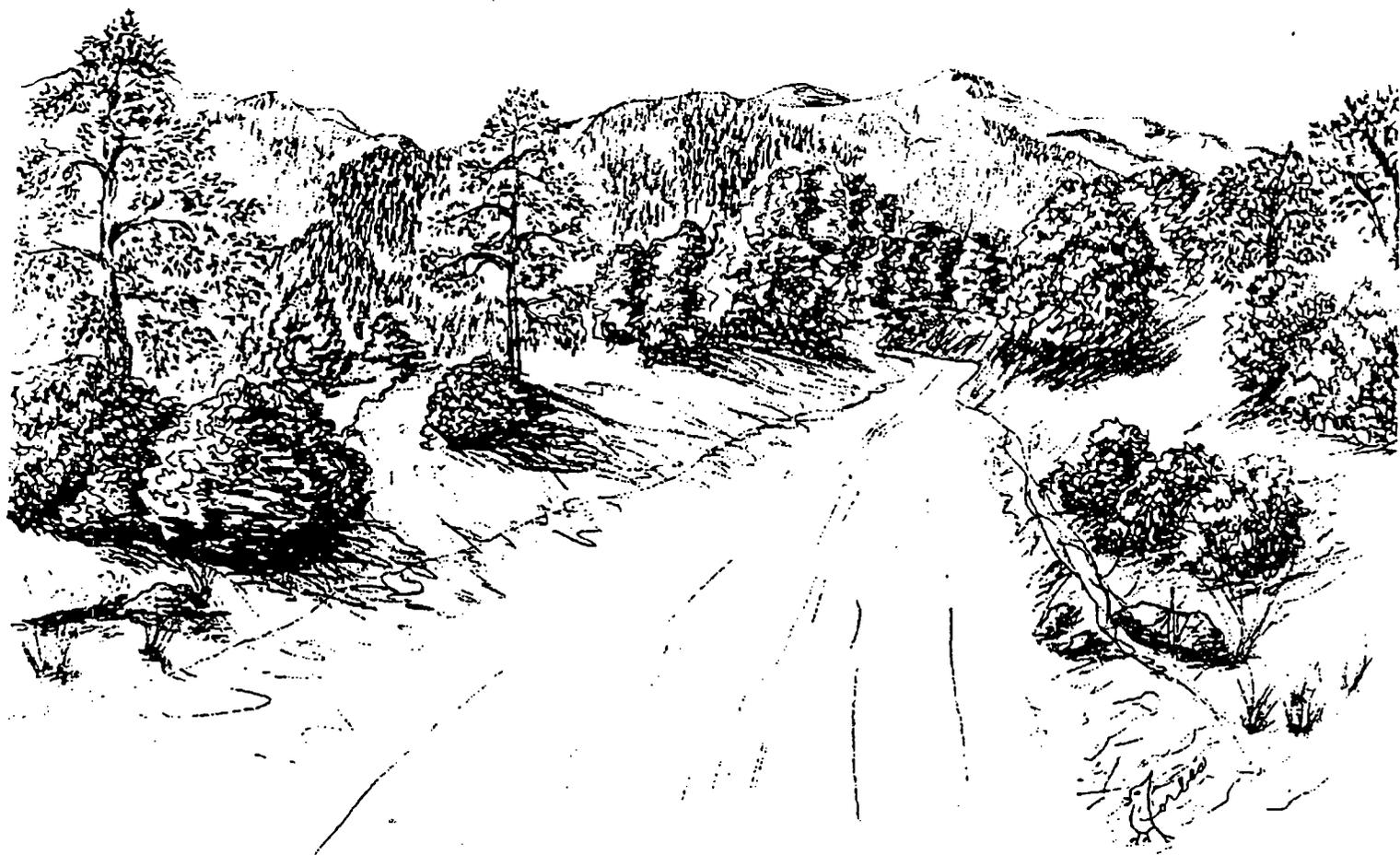
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This Approved Resource Management Plan (ARMP) has resource objective decisions, land use allocation decisions, and management action decisions for guiding the future management of lands and minerals, administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), within the Royal Gorge Resource Area (RGRA). BLM has administrative responsibility for the land and resource management on approximately 653,000 surface acres and 2,300,000 subsurface mineral acres within the planning area. All uses and activities on BLM administered lands within this resource area will conform to the decisions described in this plan.

This ARMP has been prepared in accordance with planning regulations issued under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). This plan will meet the BLM statutory requirement for a master land use plan as mandated by Section 202 of FLPMA.

The completed RMP package, which includes the Draft RMP/EIS, the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, and this ARMP/ROD will replace all previous land use planning guidance in the RGRA. This includes all Management Framework Plans (MFPs), Planning Analysis (PAs), etc.

This RMP package will also replace all other related documents that direct land and mineral management within the RGRA; e.g., Royal Gorge Grazing EIS, Oil and Gas Umbrella EA, etc.

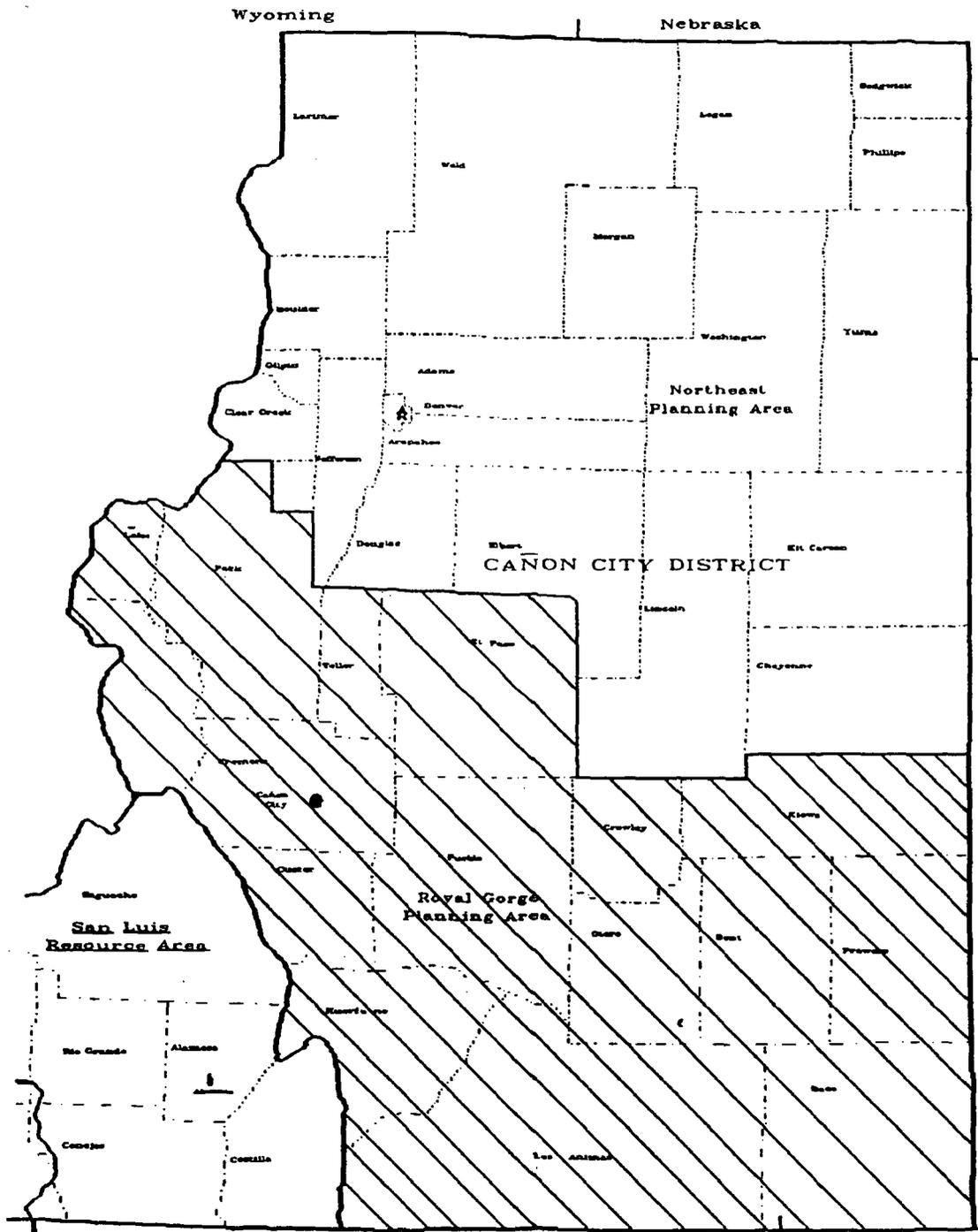
This introduction describes the location of the area, the relationship to the planning process and to the proposed RMP/Final EIS, the distribution of these documents, and the implementing, monitoring, maintaining, and amending procedures. In Chapter 2, the plan decisions are described for ten subregions within the RGRA.

Planning Area

The Royal Gorge Planning Area of the Canon City District encompasses approximately 653,000 acres of BLM-administered lands in the southeastern part of Colorado. There are approximately 2,300,000 acres of subsurface mineral estate administered by BLM in the planning area. The planning area forms the southern half of the RGRA. The following three maps depict the relationship of the planning area to the resource area, and the location of surface and subsurface lands in the planning area.

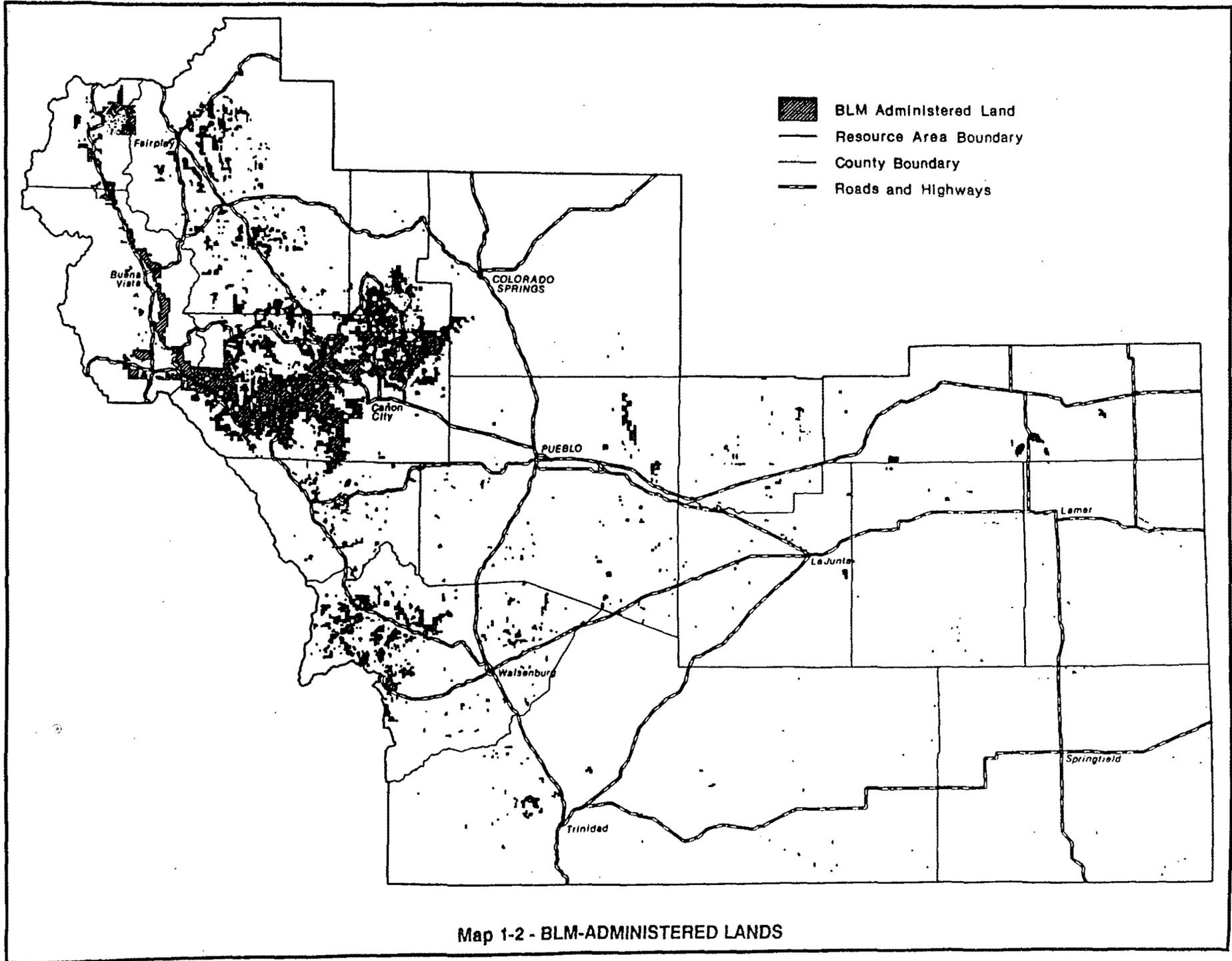
Map 1-1

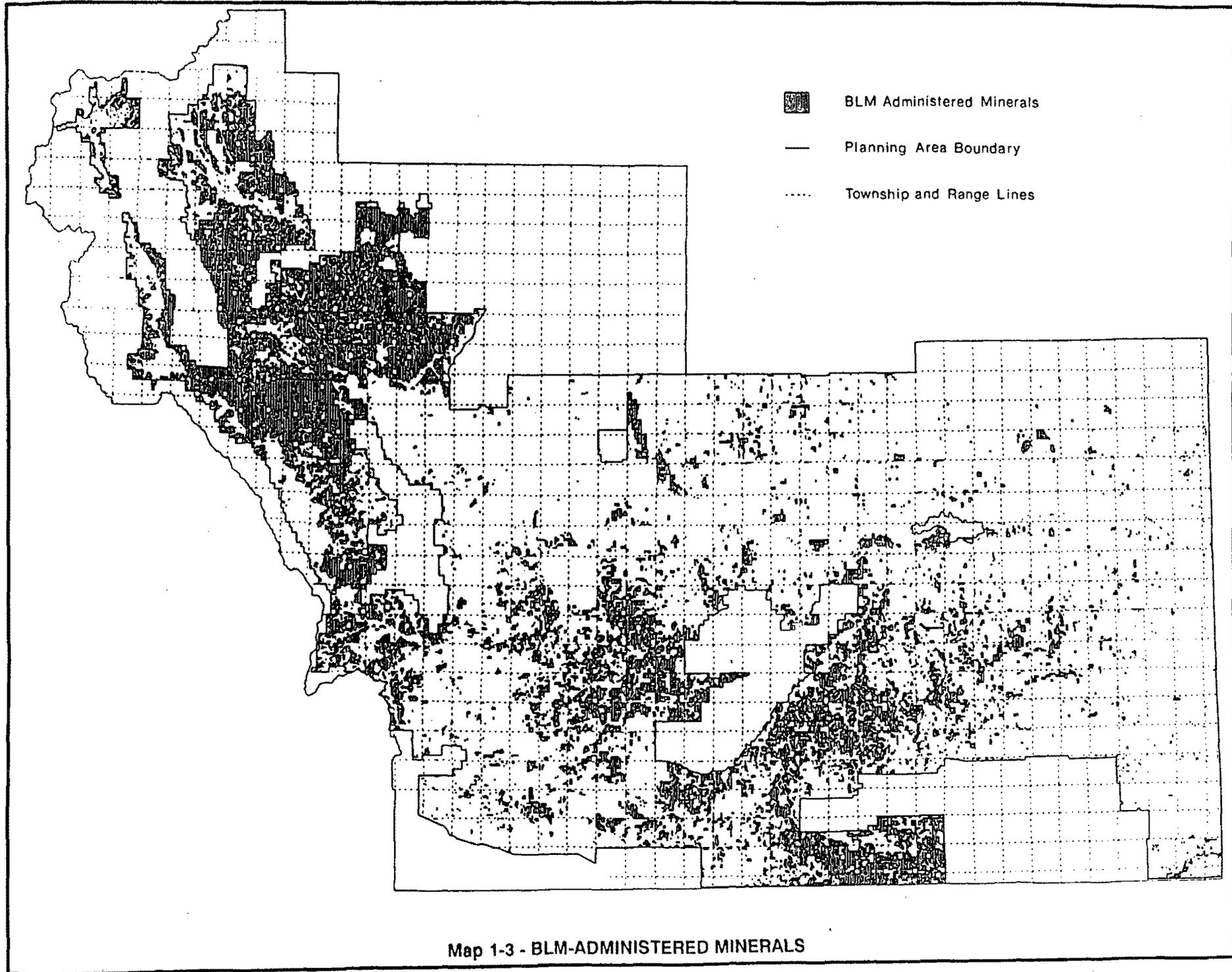
ROYAL GORGE RESOURCE AREA MAP



New Mexico * State Office • District Office † Resource Area Office Oklahoma

 Areas within the planning area





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Map 1-3 - BLM-ADMINISTERED MINERALS

Relationship to the Bureau Planning System

Development of an Approved Resource Management Plan (ARMP) and the Record of Decision (ROD), a signature document approving this plan, occurs within the framework of the BLM planning system. The planning system is divided into three distinct tiers for operational purposes; policy planning, land use planning, and activity planning.

