

Executive Summary



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (the Monument), administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is located in the Four Corners area of southwestern Colorado, approximately 50 miles west of Durango, 10 miles west of Cortez, and 12 miles west of Mesa Verde National Park in Dolores and Montezuma Counties. The “Monument”, consists of lands within the original Monument boundary including inholdings that have been acquired since the Monument was established in June 2000. The entire planning area includes the Monument, acquired edgeholdings, and the Anasazi Heritage Center. This DRMP/DEIS presents alternative options for the management of the Monument, as well as an analysis of impacts for these alternatives. The 165,000-acre Monument contains the highest known density of archaeological sites in the United States. It offers rich, well-preserved remnants of Native American culture, spectacular landforms, a wide variety of wildlife species, and unique recreation opportunities.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires the development and maintenance, and, as appropriate, the revision of Resource Management Plans (RMPs), or land use plans, for public lands. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, requires Federal agencies to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for major Federal actions that could significantly affect the environment. BLM Interim Management for all National Monuments (BLM 2001a) requires completion of land use plan evaluations and stand-alone RMPs for all National Monuments. In fulfillment of these requirements, this Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DRMP/DEIS) documents the comprehensive analysis of alternatives and environmental impacts for the planning and management of public lands and resources administered by the BLM in the Monument. The purpose, or goal, in developing this land use plan is to ensure that public lands and mineral estate administered by the BLM in the Monument are managed in accordance with applicable laws, as well as with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. The Monument, although under the administrative care and management of BLM staff, belongs to the American people; thus, it is the overriding goal of the BLM to actively seek out, engage, and include the public, and all other interested parties, in this planning process – a process that could shape how visitors perceive, experience, use, and enjoy this National Monument.

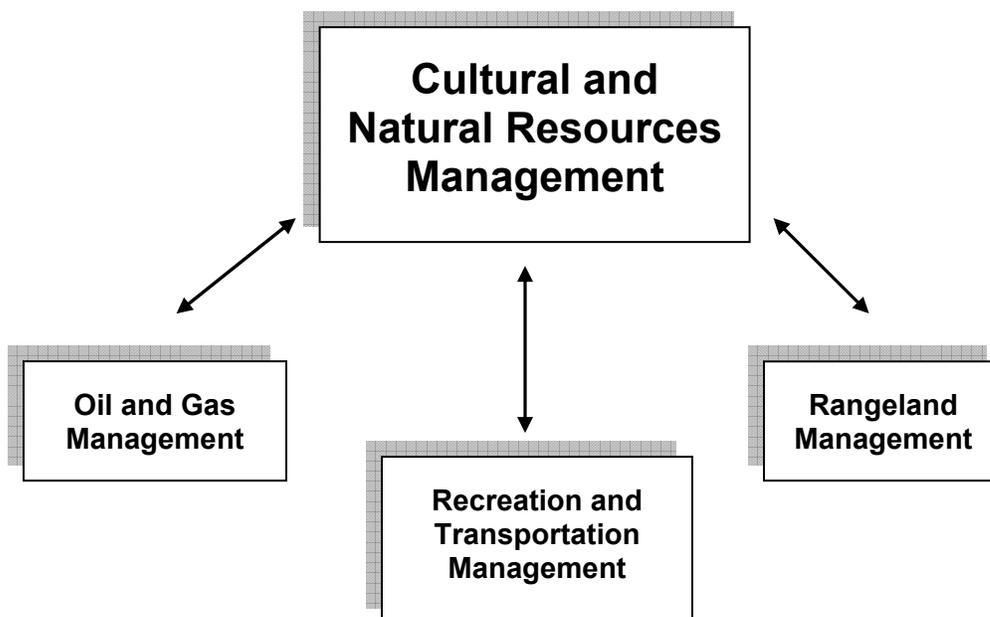
PLAN FOUNDATION

The Monument was established in 2000 by Presidential Proclamation Number 7317 (the Proclamation, Executive Order 2000), pursuant to Section 2 of the Antiquities Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S. Code [USC] 431), to preserve the cultural and natural objects of the Monument. The Proclamation (Appendix A) states:

Containing the highest known density of archaeological sites in the Nation...natural resources and spectacular landforms...rugged and dissected geology...and wildlife species...I do proclaim... for the purpose of protecting the objects identified above...Canyons of the Ancients National Monument.

