

Iron County Socioeconomic Workshop – 02/08/2011

Identified Areas of Public Interest
Recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allow access for OHVs.• Fix conflicts with developments (e.g., fences).• Need access for disabled populations.• Identify areas where Special designations would conflict with recreation use.
Transportation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check for consistency with Iron County policy/plan.• Special forest product gathering – areas for motorized access, may need open cross-country travel (pine nut collecting in western Iron Co.).• Consider access to private lands and SITLA land.• Consider the need for motorized game retrieval.• Allow access for authorized uses in wilderness character lands (e.g., range improvement maintenance).• Consider access for cultural activities.• Improve road maintenance (appropriate maintenance levels).• Consider seasonal closures for winter deer habitat – crucial winter range (I-15 East area)
Lands and Realty: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinate access to renewable energy zones.• Coordinate land acquisitions and disposals with private, tribal and state entities.• Critical deer winter range need to be considered for ROWs and other L&R actions.• Insure access to existing facilities.• Consider acquiring private land to protect crucial deer winter range.• Allow access for habitat restoration and fire rehabilitation.• Make land available for translocated prairie dogs.• Improve habitat to keep prairie dogs on federal lands.• Consider major water pipeline routes.
Renewable Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Iron County has high renewable energy potential – coordinate with State of Utah zones.• Consider consistency with local ordinances for solar and renewable energy.
Grazing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue habitat restoration after fires.• Consider how Wild Lands could impact grazing.• Maintain/improve range conditions.• Better manage wild horse numbers.• Need additional water sources for grazing and wildlife.• Iron County Water Conservancy District could make water sources available from future lines.• Use grazing to improve wildlife habitat conditions for sage grouse, prairie dogs, etc.
Special designations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WSAs that aren't designated wilderness should not be managed as wilderness.• There are mining claims in areas proposed by environmental groups for Wild Lands

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- Consider ACECs for prairie dogs, sage grouse and crucial deer winter range.
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Minerals:

- There is a need for natural resource development for economic growth and energy independence.
- There appears to be a shift away from commodity uses as a result of increased difficulty in getting permits (not economic forces)
- Access needs to be maintained to existing public gravel pits and rock quarries.

Forestry:

- Access needs to be allowed for post, pine nut and fuelwood collection.
- Develop active rehab programs for watersheds where PJ has taken over.
- Consider biomass resources.
- Protect single needle pinyon areas (where larger pine nuts are gathered).

Viewsheds:

- Designations not consistent across states (e.g., Utah and Nevada are different) or agencies (BLM and FS differ).
- Make sure VRM classifications don't eliminate solar developments.
- Check consistency with Iron County plans on solar and wind development.