The completion of this ARMP/ROD, along with the previously completed steps in the land use planning process (the draft RMP/EIS and proposed RMP/final EIS), satisfies the requirements for the land use planning tier of the Bureau planning system.

This document will also meet the Range Program Summary requirements. For additional details on livestock grazing management, see Appendix A of the PRMP/FEIS.

Distribution of the ARMP/ROD

This ARMP/ROD will be distributed to all individuals, groups, entities, companies, agencies, etc., who have been involved in the land use planning process. The mailing list of 500+ names was developed during the 6-year period since the preplan was approved in the fall of 1989 by recording all contacts with the

public or governmental agencies. Copies of this ARMP/ROD will be provided on request in the future.

Public Involvement and Coordination

Throughout the planning process, concerns and interests of the public were solicited and then addressed in a variety of formal and informal public participation activities. These involved various public meetings, several sets of workshops, many meetings with individuals or specific entities, the establishment of and use of nine interest/input groups, public mailings, media news releases, coordination briefings with governmental agencies, and formal public hearings.

If more in-depth information is desired, refer to Chapter 5 - Public Involvement in the Draft RMP/EIS and Chapter 2 in the proposed RMP/Final EIS.

Resolution of Protests Received on the PRMP/FEIS

Eight formal protests were received on the Proposed RMP/Final EIS plan decisions. The BLM Director dismissed two of these for not having standing in the RMP process, the protestors had not been involved prior to protesting as is required. The BLM Director responded to the other six protesting parties. These

responses did not require significant changes to any of the land use decisions as presented in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

Implementing and Monitoring Decisions

Decisions in this plan will be implemented over a period of years and must be tied directly to the BLM budgeting process. An implementation schedule will be developed and signed by the District Manager within 90 days of the signing of the ROD. This implementation schedule will provide for the systematic accomplishment of all decisions in the approved RMP. Decisions will be monitored continually to ensure that necessary tracking and subsequent integration into the budget system occurs on a timely basis. An area staffer will be designated to accomplish decision monitoring and schedule implementation. All decisions will be reviewed quarterly at the resource area, and quarterly progress will be shared with the district. On an annual basis, a formal report will be sent from the District Manager to the State Director showing a determination as to whether or not correct decision implementing and monitoring are occurring. An effort will be made to fully comply with the "Colorado Plan User's Handbook," the Bureau 1617 Manual (Using the Resource Management Plan), and the H-1617-1 (Handbook for using the Resource Management Plan.)

CHAPTER 2

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS



CHAPTER 2

DECISIONS

The planning area is divided into ten geographic reference areas, called subregions. The resource management plan decisions within this chapter are described for each of these subregions. Each subregion has a location map to orient the reader.

This chapter describes two key items:

- * Summary of common management guidance applicable overall to the entire resource area;

- * Plan decisions applicable to each specific subregion.

All decisions described in this chapter generally fall into one of three categories:

- * Resource Condition type decisions - a desired condition to be achieved;

- * Land Use Allocation type decisions - an allowable, limited, or excluded use;

- * Management Action type decisions - a specific action or direction to be achieved.

The overall objective of this resource management plan is to provide a variety of levels, methods, and mix of multiple use resource management, utilization, and protection. These decisions are based on policies and regulations.

The large fold-out maps found in the back of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS will help orient the reader to the decisions depicted within this chapter.

BLM lands and resources will continue to be managed to provide for needed commodities and uses (e.g., livestock grazing, mineral materials sales, etc.) to assist in the support of local and regional economies.

Generally, management practices and prescriptions will favor maintaining or enhancing the natural setting (e.g., wildlife habitat, visual resources, recreation areas, etc.). Specific emphasis will be given to enhance dispersed recreation opportunities, wildlife habitats, and related values (e.g., riparian, recreation, etc.) and uses. Necessary constraints, stipulations, and mitigating measures will be included to protect these resources from irreversible damage.

Common Management Guidance

The management guidance common to all subregions was described in detail and can be found in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, Chapter 3 - Proposed Plan and Impacts. These common measures reflect Bureau and Department of the Interior policies and regulatory mandates. All of these measures apply to all of the subregions. As no changes were made and as a cost saving measure, the common management guidance was not reprinted in this Approved RMP.

Please consult the Proposed RMP/Final EIS (pages 3-1 through 3-11) for details on the common management guidance for the following items: Climate, Air Quality, Sensitive Soils, Water Rights, Water Quality, Topography and Geology, Hazards, Fire, Noxious Weeds, Economic Conditions and

Social Environment, Vegetation, Livestock Grazing, Riparian Areas, Forests and Woodlands, Wildlife Habitat, Fishery Habitat, Special Status Plant Species/Plant Communities, Special Status Animal Species, Fluid Minerals, Locatable Minerals, Mineral Materials, Coal Minerals, Paleontological Resources, Historical Resources, Archaeological Resources, Transportation and Access, Rights-of-Way, Land Ownership Adjustments, Withdrawals and Classifications, Waterpower/Reservoir Resources, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Designations, Off-Highway Vehicle Use, Visual Resources, and Recreation.

Decisions

The following pages describe the resource management decisions for each subregion within the planning area.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Nine ACECs are designated in this plan to protect a variety of resources and values. Details on the management of each ACEC are found in the writeups for each subregion.

ACEC	Acres	Subregions
Arkansas Canyonlands	23,921	1, 2, 6, 7
Beaver Creek	12,081	5
Browns Canyon	11,697	1
Cucharas Canyon	1,866	9
Droney Gulch	705	1, 2
Garden Park	2,728	5
Grape Creek	15,978	1, 7
Mosquito Pass	4,036	1
Phantom Canyon	6,096	5

ARKANSAS RIVER SUBREGION #1

Subregion Description

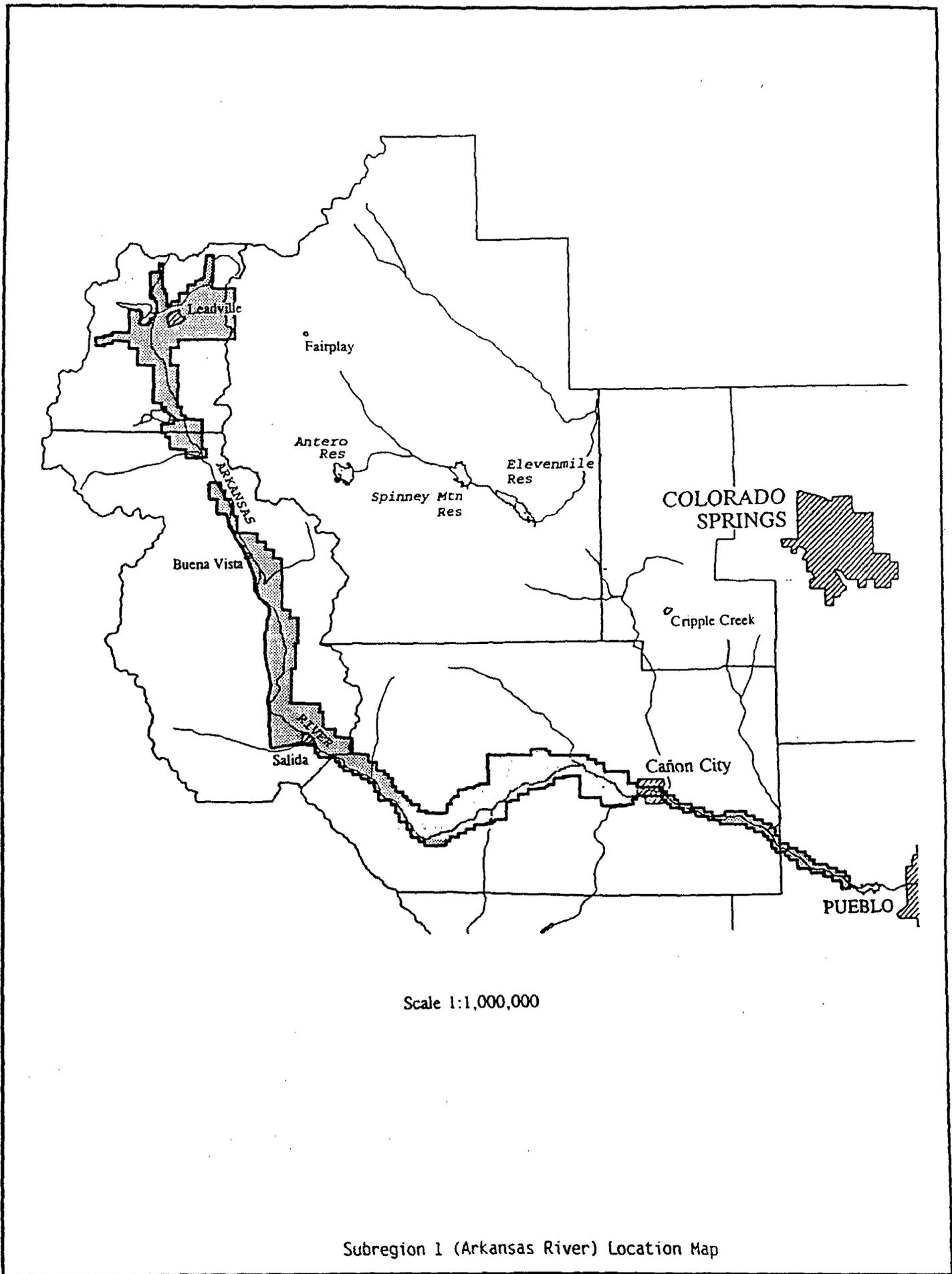
This subregion has 124,887 acres of BLM-administered lands, 126,300 acres of private lands, 5,032 acres of local government lands, and 9,941 acres of State lands. This corridor includes lands along the Arkansas River that are directly affected by the river and river associated uses from Leadville downriver to the upper end of Pueblo Reservoir.

The riparian vegetation is highly variable depending on elevation, topography, and amount of human change that has occurred over the past two or more centuries. At the upper elevations, mountain meadow grasses, willows and sedge/rush are the dominant riparian vegetation normal for these high, cold elevations. Along the middle and lower stretches of the river corridor, the riparian vegetation is dominated by grass species associated with warmer climates, a variety of shrubs (several nonnative), cottonwood and willow trees. On the uplands bordering the riparian vegetation, pinon/juniper woodlands, oak, and other mountain species occur with aspen, fir, spruce, and ponderosa pine trees at the upper elevations.

Highways 50, 285, and 24, as well as the railroad, have been major influences within this subregion. The cities of Leadville, Buena Vista, Salida, Canon City, Florence, and many other smaller rural communities have influenced this subregion. Most of the terrain downriver to the Royal Gorge, is dominated by steep-walled canyons with a few wide floodplains, while from the Royal Gorge on down the topography opens onto the Great Plains. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:1,000,000

Subregion 1 (Arkansas River) Location Map

Arkansas River Subregion #1

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	1-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	1-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	1-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	1-4	Grazing is authorized on 62 allotments.
	1-5	Grazing is excluded on Mosquito Pass ACEC (4,036 acres) and restricted on the High Mesa Grasslands portion (1,454 acres) of the Arkansas Canyonlands ACEC.
	1-6	Grazing is excluded on developed recreation sites and potential NRHP sites if conflicts occur.
	1-7	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.

	1-8	Allotments are categorized as follows: -25 Improve -3 Maintain -32 Custodial -2 Unalloted.
Riparian	1-9	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	1-10	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, will have all withdrawals for waterpower/reservoir sites recommended for revocation, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	1-11	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	1-12	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	1-13	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	1-14	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained yield.
	1-15	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	1-16	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	1-17	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	1-18	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.

	1-19	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.
	1-20	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	1-21	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	1-22	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting and fledging habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	1-23	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	1-24	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	1-25	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	1-26	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Plants/Plant Communities Habitat	1-27	Special status plants and plant communities habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.

	1-28	The relict plant community habitat will be protected through: -ACEC designation; -changes in livestock grazing; -no surface occupancy for fluid minerals leasing; -closing to locatable mineral entry; -closing to mineral materials disposals; -OHV restrictions.
	1-29	All special status plant habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	1-30	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	1-31	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
	1-32	Special status animal species peregrine falcon nesting habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry and to mineral materials disposal.
	1-33	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: -ferruginous hawk nesting and fledging habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
Fluid Minerals	1-34	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.

	1-35	<p>Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -sensitive special status plant areas (High Mesa Grasslands/Mosquito Pass); -Chaffee County Landfill; -developed recreation sites; -reservoir rights-of-way.
	1-36	<p>Fluid minerals within BLM Wilderness Study Areas will not be leased pending a final designation by Congress. Any congressionally designated wilderness lands will be withdrawn from leasing while lands not designated will return to multiple use management subject to the applicable ARMP/ROD decisions.</p>
	1-37	<p>Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	1-38	<p>Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a controlled surface use stipulation to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visual Resource Management Class II areas; -perennial riparian areas.
	1-39	<p>Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. The list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.</p>

<p>Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials</p>	<p>1-40</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	<p>1-41</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.</p>
	<p>1-42</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat.
	<p>1-43</p>	<p>Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wilderness Study Areas; -potential National Register of Historic Places sites; -big game birthing areas; -peregrine falcon nesting sites; -portions of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -developed recreation sites.
	<p>1-44</p>	<p>Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).</p>
	<p>1-45</p>	<p>An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.</p>

<p>Historical and Archaeological Resources</p>	<p>1-46</p>	<p>Informational potential of historical resources will be used for interpretation and scientific values and specific sites will be used for their interpretive values.</p> <p>Informational potential of archaeological resources will be developed to the maximum extent possible through appropriate study.</p>
	<p>1-47</p>	<p>Conservation of historical and archaeological resources will be enhanced through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -designation of Browns Canyon and Arkansas Canyonlands as ACECs; -potential NRHP sites (Leadville Stage Road, Midland RR Railbed, and DeReemer Forts) being: leased for fluid minerals under standard leasing stipulations; closed to locatable mineral entry and mineral materials development; and off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.
	<p>1-48</p>	<p>Informational potential of historical and archaeological resources will be promoted through involvement with educational institutions.</p>
	<p>1-49</p>	<p>Active programs for interpretive scientific and recreational use of historic sites will be developed within IAPs.</p>

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>1-50</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>1-51</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>1-52</p>	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -2 miles of Arkansas River sites opening up 4,000 acres; -any sites for additional access resulting from the National Recreation Area (NRA) designation.
	<p>1-53</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.</p>
<p>Rights-of-way</p>	<p>1-54</p>	<p>The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.</p>

	1-55	<p>Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wilderness Study Areas; -raptor nesting/fledging areas; -special status plants; -special status animals (only nesting/fledging areas); -potential NRHP sites.
	1-56	<p>Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs; -developed recreation sites.
	1-57	<p>right-of-way corridors are designated.</p>
	1-58	<p>All other areas are nonexcluded for rights-of-way.</p>
Land Ownership Adjustments	1-59	<p>Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	1-60	<p>Land ownership adjustments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1,999 acres for disposal; -22,332 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -100,556 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	1-61	<p>Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.</p>

	1-62	All waterpower/reservoir withdrawals will be revoked. All other existing withdrawals will be continued.
	1-63	New withdrawals will be initiated for: - perennial riparian areas; - big game birthing habitat; - fishery habitat; - special status plant habitat; - special status animal habitat; - potential NRHP sites; - portions of 5 ACECs; - Visual Resource Management class II within ACECs; - developed recreation sites; - Arkansas River corridor.
Waterpower/ Reservoir Resources	1-64	Management for all existing waterpower/reservoir resources will be designated as unsuitable.
	1-65	Initiate and forward recommendations for revocation of unsuitable waterpower/reservoir resources.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	1-66	All or portions of Browns Canyon, Mosquito Pass, Grape Creek, and Arkansas Canyonlands are designated as ACECs and will be managed to protect and enhance their special values.