As mandated by the Proclamation, the focus of this DRMP/DEIS is the preservation of the objects of the Monument, as required by the Proclamation, within the context of multiple uses under BLM management. This mandate remained the central focus of the Monument Manager and staff as issues and alternatives were identified in the planning process, and resulted in a more narrow range of alternatives than that typically found in other land use assessments. Four primary issues are considered throughout this DRMP/DEIS: cultural resources management,

rangeland management, oil and gas management, and transportation and recreation management. The following chart represents the Monument's approach to meeting Proclamation requirements while, at the same time, effectively managing these primary issues:



In accordance with the Proclamation, this DRMP/DEIS was developed to guide and define Monument management actions, and to provide an integrated plan that guides future land use decisions and project-specific analyses in the Monument, while complying with the requirements of the FLPMA and the NEPA. This DRMP/DEIS addresses land use issues identified through BLM agency, interagency, and public scoping efforts and establishes a range of alternatives that support management goals and objectives, via specific management actions, in accordance with BLM policies and land use planning guidelines.

Prior to the issuance of the Proclamation, the Monument was managed as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), established in the San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision (San Juan/San Miguel RMP ROD) (BLM 1985). Oil and gas development within the Monument has been managed in accordance with the San Juan/San Miguel RMP ROD Amendment (BLM 1991a).

This DRMP/DEIS provides updated management direction that addresses social, environmental, and administrative conditions that have changed since the San Juan/San Miguel RMP ROD (BLM 1985) was developed. This document also addresses a number of new issues, higher levels of controversy around existing issues, and concerns over new public land uses that were not addressed in the San Juan/San Miguel RMP ROD (BLM 1985).

The formal scoping process for this document was initiated on April 24, 2002, with the publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a DRMP/DEIS in the Federal Register. The BLM provided an extended public scoping period between April 2002 and November 2003 to allow ample opportunity for public comment and for involvement in the initial stages of planning. During this time, input was received from BLM staff, other resource and land management agencies, local governments, State government, Native American tribes, individual citizens, environmental groups, industry, and other interested parties. In 2003 numerous meetings were

held with the Monument Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). The Advisory Committee identified six priority issues and provided recommendations for each issue.

MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Five management alternatives, and their associated environmental impacts and related issues, are described and analyzed in this document. The alternatives reflect a reasonable range of potential management actions, based on the language in the Presidential Proclamation, the Analysis of the Management Situation, and public scoping. The alternatives in this DRMP/DEIS seek to fully address the changing needs of the planning area, with the goal of selecting a management strategy that best achieves an effective combination of management actions, including:

- addressing all of the BLM-administered public lands within the Monument;
- employing a community-based planning approach that complies with applicable local, State, Federal, and Native American tribal laws, standards, policies, and implementation plans, as well as with all BLM polices and regulations;
- recognizing valid existing rights while complying with the FLPMA, the NEPA, and all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and guidance;
- coordinating with Native American tribes to identify sites, areas, and objects important to their cultural and religious heritage;
- establishing goals and objectives (desired outcomes) for managing resources and resource values according to the principles of multiple use and sustained yield while, adhering to the Proclamation mandate to protect the objects of the Monument;
- identifying land use planning decisions that will serve to guide future land management actions and site-specific implementation decisions in the Monument;
- considering current scientific information, research, new technologies, and the results of relevant resource assessments, monitoring, and coordination;
- considering current and potential future uses of the public lands in the Monument through the development of reasonable foreseeable future developments and activity scenarios based on historical, existing, and projected levels of use;
- recognizing the Nation's needs for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber, and incorporating the requirements of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act Reauthorization, the Energy Policy Act, the National Fire Plan, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, and the Healthy Forest Initiative; and
- retaining flexibility so that the Monument can adapt to new and emerging issues and opportunities and provide for adjustments to decisions over time, based on new information and monitoring.

