

Little Snake Field Office Resource Management Plan Revision

Special Management Areas

Under the Preferred Alternative, **three segments of the Yampa River totaling 20 river miles would be recommended as suitable for inclusion in Wild and Scenic River system** and would be managed to maintain or enhance their outstanding remarkable values.

The more than 78,000 acres of existing Wilderness Study Areas will be maintained.

An additional 87,000 acres of lands identified as having wilderness characteristics – naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude – would be managed under the Preferred Alternative to maintain those characteristics partly through deferring oil and gas leasing or requiring no surface occupancy stipulations for oil and gas development

Under the Preferred Alternative, **the existing 11,910-acre Irish Canyon Area of Environmental Concern (ACEC) would be retained** because special management attention would be needed to protect rare plants, and scenic, geologic and cultural values. Three smaller, current ACEC designations would not be retained under the Preferred Alternative because special management attention would not be needed to protect the special values in those areas.

Special Recreation Management Areas

The Preferred Alternative would identify **five Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs)** where quality recreation experiences are emphasized:

- **Little Yampa Canyon** (10,090 acres) would provide quality camping experiences related to river boating and big game hunting.
- **Juniper Mountain** (1,780 acres) would provide boating, big game hunting and camping experiences
- **Cedar Mountain** (900 acres) would provide hiking and picnicking opportunities close to the City of Craig
- **South Sand Wash** (35,570 acres) would provide a variety of off-highway vehicle experiences, including an off-road “play area”
- **Serviceberry** (12,380 acres) would provide backcountry, non-motorized hunting experiences