	1-67	<p>These designated ACECs will receive special management as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -livestock grazing will be excluded in some areas and adjusted on other areas; -timber harvesting and wood gathering will be allowed only for enhancement of protected values; -fluid minerals leasing will occur on portions of Mosquito Pass and Arkansas Canyonlands with a no surface occupancy stipulation; -locatable mineral entry will not occur; -mineral materials development will not occur; -VRM class II avoided for major rights-of-way; -retention in public ownership; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails; -off-highway vehicle use closed within the WSA portions of these ACECs.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	1-68	<p>Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.</p>
	1-69	<p>Off-highway vehicle open areas are designated in the Grand Canyon Hills, Reese Gulch, and Texas Creek Gulch areas.</p>
	1-70	<p>An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -potential NRHP sites; -all ACECs; -developed recreation sites.

	1-71	Off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated to protect: -Browns Canyon, McIntyre Hills, and Grape Creek Wilderness Study Areas.
	1-72	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporating public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	1-73	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	1-74	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	1-75	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	1-76	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	1-77	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	1-78	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation for fluid minerals leasing.
	1-79	Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs will be protected by: -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails; -retained in public ownership.

	1-80	Visual ratings in ACECs will be reevaluated to ensure rating is appropriate to protect outstanding qualities.
	1-81	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	1-82	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	1-83	Recreation will be managed intensively in the special recreation management area.
	1-84	Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.
	1-85	Developed recreation sites will be managed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -excluded from livestock grazing; -leased for fluid minerals with a NSO stipulation; -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.

	1-86	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -river corridor and upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.
National Recreation Area	1-87	River corridor recreation values will be managed as guided in any Congressional act to establish a NRA.
	1-88	<p>Recommend to Congress that the Arkansas River corridor from Leadville to Pueblo Reservoir be designated and managed as a NRA to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -revocation of existing waterpower/reservoir withdrawals; -initiation of protective withdrawals on the corridor.
	1-89	Develop a community based NRA proposal for the river corridor to be sent forward to Congress.

COLLEGIATE/SANGRE SUBREGION #2

Subregion Description

This subregion has 56,369 acres of BLM-administered lands, 92,135 acres of private lands, and 13,832 acres of state lands. This valley and foothills subregion lies south and west of the Arkansas River subregion.

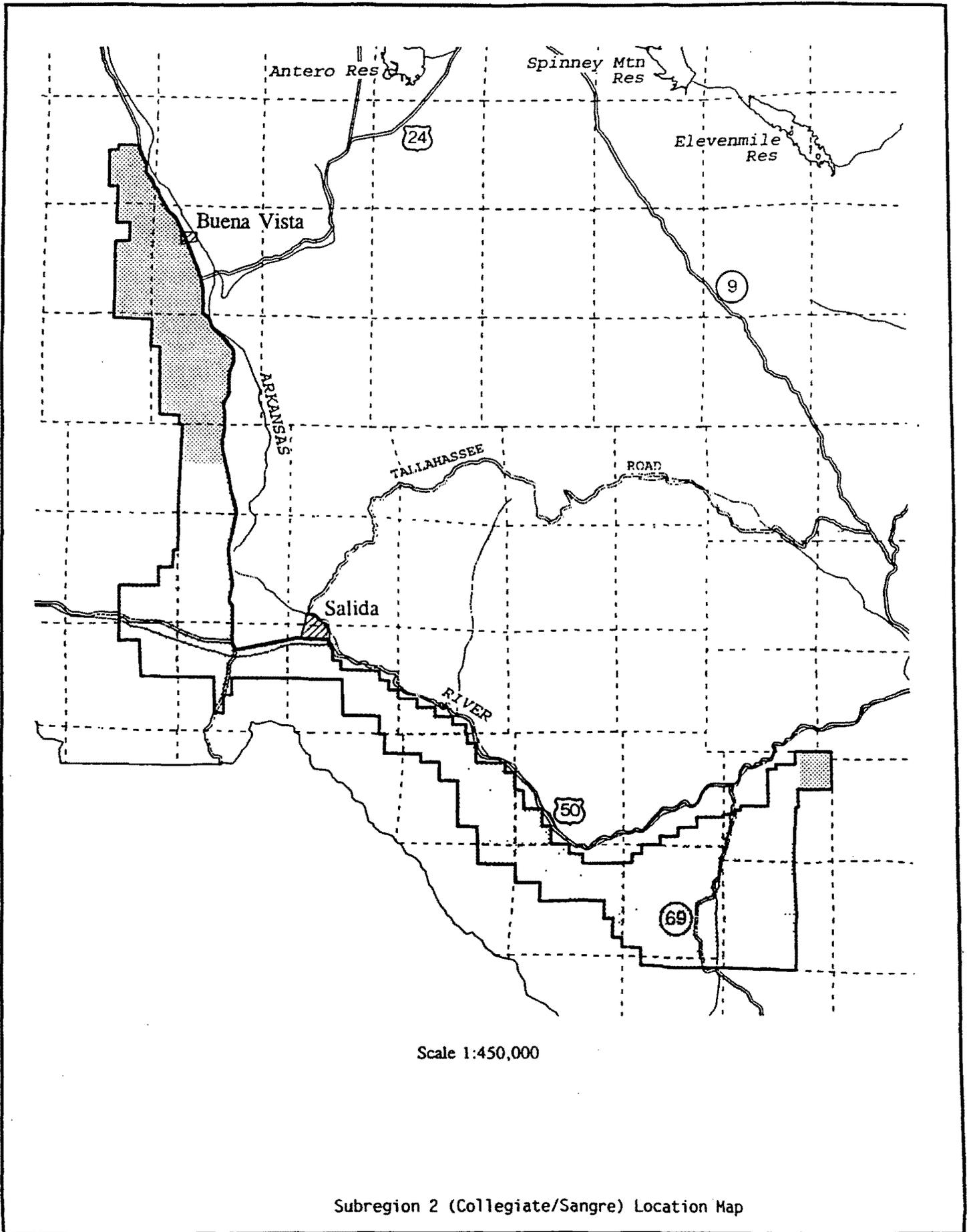
Vegetation is predominantly pinon/juniper woodlands intermixed with oak, other mountain shrubs, and widely scattered grassy openings in the woodlands of the eastern portion. The northwestern part is again mostly pinon/juniper with a larger portion of the northwest made up of grasses, forbs, and low growing shrubs.

Highways 50, 285, and 69 have been influential in this subregion. The cities of Buena Vista, Poncha Springs, Salida, and other smaller communities have also influenced this subregion.

This subregion is represented by valley floor and foothills at the base of the Collegiate Peaks/Sangre De Cristo Mountains in the northwestern portion and rugged, rocky hills in the eastern part.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Subregion 2 (Collegiate/Sangre) Location Map

Collegiate/Sangre Subregion #2

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	2-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	2-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	2-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	2-4	Grazing is authorized on 35 allotments.
	2-5	Grazing stocking rates and season-of-use will be adjusted on the Droney Gulch ACEC (705 acres).
	2-6	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	2-7	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -13 Improve -5 Maintain -17 Custodial -0 Unalloted.

Riparian	2-8	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	2-9	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	2-10	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	2-11	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	2-12	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	2-13	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	2-14	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	2-15	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	2-16	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, excluded from major ROWs, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	2-17	Big game critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.
	2-18	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.

	2-19	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	2-20	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	2-21	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	2-22	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	2-23	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	2-24	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Plants/Plant Communities Habitat	2-25	Special status plants and plant communities habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	2-26	The relict plant community habitat will be protected through: -ACEC designation for Droney Gulch; -changes in livestock grazing; -no surface occupancy for fluid minerals leasing; -closing to locatable mineral entry; -closing to mineral materials disposals; -OHV restrictions.

	2-27	All special status plant habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	2-28	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	2-29	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat.
	2-30	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
Fluid Minerals	2-31	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	2-32	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -sensitive special status plant areas in Droney Gulch ACEC.
	2-33	Fluid minerals within BLM Wilderness Study Areas will not be leased pending a final designation by Congress. Any congressionally designated wilderness lands will be withdrawn from leasing while lands not designated will return to multiple use management subject to the applicable ARMP/ROD decisions.

	2-34	<p>Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat.
	2-35	<p>Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a controlled surface use stipulation to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visual Resource Management Class II areas.
	2-36	<p>Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. This list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.</p>
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	2-37	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations and standard mineral operating practices; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	2-38	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a timing limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.

	2-39	<p>Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wilderness Study Areas; -big game birthing areas; -portions of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.
	2-40	<p>Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).</p>
	2-41	<p>An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.</p>
Transportation and Access	2-42	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	2-43	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>

	2-44	Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include: -Calcite area - 1 mile, opening up about 1,800 acres.
	2-45	The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.
Rights-of-way	2-46	The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.
	2-47	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -Wilderness Study Areas; -special status plants; -special status animals.
	2-48	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs.
	2-49	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	2-50	There are areas that are nonexcluded for rights-of-way.

<p>Land Ownership Adjustments</p>	<p>2-51</p>	<p>Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	<p>2-52</p>	<p>Land ownership adjustments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1,356 acres for disposal; -1,065 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -53,948 acres for retention or exchange.
<p>Withdrawals and Classifi- cations</p>	<p>2-53</p>	<p>Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.</p>
	<p>2-54</p>	<p>New withdrawals will be initiated for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -special status plant habitat; -portions of two ACECs; -Visual Resource Management class II within ACECs.
<p>Areas of Critical Environ- mental Concern (ACEC)</p>	<p>2-55</p>	<p>All or portions of Droney Gulch and the Arkansas Canyonlands are designated as ACECs and will be managed to protect and enhance their special values.</p>

	2-56	<p>These designated ACECs will receive special management as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -livestock grazing will be limited; -timber harvesting and wood gathering will be allowed only for enhancement of protected values; -fluid minerals leasing will occur on portions with a no surface occupancy stipulation; -mineral entry will not occur; -mineral materials development will not occur; -VRM class II areas will be avoided for major rights-of-way; -retention in public ownership; -off-highway vehicle use will be limited to designated roads and trails.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	2-57	<p>Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.</p>
	2-58	<p>No off-highway vehicle open areas are designated.</p>
	2-59	<p>An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -ACECs.
	2-60	<p>An off-highway vehicle closed area is designated to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -McIntyre Hills Wilderness Study Area.
	2-61	<p>Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporation of public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.</p>

	2-62	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	2-63	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	2-64	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	2-65	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	2-66	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	2-67	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation outside of ACECs.
	2-68	Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs will be protected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails; -retained in public ownership.
	2-69	Visual ratings in ACECs will be reevaluated to ensure rating is appropriate to protect outstanding qualities.
	2-70	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.

Recreation Management	2-71	<p>Recreation will be managed to provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	2-72	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively.</p>
	2-73	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -river corridor and upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.

BADGER CREEK SUBREGION #3

Subregion Description

This subregion has 34,592 acres of BLM-administered lands, 27,173 acres of private lands, and 36,815 acres of state lands. This mountain watershed subregion lies within the drainage of the Arkansas River.

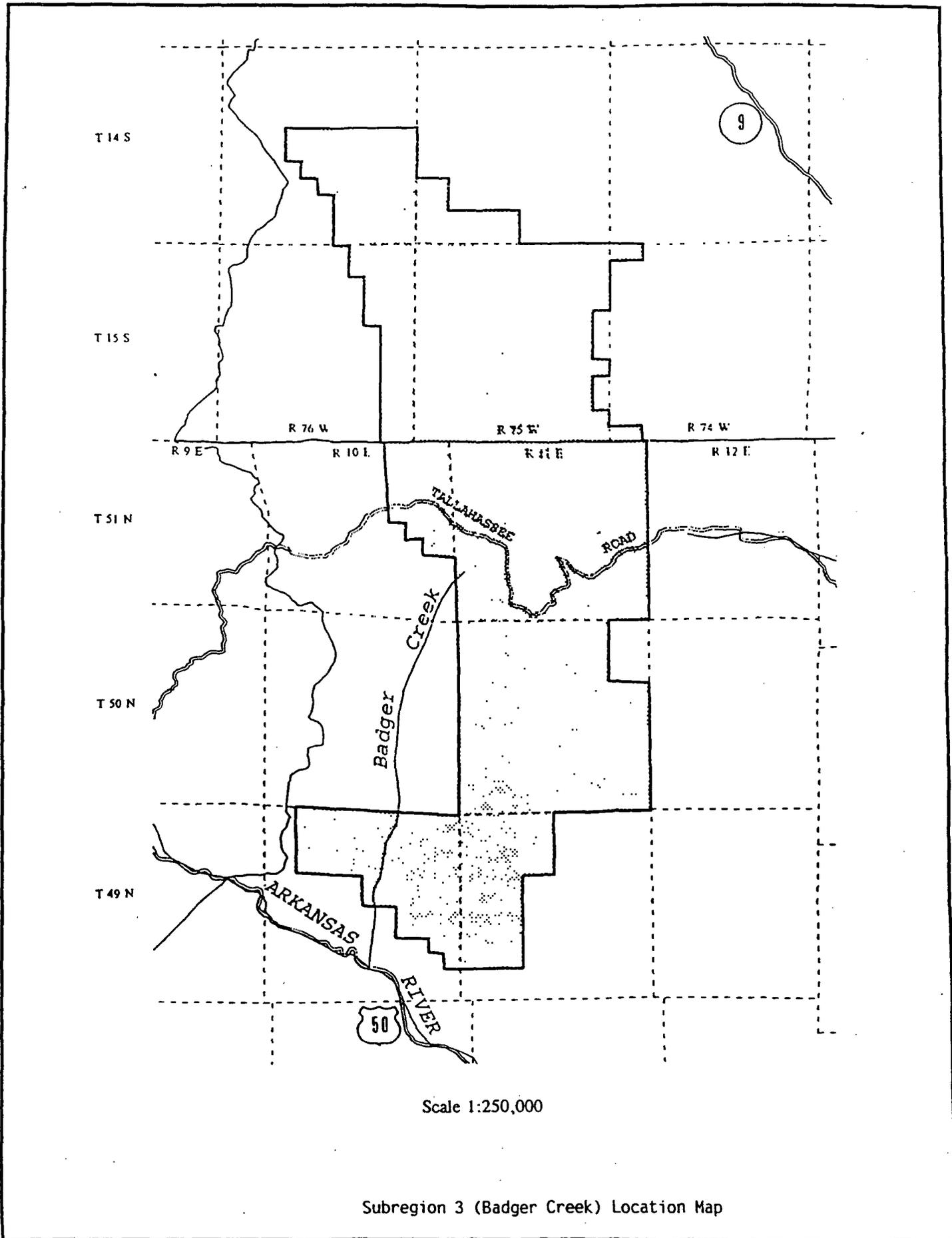
Vegetation is predominantly pinon/juniper woodlands with widely scattered mountain shrubs in the southern portion. The northern part has some scattered pinon/juniper with a larger portion made up of intermountain grasses within the southern end of South Park.

The Tallahassee Road off of Highway 9 has been an influential route within this subregion. There are no cities or other smaller communities influencing this subregion.

The topography of the upper part of the subregion is rolling hills with the lower portion consisting of steep canyon walls and rocky hills. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:250,000

Subregion 3 (Badger Creek) Location Map

Badger Creek Subregion #3

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	3-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	3-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	3-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	3-4	Grazing is authorized on 22 allotments.
	3-5	Grazing will be excluded on potential NRHP sites if conflicts occur.
	3-6	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	3-7	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -12 Improve -0 Maintain -10 Custodial -0 Unalloted.

Riparian	3-8	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	3-9	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, will have all withdrawals for waterpower/reservoir sites recommended for revocation, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	3-10	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	3-11	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	3-12	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	3-13	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	3-14	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	3-15	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	3-16	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	3-17	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.
	3-18	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.

	3-19	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	3-20	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing).
	3-21	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat.
	3-22	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	3-23	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	3-24	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	3-25	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fluid Minerals	3-26	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	3-27	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging habitat.

	3-28	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat.
	3-29	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. The list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	3-30	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	3-31	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.
	3-32	Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat.
	3-33	Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -potential National Register of Historic Places sites; -big game birthing areas; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.

	3-34	Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).
	3-35	An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.
Historical and Archaeological Resources	3-36	Informational potential of archaeological resources will be developed to the maximum extent possible through appropriate study.
	3-37	Conservation of historical and archaeological resources will be enhanced through potential NRHP sites being: leased for fluid minerals under standard leasing stipulations; closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development; and Off Highway Vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.
	3-38	Informational potential of historical and archaeological resources will be promoted through involvement with educational institutions.
	3-39	Active programs for interpretive scientific and recreational use of the historic sites will be developed within IAPs.

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>3-40</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>3-41</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>3-42</p>	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -additional access resulting from recreation needs.
	<p>3-43</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.</p>
<p>Rights-of-way</p>	<p>3-44</p>	<p>The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.</p>

	3-45	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -potential NRHP sites.
	3-46	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat.
	3-47	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	3-48	There are areas that are nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	3-49	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	3-50	Land ownership adjustments include: -324 acres for disposal; -9,295 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -24,973 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	3-51	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	3-52	All other existing withdrawals will be continued.
	3-53	New withdrawals will be initiated for: -perennial riparian areas; -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -potential NRHP sites.