ISSUES

Planning issues identify demands, concerns, and/or conflicts regarding the use or management of public lands and resources. These issues typically express potential impacts on land and resource values. For this DRMP/DEIS, seven issues accounted for almost 77 percent of the scoping comments received from local communities (including Durango, Dolores, Cortez, and Mancos) and agencies. These issues were taken into consideration during the formulation of the DRMP/DEIS alternatives, as well as during the evaluation of those alternatives. These issues include the following (see Table 1-2):

- **Cultural Issues:** Concerns included the protection/preservation of cultural resources for purposes of current and future scientific research, education, and Native American cultural heritage; development opportunities; access to cultural resource sites; and looting.
- **General Recreation:** Concerns included permitted and restricted types of recreation and their allocated “zones” or locations, and related roads and transportation issues, such as motorized and mechanized access and limitations.
- **Transportation Network:** Concerns included road closures and access, and road maintenance and improvements.
- **Rangeland Management/Grazing:** Concerns included management for Public Land Health Standards, administration of grazing allotments, and evaluation of grazing impacts in terms of current standards and guidelines.
- **Mineral Resources:** Concerns included limitations on oil and gas exploration and development, mitigation of impacts from existing and new mineral exploration and development.
- **Visitor Use:** Concerns included visitor education opportunities, facility development and improvements, and commercial and not-for-profit tours.

ALTERNATIVES

The alternatives analyzed in this DRMP/DEIS are numbered I through V. These alternatives represent a range in management actions, as summarized below, and are described in terms of the four primary management programs: cultural resources, oil and gas resources, rangeland resources, and recreation and transportation (See Table ES-1).

- **Alternative I:** Alternative I is the No Action Alternative, representing no change from current management. The NEPA of 1969 requires consideration of a No Action Alternative. This Alternative provides a basis for comparing the impacts of the other alternatives.
- **Alternative II:** Alternative II emphasizes cultural resource values, i.e., communities, sites, and isolated finds and including Native American tribal values, cultural resource protection, and natural resource protection and enhancement.
- **Alternative III:** Alternative III emphasizes cultural resource site protection, i.e., communities and sites, and natural resource values protection and enhancement while at the same time, providing for resource use and development.
- **Alternative IV:** Alternative IV emphasizes cultural resource site protection, i.e., communities and sites, and natural resource values protection and enhancement while encouraging resource use and development.
- **Alternative V:** Alternative V is the Preferred Alternative and was developed using a combination of management actions from Alternatives I through IV. This alternative emphasizes cultural resource values, i.e., communities and sites, and including tribal values, cultural resource and natural resource protection and enhancement, while providing for resource use and development.

Cultural Resources

To protect cultural resources, so that information can be obtained from individual artifacts and/or sites as well as at the community or landscape level, development of all fluid mineral lease areas in the Monument will be carried out utilizing the Best Management Practices (BMPs)

strategy entitled “Geographic Area Development Plan” (GADP), that is described in BLM Instruction Memorandum No. 2003-152. A GADP is the result of comprehensive development planning for a proposed or defined oil and gas field(s) or a limited geographic area within a field, that meets both the environmental management needs of the BLM, and the economic needs of the company. Once cultural resource data collection is completed, this data will be used as the basis for delineating prehistoric communities that are defined by the time period of occupation and use of an area. Proposed oil and gas development locations will be evaluated to determine if placement of developments without direct impacts to communities, sites, and/or isolated finds is possible based upon the distribution and density of prehistoric communities. Finally, areas or locations will be identified in which no oil and gas development will be allowed, as well as areas or locations where development may occur without direct impacts to communities, sites, and isolated artifacts. A prehistoric community is defined as the collective physical remains or expressions of a cultural group’s occupation and use of a geographical area during an established chronological period of time.