Off-Highway Vehicle Use	3-54	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.
	3-55	An off-highway vehicle open area is designated in the Sand Gulch area.
	3-56	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -potential NRHP sites.
	3-57	No off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated.
	3-58	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporating public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	3-59	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	3-60	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	3-61	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	3-62	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.

Recreation Management	3-63	<p>Recreation will be managed to provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	3-64	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively.</p>
	3-65	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.</p>

SOUTH PARK SUBREGION #4

Subregion Description

This subregion has 57,793 acres of BLM-administered lands, 347,531 acres of private lands, and 79,230 acres of state lands. This large intermountain park subregion lies in the north central portion of the resource area.

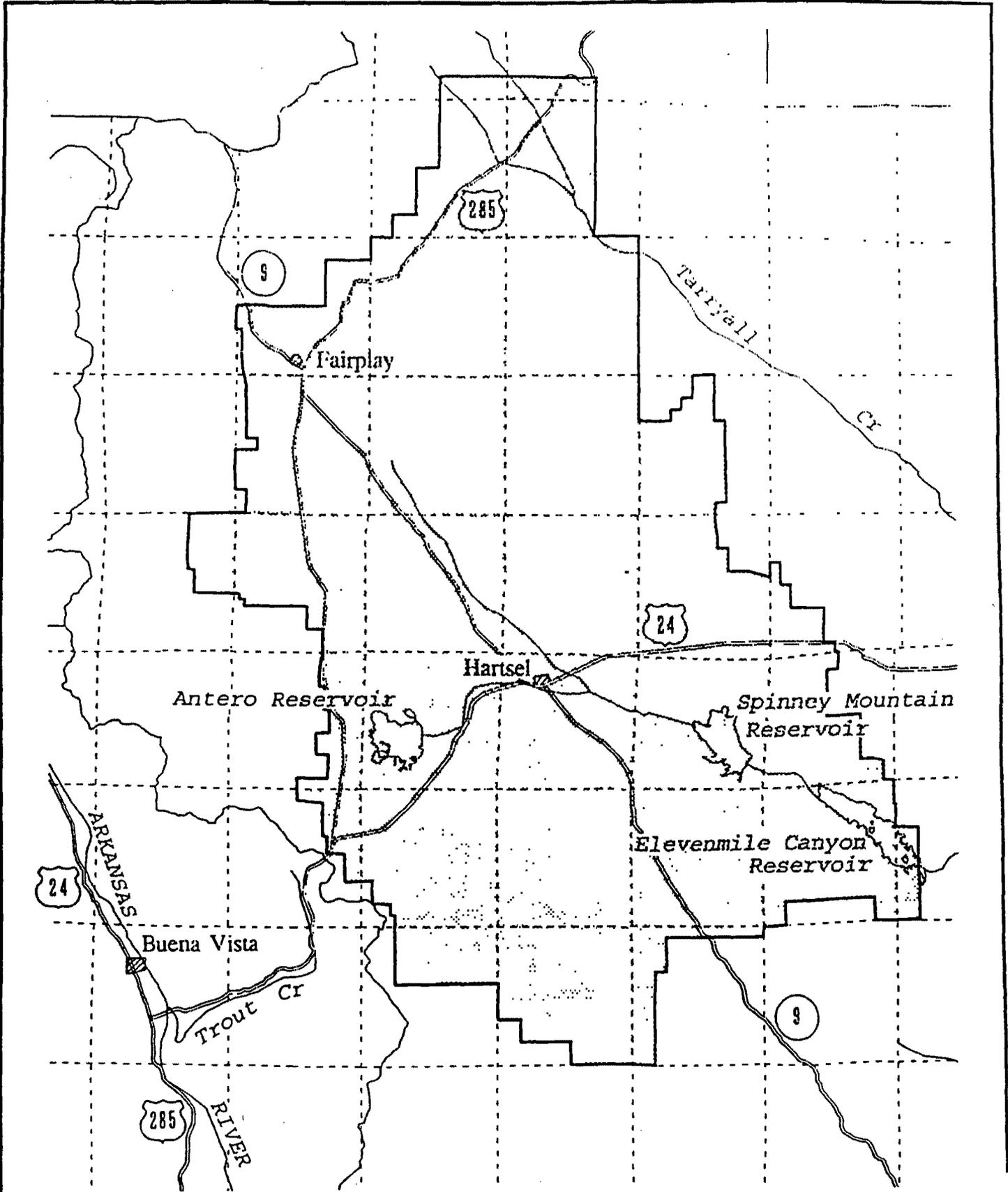
Vegetation is predominantly high mountain grasses with some ridges of ponderosa pine and a variety of mountain shrubs scattered throughout the valley floor.

Highways 285, 24, and 9 have been influential in this subregion. The towns of Fairplay, Hartsel and other smaller rural communities have also influenced this subregion. Three large reservoirs are within this subregion - Antero, Spinney Mountain, and Elevenmile Canyon.

This subregion is represented by valley floor and rolling hills surrounded by high mountains. Associated with the three reservoirs are several hundred acres of wet meadows and marshes that provide a diverse high elevation ecosystem. The South Platte River connects these reservoirs and then exits South Park's southeastern corner. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:390,000

Subregion 4 (South Park) Location Map

South Park Subregion #4

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	4-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	4-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	4-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	4-4	Grazing is authorized on 49 allotments.
	4-5	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	4-6	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -8 Improve -0 Maintain -39 Custodial -2 Unalloted.
Riparian	4-7	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.

	4-8	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	4-9	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	4-10	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	4-11	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	4-12	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	4-13	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	4-14	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	4-15	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	4-16	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.
	4-17	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.
	4-18	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.

	4-19	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing).
	4-20	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat.
	4-21	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	4-22	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	4-23	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	4-24	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	4-25	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	4-26	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: -bald eagle winter roosting habitat.
	4-27	Special status animal species peregrine falcon nesting habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry and to mineral materials disposal.

	4-28	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: -ferruginous hawk nesting and fledging habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
Fluid Minerals	4-29	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	4-30	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -Park County Landfill; -reservoir rights-of-way.
	4-31	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	4-32	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. The list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.

<p>Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials</p>	<p>4-33</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.</p>
	<p>4-34</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.</p>
	<p>4-35</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect: -big game critical winter habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat.</p>
	<p>4-36</p>	<p>Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.</p>
	<p>4-37</p>	<p>Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).</p>
	<p>4-38</p>	<p>An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.</p>

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>4-39</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>4-40</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>4-41</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated thorough IAPs.</p>
<p>Rights-of-way</p>	<p>4-42</p>	<p>The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.</p>
	<p>4-43</p>	<p>There are no areas to be excluded from rights-of-way.</p>
	<p>4-44</p>	<p>Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat.

	4-45	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	4-46	There are no nonexcluded areas for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	4-47	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: - parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; - exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; - identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; - all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	4-48	Land ownership adjustments include: - 15,858 acres for disposal; - 41,923 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; - 12 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	4-49	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	4-50	All other existing withdrawals will be continued.
	4-51	New withdrawals will be initiated for: - perennial riparian areas; - big game birthing habitat; - fishery habitat.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	4-52	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.
	4-53	No off-highway vehicle open areas are designated.

	4-54	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -special status animal habitat.
	4-55	No off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated.
	4-56	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporation of public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	4-57	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	4-58	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	4-59	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	4-60	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	4-61	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.

	4-62	Recreation will be managed nonintensively.
	4-63	Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.
	4-64	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.

GOLD BELT SUBREGION #5

Subregion Description

This subregion has 132,401 acres of BLM-administered lands, 374,446 acres of private lands, 916 acres of local government lands, and 44,224 acres of state lands. This large subregion extends from the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on the north to the Arkansas River corridor on the south and from Highway 9 on the west to Fort Carson on the east.

Vegetation consists of mountain grasses, aspen, and ponderosa pine in the northern and central portions; and pinon/juniper woodlands, blue grama grass, and oak in southern and eastern portion.

Highways 24, 9, 50, 115 along with three major roadways, High Park, Shelf, and Phantom Canyon Roads have been major influences in this subregion. The cities of Canon City, Colorado Springs, Woodland Park, Cripple Creek, Victor and other smaller communities have also influenced this subregion.

Topography varies from high mountains around Cripple Creek to gently rolling hills around the national monument. In the eastern portion of the subregion are steep, rocky

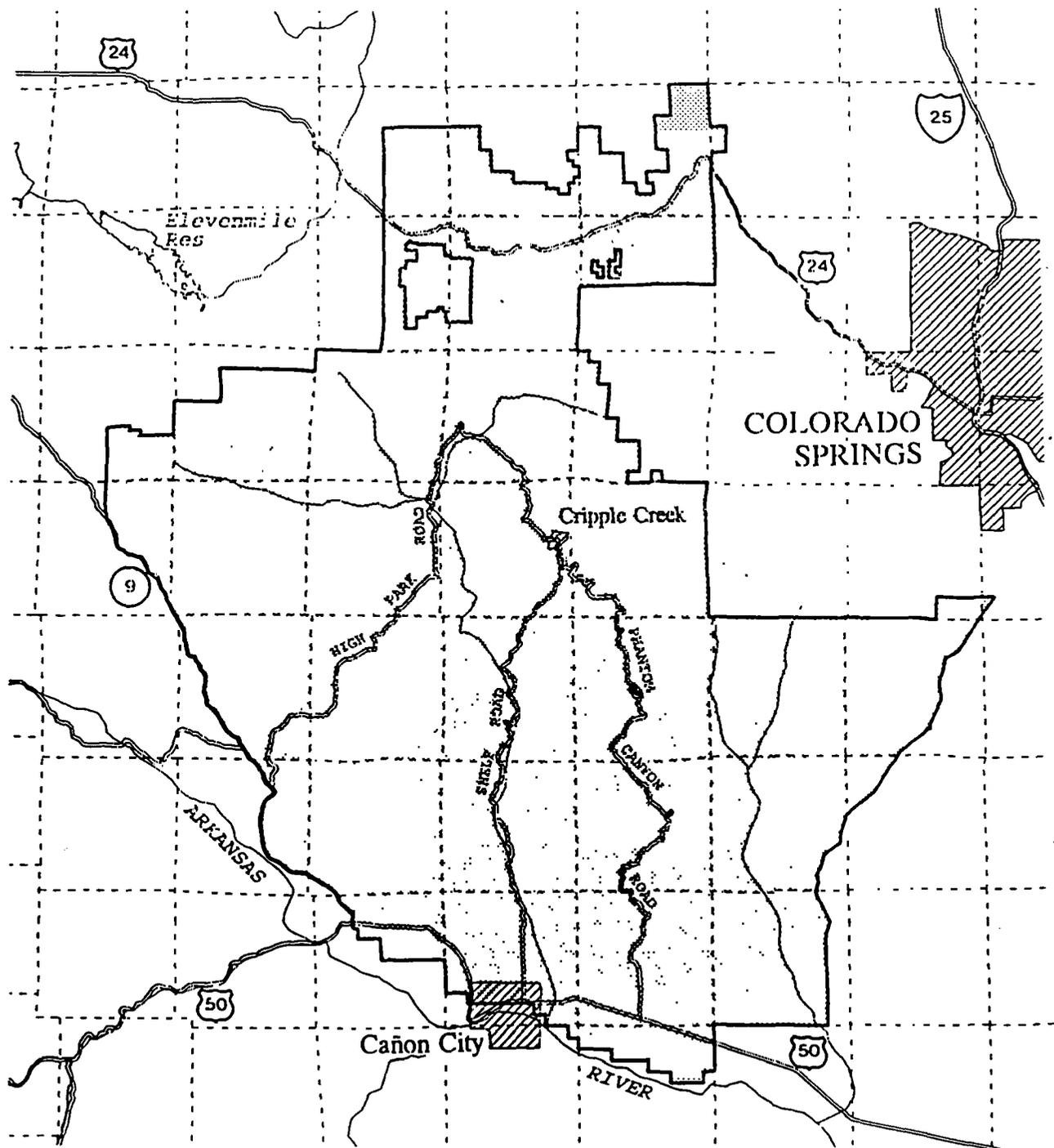
mountains and the spectacular Beaver Creek Canyon.

West of Beaver Creek and all the way to Highway 9, lies an almost unbroken series of rugged mountains and hills with few roads, houses, or towns.

BLM administered land encompasses most of the southern half with private control of almost all of the land in the northern half. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:450,000

Subregion 5 (Gold Belt) Location Map

Gold Belt Subregion #5

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	5-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	5-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	5-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	5-4	Grazing is authorized on 123 allotments.
	5-5	Grazing is excluded on a portion of Beaver Creek ACEC (5,755 acres).
	5-6	Grazing will be excluded on developed recreation sites and potential NRHP sites if conflicts occur.
	5-7	Stocking rates and season-of-use will be adjusted in Garden Park ACEC (2,728 acres).
	5-8	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.

	5-9	Allotments are categorized as follows: -35 Improve -13 Maintain -73 Custodial -2 Unalloted.
Riparian	5-10	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	5-11	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-12	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	5-13	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	5-14	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	5-15	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	5-16	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	5-17	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	5-18	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-19	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.

	5-20	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.
	5-21	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	5-22	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	5-23	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting and fledging habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	5-24	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	5-25	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	5-26	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-27	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Plants/Plant Communities Habitat	5-28	Special status plants and plant communities habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.

	5-29	<p>Eriogonum brandegei populations in Garden Park will be protected through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ACEC designation; -changes in livestock grazing; -no surface occupancy for fluid minerals leasing; -closing to locatable mineral entry; -closing to mineral materials disposals; -OHV restrictions.
	5-30	All special status plant habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	5-31	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	5-32	<p>Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mexican spotted owl confirmed roosting and nesting sites.
	5-33	<p>Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
	5-34	Special status animal species peregrine falcon nesting habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry and to mineral materials disposal.
	5-35	<p>Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.

Fluid Minerals	5-36	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	5-37	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: - raptor nesting/fledging habitat; - sensitive special status plant areas (Garden Park); - reservoir rights-of-way; - Mexican spotted owl confirmed nesting sites; - developed recreation sites.
	5-38	Fluid minerals within BLM Wilderness Study Areas will not be leased pending a final designation by Congress. Any congressionally designated wilderness lands will be withdrawn from leasing while lands not designated will return to multiple use management subject to the applicable ARMP/ROD decisions.
	5-39	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: - elk calving/deer birthing habitat; - bighorn sheep lambing habitat; - big game critical winter habitat; - Mexican spotted owl confirmed roosting and nesting sites; - wild turkey winter habitat; - bald eagle winter roosting habitat; - peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	5-40	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a controlled surface use stipulation to protect: - Visual Resource Management Class II areas.

	5-41	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. This list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	5-42	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	5-43	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.
	5-44	Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.

	5-45	<p>Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wilderness Study Areas; -potential National Register of Historic Places sites; -big game birthing areas; -peregrine falcon nesting sites; -portions of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); -fishery habitat; -Mexican spotted owl nesting habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -developed recreation sites.
	5-46	<p>Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).</p>
	5-47	<p>An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.</p>
Paleontological Resources	5-48	<p>Utilization of fossil resources for educational, research, and other public uses, such as tourism, will be encouraged with special emphasis on the Garden Park Fossil Area.</p>
	5-49	<p>Conservation of Class I paleontological resources will be provided through ACEC designation. These will be managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -closed to timber harvesting and wood gathering; -fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation; -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials disposal, unless disposal will enhance fossil values; -retained in public ownership; -have limited livestock grazing; -and have off-highway use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-50	<p>The establishment of invertebrate collecting areas to provide fossil materials for public domain collections will be considered within integrated activity plans (IAPs).</p>

	5-51	A "dinosaur discovery" center will be established for the Garden Park area in cooperation with the Garden park Paleontology Society.
	5-52	Activity planning will be accomplished within Integrated Activity Plans.
Historical and Archaeological Resources	5-53	<p>Informational potential of historical resources will be used for interpretation and scientific values and specific sites will be used for their interpretive values.</p> <p>Informational potential of archaeological resources will be developed to the maximum extent possible through appropriate study.</p>
	5-54	<p>Conservation of historical and archaeological resources will be enhanced through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -designation of Phantom Canyon, Garden Park, and Beaver Creek as ACECs; -potential NRHP sites (Florence and Cripple Creek RR railbed segments, bridges, abutments, tunnels and Garden Park historical dinosaur dig sites) being: leased for fluid minerals under standard leasing stipulations; closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development; and off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-55	Informational potential of historical and archaeological resources will be promoted through involvement with educational institutions.
	5-56	Active programs for interpretive scientific and recreational use of the historic sites will be developed within IAPs.

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>5-57</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>5-58</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>5-59</p>	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -4 miles of Garden Park sites opening up additional access; -13.5 miles of Beaver Creek opening up 15,000 acres; -4 miles of Barnard Creek/Booger Red Hill opening up 9,000 acres; -3.5 miles of Twin Mountain opening up 8,000 acres.
	<p>5-60</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.</p>

Rights-of-way	5-61	The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.
	5-62	Areas are to be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: - Wilderness Study Areas; - raptor nesting/fledging areas; - special status plants; - special status animals; - potential NRHP sites.
	5-63	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: - big game birthing habitat; - big game critical winter habitat; - Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs; - developed recreation sites.
	5-64	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	5-65	There are no areas nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	5-66	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: - parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; - exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; - identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; - all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.

	5-67	Land ownership adjustments include: -18,076 acres for disposal; -5,664 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -108,661 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	5-68	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	5-69	New withdrawals will be initiated for: - perennial riparian areas; - fishery habitat; - special status plant habitat; - special status animal habitat; - potential NRHP sites; - portions of ACECs; - Visual Resource Management class II within ACECs; - developed recreation sites.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	5-70	All or portions of Garden Park, Phantom Canyon, and Beaver Creek are designated as ACECs and will be managed to protect and enhance their special values.

	5-71	<p>These designated ACECs will receive special management as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -livestock grazing will be excluded in some areas and adjusted on other areas; -timber harvesting and wood gathering will be allowed only for enhancement of protected values; -fluid minerals leasing will occur with a NSO stipulation in the Garden Park ACEC; -locatable mineral entry will not occur; -mineral materials development will not occur, except in Garden park where it will be allowed if it enhances fossil values; -VRM class II will be avoided for major rights-of-way; -retention in public ownership; -off-highway vehicle use will be limited to designated roads and trails; -off-highway vehicle use will be closed within the WSA portions of these ACECs.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	5-72	<p>Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.</p>
	5-73	<p>An off-highway vehicle open area is designated in the Penrose Chaining Area.</p>

	5-74	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -potential NRHP sites; -special status plants and animal habitat; -paleontological class I areas; -all ACECs; -developed recreation sites.
	5-75	Off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Deer Haven Ranch and Wilderness Study Areas.
	5-76	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporation of public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	5-77	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	5-78	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	5-79	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	5-80	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	5-81	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be utilized as a guide for other resource management actions.

	5-82	Visual Resource Management class II will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation for fluid mineral leasing.
	5-83	Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs will be protected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails; -retained in public ownership.
	5-84	Visual ratings in ACECs will be reevaluated to ensure rating is appropriate to protect outstanding qualities.
	5-85	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	5-86	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	5-87	Recreation on the larger part of this subregion will be managed intensively in a special recreation management area.
	5-88	Recreation on some of the subregion will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.

	5-89	<p>Developed recreation sites will be managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -excluded from livestock grazing; -leased for fluid minerals with a NSO stipulation; -closed to locatable mineral entry; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -closed to mineral material development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.
	5-90	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.

WAUGH MOUNTAIN/TALLAHASSEE CREEK

SUBREGION #6

Subregion Description

This subregion has 70,145 acres of BLM-administered lands, 114,341 acres of private lands, and 12,250 acres of state lands. This subregion lies north of the Arkansas River subregion and east of the Badger Creek subregion.

Vegetation is predominantly pinon/juniper woodlands intermixed with oak, other mountain shrubs, with some widely scattered grassy openings in the woodlands. A significant part of the westcentral portion consists of a series of gentle grassy hills. The higher mountains have ponderosa pine, other mixed conifers, mountain meadows, and aspen stands.

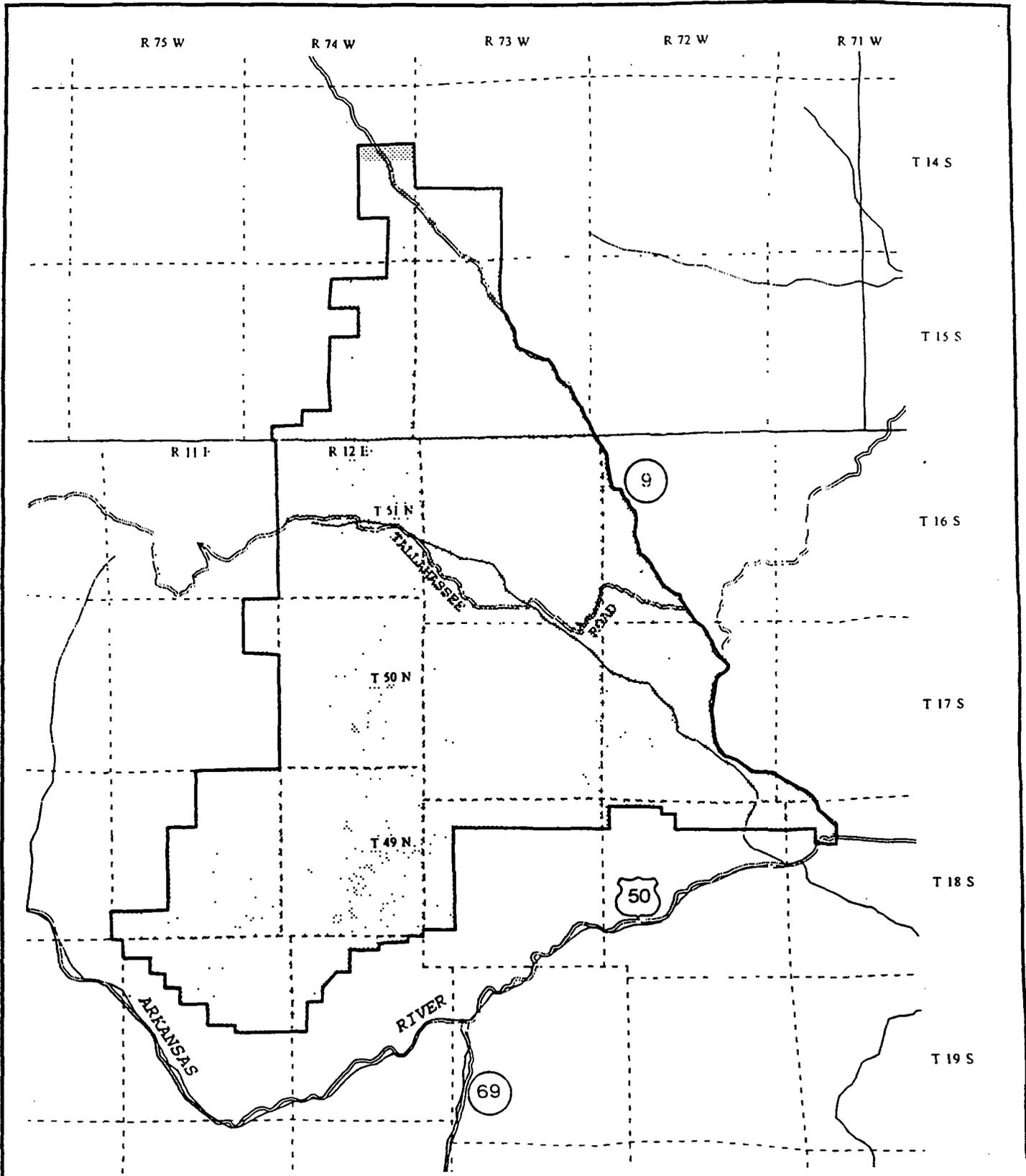
Highway 9 and the Tallahassee Road have been influential in this subregion. This subregion is sparsely populated, with no towns present, although many second home mountain real estate subdivisions are being developed throughout the subregion.

This subregion is represented by rugged foothills and mountains. Tallahassee Creek is the major watershed within this subregion. The map on the

next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:300,000

Subregion 6 (Waugh Mtn/Tallahassee) Location Map

Waugh Mtn./Tallahassee Creek Subregion #6

Values Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	6-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	6-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	6-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	6-4	Grazing is authorized on 70 allotments.
	6-5	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	6-6	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -22 Improve -4 Maintain -43 Custodial -1 Unalloted.
Riparian	6-7	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.

	6-8	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	6-9	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	6-10	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	6-11	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	6-12	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	6-13	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	6-14	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	6-15	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	6-16	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.
	6-17	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.
	6-18	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.

	6-19	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	6-20	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting and fledging habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	6-21	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	6-22	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	6-23	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	6-24	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Plants/Plant communities Habitat	6-25	Special status plants and plant communities habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	6-26	A portion of the relict plant community in High Mesa Grasslands will be protected through: -ACEC designation; -no surface occupancy for fluid minerals leasing; -closing to locatable mineral entry; -closing to mineral materials disposals; -OHV restrictions.

	6-27	All special status plant habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	6-28	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	6-29	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: -Mexican spotted owl confirmed roosting and nesting sites.
	6-30	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: -Mexican spotted owl habitat.
Fluid Minerals	6-31	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	6-32	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -special status plants in the Arkansas Canyonlands ACEC (High Mesa Grasslands portion).
	6-33	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.

	6-34	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. This list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	6-35	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	6-36	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.
	6-37	Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -ferruginous hawk & raptor nesting/fledging habitat.
	6-38	Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -portion of one ACEC.

	6-39	Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).
	6-40	An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.
Transportation and Access	6-41	The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	6-42	A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.
	6-43	Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 mile on West Waugh Mountain opening 1,400 acres; -4 miles on 31-Mile Mountain opening 5,000 acres.
	6-44	The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.

Rights-of-way	6-45	The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.
	6-46	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -raptor fledging/nesting areas.
	6-47	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat.
	6-48	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	6-49	There are substantial areas nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	6-50	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	6-51	Land ownership adjustments include: -3,101 acres for disposal; -0 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -67,044 acres for retention or exchange.

Withdrawals and Classifications	6-52	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	6-53	New withdrawals will be initiated for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -portion of one ACEC.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	6-54	A portion of the Arkansas Canyonlands is designated as an ACEC and will be managed to protect and enhance its special values.
	6-55	A portion of the designated ACEC will receive special management as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -livestock grazing will be limited; -timber harvesting will be allowed for enhancement of protected resources; -leased with a no surface occupancy stipulation for fluid minerals; -closed to locatable mineral entry and mineral materials disposal; -retention in public ownership; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	6-56	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.
	6-57	An off-highway vehicle open area is designated in Sand Gulch.

	6-58	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging areas; -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -special status plant and animal habitat.
	6-59	An off-highway vehicle closed area is designated at 31 Mile Ranch.
	6-60	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporation of public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	6-61	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	6-62	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	6-63	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	6-64	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	6-65	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	6-66	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a control surface use stipulation for fluid minerals leasing.

	6-67	Visual ratings inside a portion of one ACEC will be reevaluated to ensure rating is appropriate to protect outstanding qualities.
	6-68	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	6-69	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	6-70	Recreation will be managed nonintensively.
	6-71	Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.
	6-72	Various actions will occur to enhance recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -upland recreation opportunities emphasizing on a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.

GRAPE CREEK SUBREGION #7

Subregion Description

This subregion has 48,199 acres of BLM-administered lands, 30,439 acres of private lands, 511 acres of local government lands, and 4,150 acres of state lands. The subregion extends downstream on Grape Creek from DeWeese Reservoir to the confluence with the Arkansas River in the Royal Gorge.

Vegetation is predominantly pinon/juniper woodlands intermixed with oak, other mountain shrubs, small stands of aspen and mixed conifers, with some widely scattered grassy openings in the woodlands. There is some minor amount of riparian vegetation along the creek bottoms.

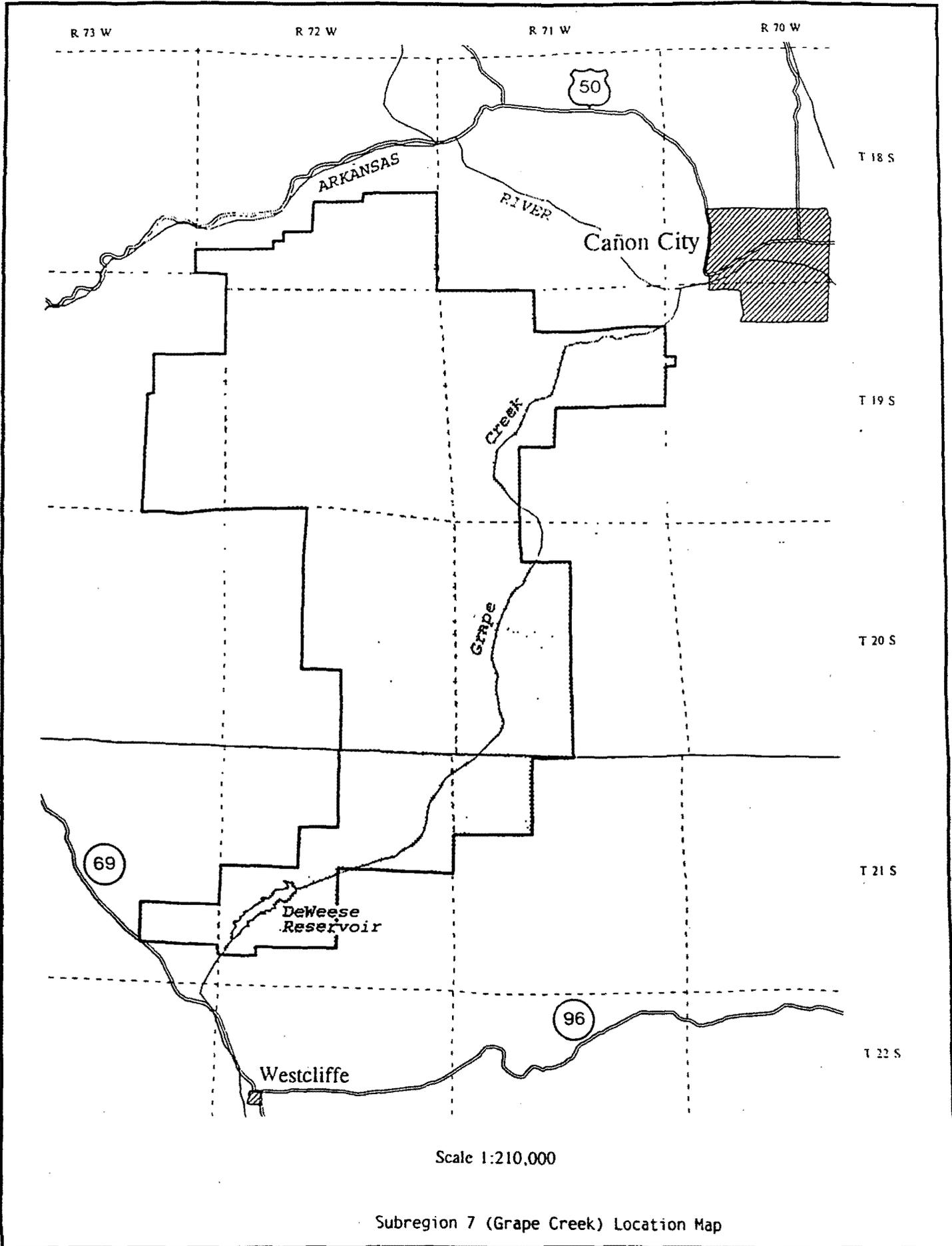
There have not been any highways or roads of significant influence within this subregion, although Copper Gulch Road does run through the northwest portion. This remote subregion is sparsely populated, with no towns present, although many second home mountain real estate subdivisions are being developed throughout the subregion.

This subregion is represented by rugged foothills and mountains, with Grape Creek the only major watershed. The flows on Grape Creek are strongly influenced by water

rights held by irrigation companies. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:210,000

Subregion 7 (Grape Creek) Location Map

Grape Creek Subregion #7

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	7-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	7-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	7-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	7-4	Grazing is authorized on 13 allotments.
	7-5	Grazing will be excluded on developed recreation sites and potential NRHP sites if conflicts occur.
	7-6	Season of use for grazing will be adjusted on two ACECs.
	7-7	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.

	7-8	Allotments are categorized as follows: -6 Improve -0 Maintain -6 Custodial -1 Unalloted.
Riparian	7-9	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	7-10	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	7-11	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	7-12	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	7-13	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	7-14	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	7-15	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	7-16	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	7-17	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	7-18	Big game birthing and critical winter habitat will be avoided by major ROWs.

	7-19	Big game critical winter habitat with identified conflicts with grazing will be addressed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program.
	7-20	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	7-21	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	7-22	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -raptor nesting and fledging habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat.
	7-23	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	7-24	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	7-25	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	7-26	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	7-27	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	7-28	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.