Oil and Gas Resources

To provide a reasonable range of alternatives for oil and gas development, Alternatives I and IV were analyzed, although neither are considered viable options. Under Alternative I, there would be no new issuance of oil and gas leases (although existing leases would not be affected). While the Proclamation specifically states that the Monument shall remain open to oil and gas leasing, a settlement agreement related to the Mail Trail Seismic Project halted leasing until the Monument Plan was complete (SJCA v. Gale Norton 2002). By law, the BLM must, at a minimum, lease for drainage purposes. Alternative IV allows 24,462 new acres to be available for leasing with a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation for cultural resource protection. However, given the high density of cultural resource sites, leasing 24,462 acres for mineral development is considered outside the mandate of the Proclamation. Implementing a NSO/NGD stipulation on this large acreage is not feasible.

Rangeland Resources

Five livestock grazing allotments are proposed to be closed in Alternatives II, III, and V to prevent conflicts with recreational activities and to prevent damage to cultural resources. These allotments are permitted for 124 animal unit months (AUMs). Four of the five allotments proposed for closure are currently vacant. Actions proposed under the various alternatives serve the primary objective of meeting Colorado Standards for Public Land Health. Meeting these standards is required. The primary difference between alternatives is the amount of time it will take, based on actions proposed, to achieve the standards.

Recreation Management

The BLM designates Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) to help manage recreation opportunities in the Monument. The alternatives identify a range of activities that would be permitted in six SRMAs. The SRMAs would be managed to protect the natural setting while allowing primitive and some developed recreation experiences, as well as opportunities to visit unique cultural resource sites. The Preferred Alternative would prohibit recreational shooting in the Monument. There are currently no organized recreational shooting groups with Special Recreation Permits nor are there BLM-designated areas for recreational shooting in the Monument. However, recreational shooting is resulting in damage (vandalism) to cultural resource sites (rock art panels and standing masonry walls) and natural resources (cliff faces and litter, including shell casings, clay pigeons, broken glass, cans, etc.). Visitor safety is a major concern, especially in high visitor use areas such as Sand Canyon, Sand Canyon Pueblo, Painted Hand Pueblo, and Lowry Pueblo. As stated in the Proclamation, hunting would be allowed and would continue to be managed by the State of Colorado.

Transportation Management

Based on direction from the Secretary of the Interior and the BLM Washington and State Offices, the Monument has worked with constituents, local governments, communities, Native American tribes, partners, and other groups and agencies to develop a preferred alternative with regard to transportation issues. The Monument was directed to look at transportation issues, specifically mountain biking issues, during the planning process. The Proclamation states, "For the purpose of protecting the objects identified above, the Secretary of the Interior shall prohibit all motorized and mechanized use off road, except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes." However, the Proclamation does not specifically define "off-road". In 2000, the Secretary of the Interior instructed, "The Proclamation will be implemented through the management plan for the area and should include a transportation plan that addresses road closures, travel restrictions as necessary to protect the objects identified in the Proclamation, and the continued use of the Sand Canyon/East Fork Rock Creek mountain bike loop." (Memo dated June 28, 2000 from the Secretary of the Interior to the Director, Bureau of Land Management). Based on several years of monitoring, the Preferred Alternative considers mechanized travel (bicycles) a conditional use in the Sand Canyon/Rock Creek Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). If damage begins to occur to the objects of the Monument because of this mechanized travel, the use would no longer be allowed. The Preferred Alternative reflects what the Monument Manager and staff believe will best "protect the objects of the Monument" while, at the same time, allowing mountain biking on some existing roads. (NOTE: For the purpose of this DRMP/DEIS, a "road" is defined as an open way for the passage of vehicles, persons, or animals on land, regardless of the type of travel; and "off-road" is defined as cross-country travel between designated roads. All off-road travel by motorized and/or mechanized vehicles is prohibited in the Monument.)