	7-29	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
	7-30	Activity planning for special status animal species will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fluid Minerals	7-31	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	7-32	Fluid minerals within BLM Wilderness Study Areas will not be leased pending a final designation by Congress. Any congressionally designated wilderness lands will be withdrawn from leasing while lands not designated will return to multiple use management subject to the applicable ARMP/ROD decisions.
	7-33	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -developed recreation sites.
	7-34	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: -big game critical winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.

	7-35	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. The list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	7-36	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	7-37	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development under standard mineral operating practices.
	7-38	Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/ operator notification to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	7-39	Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -wilderness study areas; -big game birthing habitat; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -portions of two ACECs; -two potential NRHP sites; -developed recreation sites.

	7-40	Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).
	7-41	An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.
Historical Resources	7-42	Informational potential of historical resources will be used for interpretation and scientific values and specific sites will be used for their interpretive values.
	7-43	Conservation of historical resources will be enhanced through: - designation of Arkansas Canyonlands and Grape Creek ACECs; - potential protection of NRHP site (Denver and Rio Grande Railroad bed) being: leased for fluid minerals under standard leasing stipulations; closed to locatable mineral entry and mineral materials development; and off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.
	7-44	Informational potential of historical resources will be promoted through involvement with educational institutions.
	7-45	Active programs for interpretive, scientific and recreational use of historic sites will be developed within IAPs.

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>7-46</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>7-47</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>7-48</p>	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -6 miles on Grape Creek opening up 19,000 acres.
	<p>7-49</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated thorough IAPs.</p>
<p>Rights-of-way</p>	<p>7-50</p>	<p>The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.</p>

	7-51	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -wilderness study areas; -one potential NRHP site; -raptor fledging/nesting areas.
	7-52	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -Visual Resource Management class II areas in ACECs; -developed recreation sites.
	7-53	There are substantial areas nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	7-54	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	7-55	Land ownership adjustments include: -739 acres for disposal; -0 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -47,460 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	7-56	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	7-57	Existing BLM withdrawals will be continued.

	7-58	<p>New withdrawals will be initiated for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -one potential NRHP site; -fishery habitat; -portions of two ACECs; -Visual Resource Management class II in ACECs; -developed recreation sites.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	7-59	<p>Portions of Arkansas Canyonlands and Grape Creek are designated as ACECs and will be managed to protect and enhance their special values.</p>
	7-60	<p>A portion of the designated ACEC will receive special management as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -livestock grazing will be limited; -timber harvesting will be allowed for enhancement of protected resources; -leased with a no surface occupancy stipulation for fluid minerals; -closed to locatable mineral entry and mineral materials disposal; -VRM class II avoided for major ROWs; -retention in public ownership; -certain areas are closed to off-highway vehicle use; -certain areas are restricted for off-highway vehicles with use limited to designated roads and trails.
	7-61	<p>Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.</p>
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	7-62	<p>Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.</p>
	7-63	<p>No off-highway vehicle open areas are designated.</p>

	7-64	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -raptor nesting/fledging areas; -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -two ACECs; -special status animal habitat; -developed recreation sites.
	7-65	Off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated in three WSAs (McIntyre Hills, Upper & Lower Grape Creek).
	7-66	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporating public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	7-67	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	7-68	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	7-69	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	7-70	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	7-71	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	7-72	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation for fluid minerals leasing.

	7-73	<p>Visual Resource Management class II areas within ACECs will be protected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major right-of-way corridor development; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails; -retained in public ownership.
	7-74	<p>Visual ratings in ACECs will be reevaluated to ensure rating is appropriate to protect outstanding qualities.</p>
	7-75	<p>All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.</p>
Recreation Management	7-76	<p>Recreation will be managed to provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	7-77	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively.</p>
	7-78	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.</p>
	7-79	<p>Developed recreation sites will be managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -excluded from livestock grazing; -leased for fluid minerals with a NSO stipulation; -closed to mineral entry; -closed to mineral materials development; -avoided by major rights-of-way; -off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.

	7-80	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism;-coordination with various volunteer and user groups;-monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability;-provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance water-based recreation, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.
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HUERFANO SUBREGION #8

Subregion Description

This subregion has 62,704 acres of BLM-administered lands, 236,564 acres of private lands, and 14,740 acres of state lands. This large subregion generally lies west of Walsenburg and extends from the Huerfano River valley on the north to the Headwaters of the Cucharas River on the south.

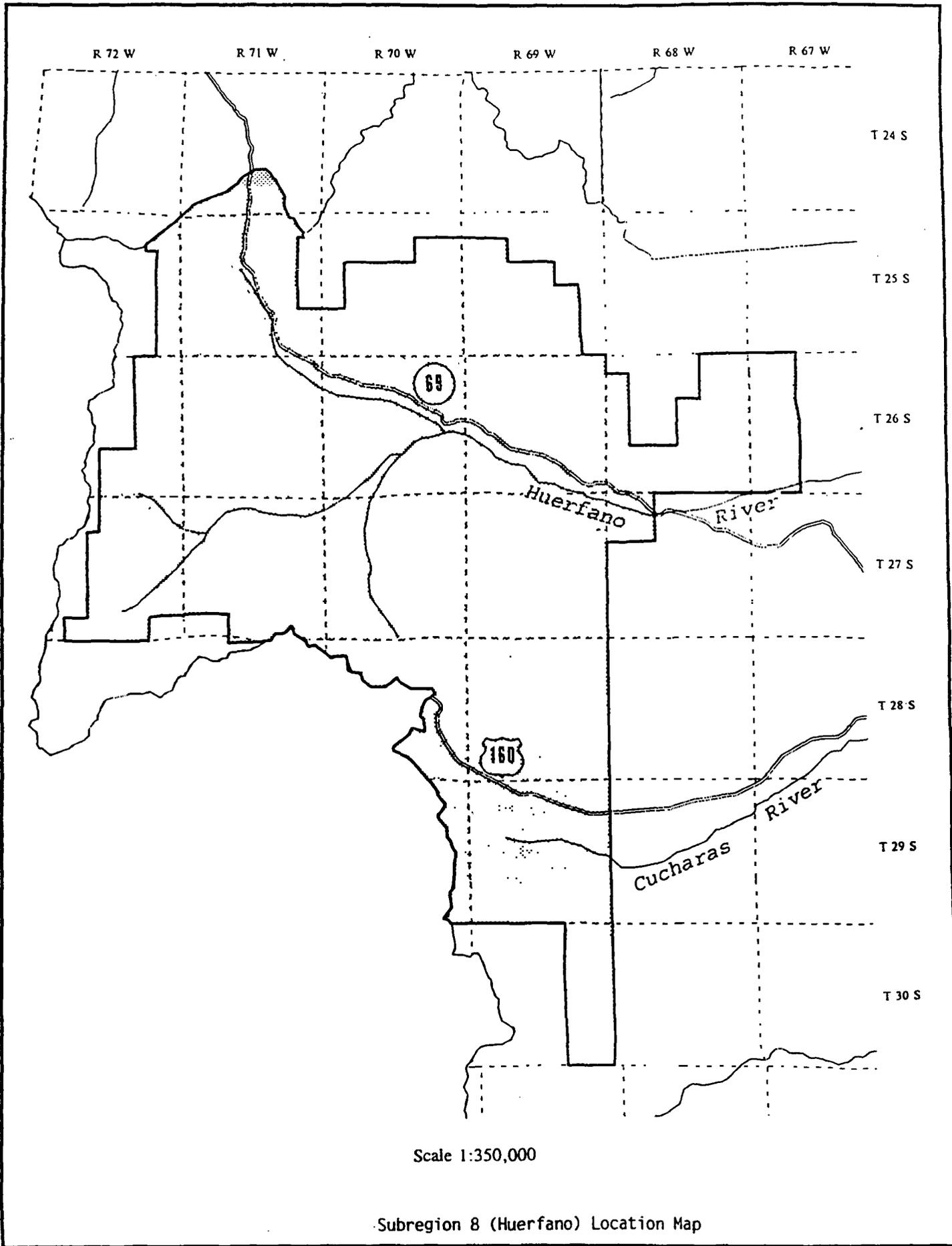
Vegetation consists of dry grasslands and pinon/juniper woodlands, with some fir, pine, and spruce in the scattered mountainous areas.

Highways 69 and 160 along with other rural roadways have been major influences in this subregion. The towns of La Veta, Gardner and other smaller communities have also influenced this subregion.

Topography varies from the relatively flat terrain of the northern and eastern portions to the high and steep-sided mountains of the southwestern portion of the subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Scale 1:350,000

Subregion 8 (Huerfano) Location Map

Huerfano Subregion #8

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	8-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	8-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	8-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	8-4	Grazing is authorized on 61 allotments.
	8-5	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	8-6	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -7 Improve -0 Maintain -54 Custodial -0 Unalloted.
Riparian	8-7	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.

	8-8	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	8-9	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	8-10	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	8-11	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	8-12	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	8-13	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	8-14	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	8-15	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	8-16	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	8-17	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	8-18	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -raptor nesting and fledging habitat.

	8-19	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	8-20	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	8-21	All streams will be protected through: - standard lease terms for fluid minerals; - locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; - mineral materials disposal closures; - OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	8-22	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	8-23	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	8-24	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation in: - peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	8-25	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: - Mexican spotted owl habitat; - peregrine falcon habitat.
	8-26	Special status animal species peregrine falcon nesting habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry and to mineral materials disposal.
	8-27	Special status animal species habitat will have timing limitations for mineral operations in: - Mexican spotted owl habitat; - peregrine falcon habitat.

Fluid Minerals	8-28	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	8-29	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging habitat.
	8-30	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -big game critical winter habitat ; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat; -peregrine falcon nesting habitat.
	8-31	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a controlled surface use stipulation to protect: -Visual Resource Management Class II areas.
	8-32	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. This list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.

<p>Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials</p>	<p>8-33</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.</p>
	<p>8-34</p>	<p>Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/operator notification to protect: -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.</p>
	<p>8-35</p>	<p>Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: -big game birthing areas; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.</p>
	<p>8-36</p>	<p>Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).</p>
	<p>8-37</p>	<p>An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.</p>
<p>Coal Mineral Resources</p>	<p>8-38</p>	<p>Coal resources on 4,952 acres will be available for further consideration for underground mining.</p>
	<p>8-39</p>	<p>Coal resources on 0 acres will be available for further consideration for surface mining.</p>

<p>Transportation and Access</p>	<p>8-40</p>	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	<p>8-41</p>	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	<p>8-42</p>	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -5 miles of Mt. Maestas opening up 3,800 acres; -3 miles of Sheep and Little Sheep Mountains opening up 5,100 acres.
	<p>8-43</p>	<p>The transportation system map will be updated thorough IAPs.</p>
<p>Rights-of-way</p>	<p>8-44</p>	<p>The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.</p>

	8-45	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging areas.
	8-46	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -big game birthing habitat.
	8-47	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	8-48	There are areas nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	8-49	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	8-50	Land ownership adjustments include: -6,163 acres for disposal; -0 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -56,541 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	8-51	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	8-52	New withdrawals will be initiated for: -big game birthing habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat.

Off-Highway Vehicle Use	8-53	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.
	8-54	No off-highway vehicle open areas are designated.
	8-55	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -special status plants and animal habitat.
	8-56	No off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated.
	8-57	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporating public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	8-58	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.
	8-59	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	8-60	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	8-61	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.

Visual Resources	8-62	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	8-63	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation for fluid minerals leasing.
	8-64	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	8-65	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	8-66	Recreation will be managed nonintensively.
	8-67	Various actions will occur to enhance recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism; -coordination with various volunteer and user groups; -monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability; -provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.

CUCHARAS CANYON SUBREGION #9

Subregion Description

This subregion has 1,866 acres of BLM-administered lands, 5,074 acres of private lands, and 1,291 acres of state lands. The subregion extends downstream on the Cucharas River from Cucharas Reservoir to the opening of the canyon before flowing into the Huerfano River.

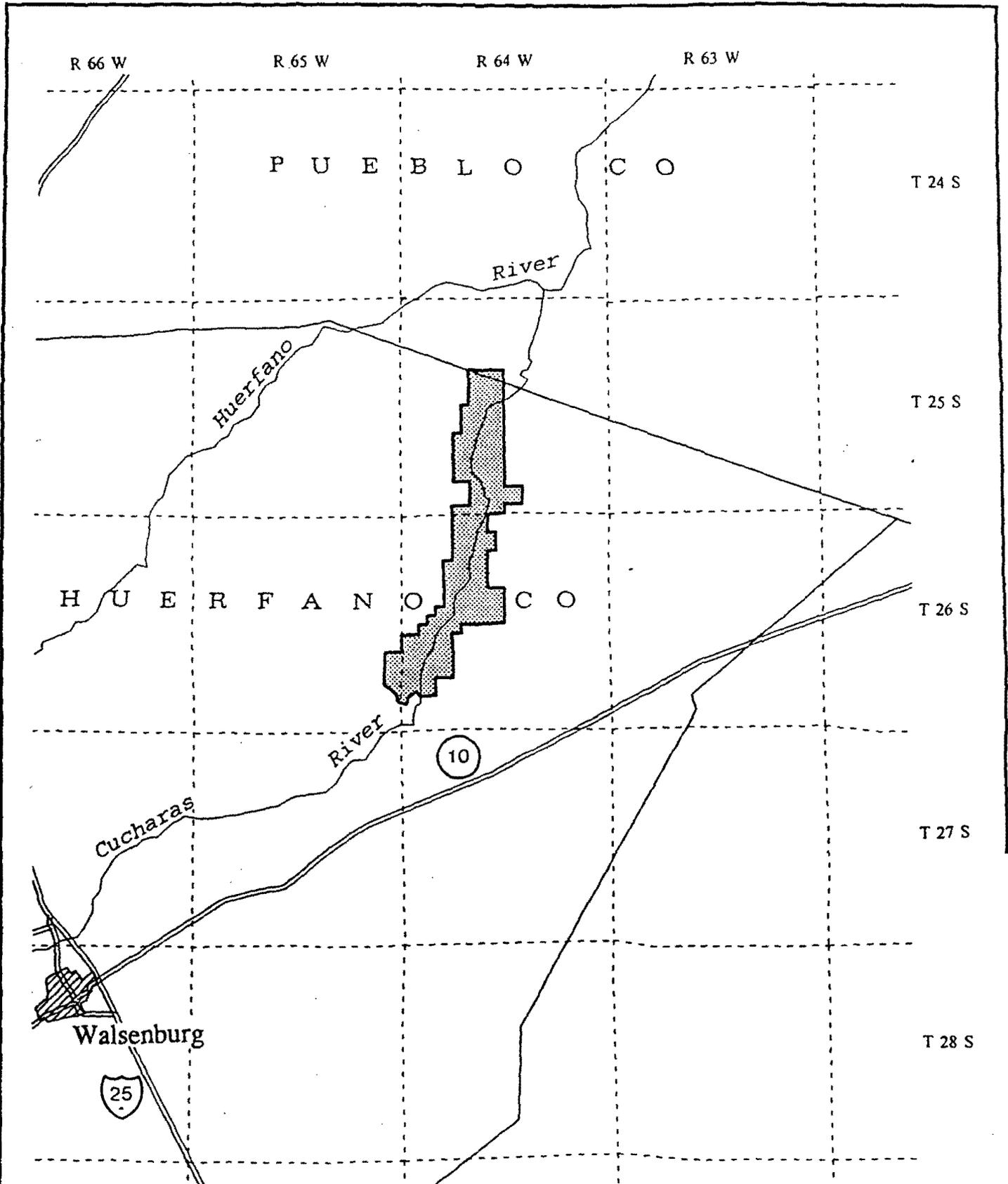
Vegetation is varied and unique, from the conifers and broadleaf deciduous trees along the narrow river bottom to the mountain shrubs growing along the steep canyon walls. There is some significant riparian vegetation along the river canyon bottom.

There are no roads of significant influence in this subregion. This remote small subregion is unpopulated, with no towns present.

This subregion is a rugged, steep-sided, deep canyon surrounded by relatively flat eastern plains. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.



Subregion 9 (Cucharas Canyon) Location Map

Cucharas Canyon Subregion #9

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	9-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	9-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	9-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	9-4	Grazing is authorized on 3 allotments.
	9-5	Grazing will be excluded on the potential NRHP district if it becomes designated.
	9-6	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	9-7	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -2 Improve -0 Maintain -0 Custodial -1 Unalloted.

Riparian	9-8	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.
	9-9	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	9-10	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	9-11	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	9-12	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Wildlife Habitat	9-13	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	9-14	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -raptor nesting and fledging habitat.
	9-14	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	9-15	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	9-16	All streams will be protected through: -standard lease terms for fluid minerals; -locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; -mineral materials disposal closures; -OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	9-17	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.

Special Status Animal Species Habitat	9-18	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	9-19	Activity planning will be accomplished within an IAP.
	9-20	Special status animal species habitat will have a timing limitation for mineral operations in: -ferruginous hawk nesting and fledging habitat.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	9-21	Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: -potential National Register of Historic Places district; - the area as an ACEC; - fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.
	9-22	Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).
Historical and Archaeological Resources	9-23	Informational potential of historical resources will be used for interpretation and scientific values and specific sites will be used for their interpretive values. Informational potential of archaeological resources will be developed to the maximum extent possible through appropriate study.
	9-24	Conservation of historical and archaeological resources will be enhanced through: -designation as ACEC; -potential NRHP district being leased for fluid minerals under standard leasing stipulations; closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development; and off-highway vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.

	9-25	Informational potential of historical and archaeological resources will be promoted through involvement with educational institutions.
	9-26	Active programs for interpretive scientific and recreational use of the historic sites will be developed within IAPs.
Transportation and Access	9-27	<p>The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	9-28	<p>A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.</p>
	9-29	<p>Priority for new access by easement acquisition or new construction will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -any sites for additional access resulting from NRHP district designation.
	9-30	The transportation system map will be updated through an IAP.

Rights-of-way	9-31	The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.
	9-32	The area will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -potential NRHP district.
Land Ownership Adjustments	9-33	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	9-34	Land ownership adjustments include: -0 acres for disposal; -0 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -1,866 acres for retention or exchange.
Withdrawals and Classifications	9-35	New withdrawals will be initiated for: -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -potential NRHP district; -the ACEC.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	9-36	All of Cucharas Canyon will be designated as an ACEC and will be managed to protect and enhance its special values.

	9-37	This designated ACEC will receive special management as follows: -locatable mineral entry will not occur; -mineral materials development will not occur; -retention in public ownership.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	9-38	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values.
	9-39	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -potential NRHP district; -the ACEC.
	9-40	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporation of public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	9-41	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to control users to stay on roads and trails.
	9-42	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational limitations.
	9-43	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.

Recreation Management	9-44	<p>Recreation will be managed to provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	9-45	<p>Recreation will be managed nonintensively in semiprimitive nonmotorized settings.</p>

OTHER LANDS SUBREGION #10

Subregion Description

This subregion has 61,599 acres of BLM-administered lands, 8,990,350 acres of private lands, 624 acres of local government lands, and 875,489 acres of state lands. The subregion extends across southeastern Colorado basically east of Interstate Highway 25. This is a very large area of scattered tracts of BLM lands and is bordered by the states of Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

Vegetation is predominantly blue grama and buffalo grasses, typical of the Great Plains. Other vegetation include high mountain park rolling grasslands, sand sage, woody riparian around reservoirs and along rivers and streams, a large variety of annual forbs, and perennial flowers and shrubs. There are some occasional stands of ponderosa pines or pinon/juniper.

There are many highways or roads of significant influence within this subregion, although there are portions of this subregion that are remote and sparsely populated. There are towns and cities present in the subregion.

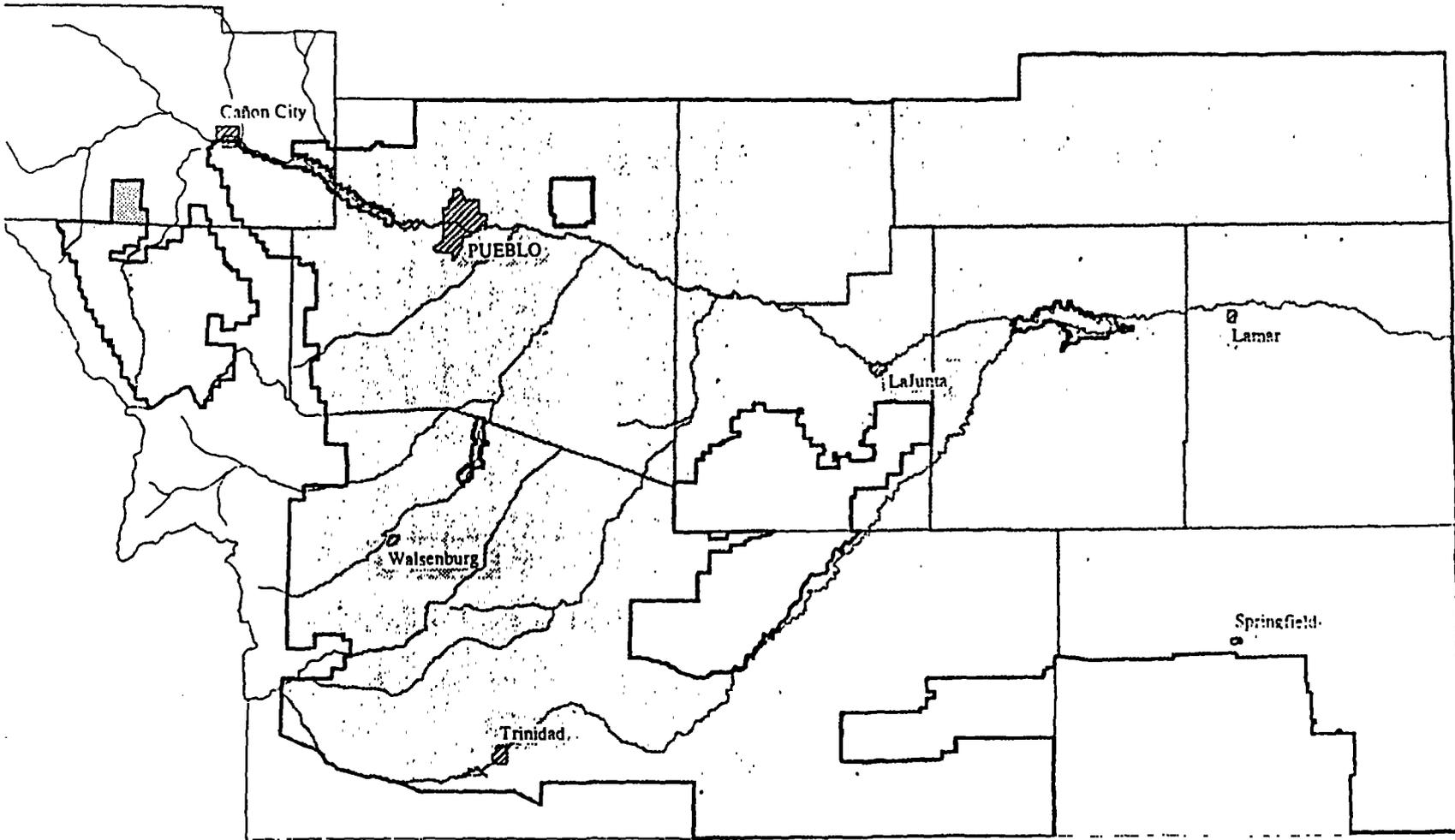
This subregion is generally flat to gently rolling with few gullies and little topographic

relief. The map on the next page provides a general location for this subregion.

Subregion Decisions

The table on the following pages displays the resource objective, allocation, and action decisions by values managed.

2-10-2



Scale 1:1,500,000

Subregion 10 (Other Lands) Location Map

Other Lands Subregion #10

Value Managed	Decision #	Decision
Vegetation	10-1	<p>Vegetation management will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -vegetation will be managed to accomplish other BLM initiatives i.e., Riparian, Wildlife, etc; -improved forage conditions will be distributed through cooperative efforts i.e., Colorado Habitat Partnership Program; -management of forest lands will be for enhancement of other values; -Desired Plant Condition objectives will be developed for all Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs); -vegetation monitoring will be accomplished on an interdisciplinary basis.
Livestock Grazing	10-2	Season of use and stocking rates will continue based on the Grazing EIS and vegetation monitoring.
	10-3	Livestock grazing will be prioritized based on IAP resolution of conflicts with riparian, critical wildlife habitat, and ACECs.
	10-4	Grazing is authorized on 132 allotments.
	10-5	Livestock drift onto uncontrolled private land will be eliminated through BLM fencing, cooperative projects, or by eliminating grazing.
	10-6	<p>Allotments are categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -0 Improve -0 Maintain -126 Custodial -6 Unalloted.
Riparian	10-7	Seventy five percent of all riparian areas will be at properly functioning condition by 1997.

	10-8	Perennial riparian areas will be closed to locatable mineral entry except for recreational placering, closed to mineral materials disposal, and all OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	10-9	Riparian area inventories will be completed and mapped as soon as possible.
	10-10	Interdisciplinary support will be emphasized for riparian restoration.
	10-11	All IAPs will reflect riparian objectives.
Forest and Woodlands	10-12	Productive forested lands will be managed for sustained-yield.
	10-13	A portion of the forested lands will be available for intensive management.
Wildlife Habitat	10-14	Conflicts between Wildlife Habitat and other uses e.g., grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of achieving vegetation management goals.
	10-15	Big game birthing habitat will be closed to locatable mineral entry, closed to mineral materials disposal, closed to coal leasing, excluded from major ROWs, and have OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	10-16	Raptor nesting/fledging habitat will be available for fluid mineral leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation.
	10-17	Fluid minerals leasing will be available with timing limitations for: -big game critical winter habitat; -big game birthing habitat (elk calving, deer and pronghorn antelope fawning, and bighorn sheep lambing); -wild turkey winter habitat.
	10-18	Mineral operations will be available with timing limitations for: -raptor nesting and fledging habitat.

	10-19	Wildlife activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Fishery Habitat	10-20	Conflicts between fishery habitat and other values e.g., livestock grazing, mineral development, etc., will be resolved in favor of fishery habitat.
	10-21	All streams will be protected through: - standard lease terms for fluid minerals; - locatable mineral entry closures except for recreational placering; - mineral materials disposal closures; - OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
	10-22	All fishery habitat activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Special Status Animal Species Habitat	10-23	Special status animal species habitat will be protected through elimination of conflicting uses.
	10-24	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with a no surface occupancy stipulation in: - lesser prairie chicken leks.
	10-25	Special status animal species habitat will be available for fluid minerals leasing with timing limitations in: - lesser prairie chicken habitat; - least tern and piping plover nesting habitat; - bald eagle winter roosting habitat; - Mexican spotted owl habitat; - ferruginous hawk nesting and fledging habitat.

	10-26	Special status animal species will be closed to locatable mineral entry and to mineral materials disposal in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -peregrine falcon habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -least tern and piping plover nesting habitat; -lesser prairie chicken habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting and fledging habitat.
Fluid Minerals	10-27	BLM administered mineral estate will be open to fluid minerals leasing, exploration, and production subject to the lease terms and applicable lease stipulations as shown in Appendix A of this ARMP/ROD.
	10-28	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a no surface occupancy stipulation to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -lesser prairie chicken leks; reservoir rights-of-way.
	10-29	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with timing limitations to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elk calving/deer birthing habitat; -bighorn sheep lambing habitat; -pronghorn antelope fawning habitat; -big game critical winter habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat; -bald eagle winter roosting habitat; -lesser prairie chicken habitat; -least tern/piping plover nesting habitat.
	10-30	Fluid minerals leasing may occur on certain lands with a controlled surface use stipulation to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visual Resource Management Class II areas.

	8-31	Fluid minerals leasing Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be applied to operational activities (geophysical Notices of Intent-NOIs, Applications for Permit to Drill-APDs, and Sundry Notices) as determined necessary by the Authorized Officer to protect other resources and values within the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the lease. This list of the most common COAs is found in Appendix G of the Draft RMP/EIS. Activity planning will be accomplished within IAPs.
Locatable Minerals & Mineral Materials	10-32	Areas will be open to mineral entry and available for mineral materials development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -administered under existing regulations; -limited by closure if necessary; -special mitigation will be developed to protect values on a case-by-case basis.
	10-33	Areas will be open to mineral entry under timing limitations and available for mineral materials development under a seasonal limitation through claimant/ operator notification to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game critical winter habitat; -wild turkey winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat; -lesser prairie chicken habitat; least tern/piping plover nesting habitat; -Mexican spotted owl habitat; -ferruginous hawk nesting/fledging habitat; -peregrine falcon habitat.
	10-34	Areas will be closed to mineral entry and mineral materials development to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game birthing areas; -fishery habitat; -perennial riparian areas.

	10-35	Closures and limitations will be reviewed and necessary changes made within Integrated Activity Plans (IAPs).
	10-36	An analysis will be done to locate and establish community mineral materials pits within IAPs.
Coal Mineral Resources	10-37	Coal resources on 52,980 acres will be available for further consideration for underground or surface mining.
	8-38	Coal resources on 72,782 acres will be available for further consideration for underground mining only.
Transportation and Access	10-39	The transportation system will be improved and maintained to facilitate public access and administrative monitoring through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -providing access to all retention lands; -exclusive easements to provide public access; -non-exclusive easements for non-public access; -unnecessary and unmaintained roads being closed and rehabilitated; -federal, state, county, and other roads with valid rights-of-way remaining open; -continued signing, fencing, and marking boundaries of only BLM administered lands to be retained; -the degree of public access needed is guided by the recreation opportunity spectrum class.
	10-40	A maintenance schedule will be established for the BLM road system. Roads not maintained in good condition under the schedule will either have limited use or will be closed and reclaimed.
	10-41	New access by easement acquisition or new construction will be provided.
	10-42	The transportation system map will be updated through IAPs.

Rights-of-way	10-43	The Western Utility Group's study for corridor designation will be adopted for major rights-of-way with addition of the existing transportation corridors. Minor rights-of-way will be authorized on a case-by-case basis on proposals outside of exclusion areas. Minor rights-of-way could be authorized in avoidance areas only when stipulations will protect values.
	10-44	Areas will be excluded from rights-of-way to protect: -raptor nesting/fledging areas; -special status animal habitat.
	10-45	Areas will be avoided for rights-of-way to protect: -big game birthing & critical winter habitat.
	10-46	Right-of-way corridors are designated.
	10-47	There are areas nonexcluded for rights-of-way.
Land Ownership Adjustments	10-48	Land ownership adjustments will be made with the following guidance: -parcels considered difficult and uneconomical to manage with no significant resource values will be identified for sale; -exchange could be used when the result is clearly in the best interest of the public and management will be improved; -identified parcels for acquisition or retention will provide values for public use and have access; -all uses will be equally considered in analyzing proposals.
	10-49	Land ownership adjustments include: -55,146 acres for disposal; -0 acres for disposal through exchange, lease, or transfer; -6,453 acres for retention or exchange.

Withdrawals and Classifications	10-50	Withdrawals and classifications will continue to be reviewed and initiated to protect values when needed.
	10-51	New withdrawals will be initiated for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -big game birthing habitat; -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -special status animal habitat.
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	10-52	Motorized recreation off-highway vehicle opportunities will be enhanced; use will be managed through limitations or closures to protect values; responsible use will be encouraged throughout this sub-region where use is allowed.
	10-53	No off-highway vehicle open areas are designated.
	10-54	An off-highway vehicle limited designation will be placed on designated roads and trails and/or seasonally to protect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -perennial riparian areas; -fishery habitat; -big game birthing & critical winter habitat; -raptor nesting/fledging habitat; -special status plants and animal habitat.
	10-55	No off-highway vehicle closed areas are designated.
	10-56	Information materials for motorized off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities will be developed, including incorporating public awareness of national programs i.e., Tread Lightly, into IAPs.
	10-57	Media, informational materials, and physical barriers will be used to encourage users to stay on roads and trails.

	10-58	Partnerships will be developed with local or regional off-highway vehicle clubs/groups to assist in coordinating and enhancing off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities.
	10-59	Trails and trailhead facilities for off-highway vehicle use will be established to meet public demand.
	10-60	All activity planning for off-highway vehicle use will be accomplished within IAPs.
Visual Resources	10-61	Visual Resource Management class criteria will be used as a guide for other resource management actions.
	10-62	Visual Resource Management class II areas will be protected by a controlled surface use stipulation for fluid minerals leasing.
	10-63	All activity planning for visual resources will be accomplished within IAPs.
Recreation Management	10-64	Recreation will be managed to provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a variety of recreational opportunities and settings; -additional opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, off-highway vehicle use, interpretation, and horseback riding; -facility development will be accomplished to reduce user conflicts and to improve visitor health and safety.
	10-65	Recreation will be managed nonintensively.

	10-66	<p>Various actions will occur to enhance recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-upland recreation opportunities emphasizing a balance between resource protection and tourism;-coordination with various volunteer and user groups;-monitoring and visitor contacts to ensure visitor safety, resource protection, and visitor information availability;-provide for acquisitions or easements to enhance mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and natural/cultural resource interpretation.
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APPENDIX

FLUID MINERALS MANAGEMENT



APPENDIX

FLUID MINERALS MANAGEMENT

STANDARD LEASE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The standard terms and conditions for oil and gas leasing are part of all Federal leases regardless of other considerations. These terms and conditions will automatically apply to all alternatives.

"Sec. 6. Conduct of Operations - Lessee shall conduct operations in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts to the land, air, and water, to cultural, biological, visual, and other resources, and to other land uses or users. Lessee shall take reasonable measures deemed necessary by lessor to accomplish the intent of this section. To the extent consistent with lease rights granted, such measures may include, but are not limited to, modification to siting or design of facilities, timing of operations, and specification of interim and final reclamation measures. Lessor reserves the right to continue existing uses and to authorize future uses upon or in the leased lands, including the approval of easements or rights-of-way. Such uses shall be conditioned so as to prevent unnecessary or unreasonable interference with rights of lessee."

"Prior to disturbing the surface of the lands, lessee shall contact lessor to be apprised of procedures to be followed and modifications or reclamation measures that may be necessary. Area to be disturbed may require inventories or special studies to determine the extent of impacts to other resources. Lessee may be required to complete minor inventories or short-term special studies under guidelines provided by lessor. If in the conduct of operations, threatened or endangered species, objects of historical or scientific interest, or substantial unanticipated environmental effects are observed, lessee shall immediately contact lessor. Lessee shall cease any operations that would result in the destruction of such species or objects."

The "lease rights granted," as used in this section have also been partially defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, part 3101.1-2, shown below.

"A lessee shall have the right to use as much of the leased lands as is necessary to explore for, drill for, mine, extract, remove and dispose of all the leased resource in a leasehold subject to: Stipulations attached to the lease; restrictions deriving from specific, nondiscretionary statutes; and such reasonable measures as may be required by the Authorized Officer to minimize adverse impacts to other resource values, land uses, or users not addressed in the lease stipulations at the time operations are proposed. To the extent consistent with lease rights granted, such reasonable measures may include, but are not limited to, modification to siting or design of facilities, timing of operations, and specification of interim and final reclamation measures. At a minimum, measures shall be deemed consistent with lease rights granted

provided that they do not: require relocation of proposed operations by more than 200 meters; require that operations be sited off the leasehold; or prohibit new surface-disturbing operations for a period in excess of 60 days in any lease year."

LEASE STIPULATIONS

Introduction

Oil and gas leases are issued granting the lessee the right to extract the oil and gas resource. Section 6 of the lease restricts lease rights granted by requiring protection of other resources during development of the oil and gas. If it is necessary to restrict the rights more than in the standard lease contract, stipulations are appended to the lease. Additional restrictions needed to protect resources and values under this alternative are shown below, categorized by type of stipulation.

Stipulations are applied by legal description to oil and gas leases on the basis of standard quarter-quarter sections (40 acres) or lots. That is, any lease parcel containing at least a quarter-quarter section or lot needing mitigation will have the appropriate stipulation appended to the lease document. If the parcel of land needing mitigation is smaller than a quarter-quarter section or lot, no leasing stipulation is appended to the document since that small a parcel can be avoided by standard lease terms further defined in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 43, subpart 3101.1-2. This means that sites requiring special protection, such as a 1-acre site, do not require leasing stipulations. If, however, the same 1-acre site must have protection for one-quarter mile radius around the site, a leasing situation providing that protection would be written for the entire surrounding 40-acre square (e.g., 1/4 1/4 section).

These stipulations are evaluated for use on all Federal mineral estate regardless of surface ownership, with the exception of the Federal mineral estate underlying surface administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

Regulations covering modification and waiver of stipulations are in the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), Title 43, Subpart 3101.1-4. Generally, a waiver, exception, or modification may be approved if the record shows that circumstances or relative resource values have changed or if the lessee can demonstrate that operations can be conducted without causing unacceptable impacts, and that less restrictive stipulations will protect the public interest. Waivers, exceptions, or modifications can only be granted by the Authorized Officer. If the proposed waiver, exception, or modification is inconsistent with the plan, the plan will be amended or the change to the stipulation will be disallowed. Even where no exception criterion is

identified, exceptions are considered on a case-by-case basis. Definitions used by the BLM for waiver, exception, and modification are in the Glossary.

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Exceptions to leasing stipulations will be granted by the Authorized Officer if the reason for the exception is consistent with that analysis. No public notice is required for exceptions to lease stipulations that conform to the plan. Other possible exceptions may be granted only with a plan amendment and public notification.

Modifications to stipulations are made if and when resource management determines the stipulation is no longer effective as written. This situation occurs when new information (for example, from a monitoring program, technical data, etc.) shows that the protective measure is unnecessarily restrictive.

Modification of a stipulation requires preparation of an environmental assessment to determine potential impacts and plan amendment or maintenance needs. If modification is determined by the Authorized Officer to be substantial, a 30-day public notice will be given prior to modifying the lease stipulation.

Waiver means the complete elimination of a stipulation from a particular lease contract. A stipulation is waived by the Authorized Officer after preparation of an environmental assessment and a decision is made that the stipulation in question is no longer required for a particular lease. The decision to waive a substantial stipulation requires a plan amendment and a 30-day public notice period prior to waiver.

Special Stipulations

The following stipulations will be added, as prescribed in this plan, to future oil and gas leases on both Federal surface and split-estate lands. Actual wording of these stipulations may be adjusted at the time of leasing to reflect future legislation, court decisions, or policy changes; however, the protection standards in these stipulations will be maintained. Any change to the protection content of the stipulation will require an amendment to the RMP/EIS.

I. No Surface Occupancy Stipulations (NSO) Alternative D

The No Surface Occupancy stipulation is intended for use only when other stipulations are determined insufficient to adequately protect the public interest. The plan analysis shows that less restrictive stipulations are inadequate to protect the resource in question. These resources/values to be protected were also considered for no leasing areas, but it is determined that No Surface Occupancy is adequate for resource/value protection. An NSO stipulation is not needed if desired protection does not require relocation of proposed operations by more than 200 meters (43 CFR 3101.1-2).

The Uniform Oil and Gas Lease Stipulation Format, shown in Figure B-1, will be used to append all new NSO stipulations to the lease document.

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION

No Surface Occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described below (legal subdivision or other description)

For the purpose of:

Any change to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance of the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

Form#/Date

Figure B-1
Uniform Oil and Gas Lease Stipulation Format

1. Where oil and gas development would likely be incompatible with coal extraction: This stipulation may be waived without a plan amendment if the lessee agrees that the drilling of a well will be subject to the following conditions: (1)(a) well must be plugged when the mine approaches within 500 feet of the well, and re-entered or redrilled upon completion of the mining operation; (b) well must be plugged in accordance with Mine Safety and Health Administration (Formerly Mine Enforcement and Safety Administration) Informational Report 1052; (c) operator will provide accurate location of where the casing intercepts the coal by providing a directional and deviation survey of the well to the coal operator; or (2) relocate well into a permanent pillar or outside the area to be mined. A suspension of operations and production will be considered for the oil and gas lease only when a well is drilled and later plugged, and a new well or re-entry is planned when the mine moves through the location.

2. The following areas will have NSO stipulations appended to leases issued within them for the protection of scenic, natural, and cultural values and resources. No exception criterion is identified.

Lake DeWeese Recreation Area R&PP
St. Scholastica R&PP site
Deer Mountain Fire Station R&PP
Odd Fellows Lodge R&PP
Developed Recreation Sites
Reservoir Rights-of-Way
Garden Park ACEC
Mosquito Pass ACEC
High Mesa Grasslands ACEC
Droney Gulch ACEC

3. The following areas will have NSO stipulations appended to leases issued within them for the protection of improvements and avoidance of refuse disposal areas. No exception criteria identified.

Chaffee County Landfill R&PP
Park County Landfill R&PP

4. Raptors (includes golden eagle and osprey, all accipiters, butteos, owls, and falcons except kestrel). Raptors listed and protected by the *Endangered Species Act* are addressed separately. NSO within one-eighth mile radius of nest site.

Exception for raptor nest site. The NSO area may be altered depending on the active status of the nest site or the geographical relationship of topographic barriers and vegetation screening to the nest site.

5. Mexican Spotted Owl. NSO within one-half mile radius of the confirmed roost site and nesting site.

There are no exceptions for confirmed sites.

6. Lesser Prairie Chicken. NSO within one-quarter mile radius of a lek site (courtship area).

Exception for lek sites. The NSO area may be altered depending on the active status of the lek or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the lek site.

II. Timing Limitation Stipulations (TL) Alternative D

The Timing Limitation (often called seasonal) Stipulation (Figure B-2) prohibits fluid mineral exploration and development activities for time periods less than year-long. The dates and location(s) limiting activity are as specific as possible. A timing limitation stipulation is not necessary if the time limitation involves the prohibition of new surface disturbing operations for periods of less than 60 days (43 CFR 3101.1-2).

Timing limitations shorter than 60 days do not require a lease stipulation. The restriction is added directly to the field operation approval as a Condition of Approval and may be noted on the lease as Lease Notices. In those cases, however, where two or more time restrictions combine or overlap to form a restriction of more than 60 days, the closure will be attached to the lease as a stipulation, as a matter of Colorado BLM policy. Additional restrictions of 60 days or less may still be added to field operations for protection of resources/values other than those stipulated.

TIMING LIMITATION STIPULATION

No surface use is allowed during the following time period(s) on the lands described below. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities.

For the purpose of:

Any change to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance of the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

Form#/Date

Figure B-2
Uniform Oil and Gas Lease Stipulation Format

1. Big Game Critical Winter Habitat - December 1 to April 30

Big game species (includes species of mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep). Note: Critical winter habitat includes severe big game winter range or other definable winter ranges as mapped by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Exception for big game critical winter habitat. Under mild winter conditions, the last 60 days of the seasonal limitation period may be suspended. Severity of the winter will be determined on the basis of snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures, and whether animals were concentrated on the critical winter range during the winter months.

Exception for big game critical winter habitat. This limitation may or may not apply to work requiring a Sundry Notice pending environmental analysis of any operational or production aspects.

2. Big Game Birthing Areas: (by species)

Elk calving and deer fawning - April 16 to June 30

Pronghorn antelope fawning - May 1 to July 15

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep lambing - May 1 to July 15

Exception for big game birthing areas. When it is determined through a site-specific environmental analysis that specific actions would not interfere with critical habitat function or compromise animal condition within the project vicinity, the restriction may be altered or removed.

3. Mexican Spotted Owl

Mexican spotted owl nesting and fledgling habitat - February 1 to July 31.

The Mexican spotted owl has been listed as a threatened species by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The following habitat management guidelines and restrictions will be used to protect the Mexican spotted owl. These guidelines are adopted from

the interim timber harvest management guidelines issued by the Forest Service, Southwest Region (Federal Register, Vol. 54, No. 124, June 29, 1989).

Restriction for Mexican spotted owl habitat. Core habitat areas are nesting, feeding, and roosting areas and are not considered to be overlapping. The Mexican spotted owl territory is estimated at 2,000 acres. In core areas, 450 acres, with multiple sightings of the Mexican spotted owl but with no confirmed nest or roost sites, surface disturbance activities are restricted within the 450 acres of the total territory (2,000 acres). On the remaining acreage within the Mexican spotted owl territory, other surface activities are allowed pending impact assessments through the environmental analysis process.

In areas with a confirmed nest and roost site, surface management activities will be limited and will be determined on a case-by-case basis to allow as much flexibility as possible outside of the core area. The core area with a confirmed nest and roost site is 1,480 acres with restricted surface disturbance activities.

There are no exceptions.

4. Bald Eagle

Winter roost site - November 16 to April 15

Restriction for bald eagle winter roost site.

The sensitivity of bald eagles to human disturbance activities requires a one-half mile buffer area around the roost site to avoid relocation to less suitable areas.

Exception for winter roost habitat. If there is partial or complete visual screening of the area of activity, the primary zone around the roost site may be reduced to one-quarter mile.

5. Peregrine Falcon

Cliff nesting complex - March 16 to July 31

Restriction for peregrine falcon cliff nesting complex. The sensitivity of peregrine falcon to human disturbance activities requires one-half mile buffer area around the nesting complex to prevent abandonment and desertion of established territories.

The following exception would apply only after formal Section 7 Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was consummated.

Exception for nesting habitat. During years when a nest site is unoccupied or unoccupied by or after May 15, the seasonal limitation may be suspended. It may also be suspended once the young have fledged and dispersed from the nest.

6. Lesser Prairie Chicken

Nesting habitat - March 1 to July 31

Restriction for lesser prairie chicken nesting habitat. This species is a threatened species in Colorado and sensitive to habitat encroachment. Limited nesting habitat is available and full protection is necessary to ensure nesting success.

Exception for nesting habitat. In the future, restrictions may be lifted if additional inventory shows shifts in nesting habitat use.

7. Least Tern and Piping Plover

Nesting habitat - April 1 to July 31

Restriction for tern and plover nesting habitat. Both species utilize similar habitats for nesting (flat, open reservoir beaches) and are extremely sensitive to disturbance. They are Federally listed as endangered and require full protection. No exceptions will apply.

8. Wild Turkey

Winter range - December 1 - April 1

Restriction for winter range. During heavy winter snows, turkeys are vulnerable to disturbances and could suffer losses if forced off winter ranges.

Exception for winter ranges. In certain areas, snows may occur irregularly and restrictions may be lifted temporarily as conditions dictate. Seasonal restrictions may apply in these areas on a case-by-case basis.

III. Controlled Surface Use Stipulations (CSU)

The Controlled Surface Use (CSU) Stipulation (Figure B-3) is intended to be used when fluid mineral occupancy and use are generally allowed on all or portions of the lease area year-round, but because of special values or resource concerns, some aspects of lease activities must be strictly controlled. The CSU stipulation is used to identify constraints on surface use or operations that may otherwise exceed the mitigation available under Section 6 of the standard lease terms, regulations, and operating orders. The CSU stipulation is less restrictive than the NSO or TL stipulations, which prohibit all occupancy and use on all or portions of a lease for all or portions of a year. The use of this stipulation should be limited to areas where restrictions or controls are necessary for specific types of activities rather than all activity.

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CONTROLLED SURFACE USE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special constraints on the lands described below (legal subdivision or other description):

For the purpose of:

Any change to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance of the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

Form#/Date

Figure B-3
Uniform Oil and Gas Lease Stipulation Format

1. For the conservation of natural resources, operations proposed within the area of an approved underground coal mine will be relocated outside the area to be mined or to accommodate room and pillar mining operations. This stipulation may be waived without a plan amendment if the lessee agrees that the drilling of a well will be subject to the following conditions: (1)(a) well must be plugged when the mine approaches within 500 feet of the well; (b) well must be plugged in accordance with Mine Safety and Health Administration (formerly Mine Enforcement and Safety Administration) Informational Report 1052; (c) operator will provide accurate location of where the casing intercepts the coal by providing a directional and deviation survey of the well to the coal operator; or (2) relocate well into a permanent pillar or outside the area to be mined. A suspension of operations and production will be considered when the well is plugged and a new well is to be drilled after mining operations move through the location.

2. For the protection of perennial water impoundments and streams, and/or riparian/wetland vegetation zones, activities associated with oil and gas exploration and development including roads, transmission lines, storage facilities, are restricted to an area beyond the riparian vegetation area.

Exceptions: This stipulation may be excepted subject to an onsite impact analysis with consideration given to degree of slope, soils, importance to the amount and type of wildlife and fish use, water quality, and other related resource values.

This stipulation will not be applied where the Authorized Officer determines that relocation up to 200 meters can be applied to protect the riparian system during well siting.

3. Visual Resource Management Class II Areas: Relocation of operations more than 200 meters as required to protect visual values: Exception criteria include mitigative measures to screen operations from scenic viewsheds and restoration of disturbed areas to a condition substantially unnoticeable to casual observer.

IV. Special Administrative Stipulations (SA)

These are stipulations provided by another agency or organization. BLM encourages other agencies to use the Rocky Mountain Regional Coordinating Committee's Uniform Stipulation Format, however, that is not always feasible.

Bureau of Reclamation Lands will be subject to Special Stipulations developed by that agency. The "Special Stipulation" currently in use by the Bureau of Reclamation is available for review in the resource area office.

V. No Lease Areas (NL)

The 1920 *Mineral Leasing Act* subjects all Federally-owned mineral estate to oil and gas leasing, with certain exceptions (see 43 CFR 3100.0-3). Exceptions include units of the National Park System; incorporated towns, cities and villages; wilderness study areas; wilderness areas; and others. BLM may make discretionary closures to leasing if resource/values are of sufficient importance and there is no way to mitigate impacts through a less stringent stipulation.