Alternative I

Alternative I, required by NEPA, is the No Action Alternative. Under this alternative, current management actions and goals would continue, and existing or approved land uses would continue. Current management actions are derived from the San Juan/San Miguel RMP (BLM 1985) with its amendments; the Anasazi ACEC Plan Management Guideline (BLM 1986a); and the Monument Proclamation (Appendix A), BLM Director's Interim Management Policy for Bureau of Land Management Monuments and National Conservation Areas (BLM 2001a), BLM Colorado State Director's Guidance for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (BLM 2001b), the Secretary of the Interior's Memorandum for Management of the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (USDOJ 2000), and the Interim Management Guidance for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development of the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (BLM 2001c). Under this alternative, cultural resource sites would continue to be developed for visitation and for interpretation.

While the Proclamation specifically states that the Monument shall remain open to oil and gas leasing, a settlement agreement related to the Mail Trail Seismic Project halted leasing until the Monument Plan was complete (SJCA v. Gale Norton 2002). However, by law, the BLM must, at a minimum, lease for drainage purposes. This deferment is analyzed in the No Action Alternative. Rangeland resources would be based upon 8,492 active AUMs, with 1,692 AUMs suspended. Under Alternative I, the implemented recreation/transportation system would be based the 1985 San Juan/San Miguel RMP ROD (BLM 1985), with regard to seven recreation and transportation facilities and 149 miles of roads. This alternative does not include the development of a comprehensive transportation plan, which the Proclamation mandates.

Alternative II

This alternative maximizes cultural resource protection by avoiding impacts to cultural resource communities, sites, and isolated finds. This management strategy maintains large blocks of undisturbed land that provide information on not only individual sites and artifacts but also on their interconnectedness (i.e., how they relate to each other). Alternative II would develop the outdoor museum concept where Monument visitors can experience cultural and natural resources through self-discovery. This outdoor museum concept would provide a backcountry experience to the visiting public. In addition, 13 cultural sites would be developed and visitation would be facilitated through the use of developed roads and interpretive signs. The development of these cultural resource sites would enhance the visitor experience.

To protect against drainage, it is estimated that up to 880 acres would be available for new fluid mineral leases. Rangeland resources would be managed to reduce conflicts between livestock grazing and recreational activities, and to protect cultural resources by closing five livestock grazing allotments. Under Alternative II, rangeland allocation would be calculated at 6,437 active AUMs and at 3,706 suspended AUMs. Common reserve allotments would be established. The Monument would meet Public Land Health Standards by reducing authorized use, by adjusting the duration and extent of spring livestock grazing, and by implementing rest-rotation grazing schedules.

Alternative II would achieve recreation objectives through the management of SRMAs, and Recreation Management Zones (RMZs). Seven facilities, and supporting infrastructure, would be developed for recreation and transportation use, which would promote a less developed recreation strategy. A total of 139 miles of access roads would be maintained under Alternative II, with most existing user-created roads closed and reclaimed.

Alternative III

Alternative III emphasizes the protection of cultural resource communities and sites while, at the same time, providing for resource use and development. This management strategy would maintain large blocks of undisturbed land, although not as large as Alternative II, and would provide for the retrieval of information on not only individual sites and artifacts, but also on their interconnectedness (i.e., how they relate to each other). Alternative III would develop the outdoor museum concept of self-discovery of cultural and natural resources. In addition, 13 to 25 sites would be developed and visitation would be facilitated through the use of developed roads and interpretive signs.

Under this alternative, approximately 3,021 acres would be available for new oil and gas leases; however, these would be limited to areas within the McElmo Dome Unit boundary. Rangeland resources would be managed to reduce conflicts between livestock grazing and recreational activities, and to protect cultural resources by closing five livestock grazing allotments. Allocation would be calculated at 8,368 active AUMs, with 1,655 AUMs suspended. Common reserve allotments would be established. The Monument would meet Public Land Health Standards by adjusting the duration and extent of spring livestock grazing, and by implementing rest-rotation grazing schedules.

Alternative III would achieve recreation objectives through the management of SRMAs and RMZs. Thirteen facilities, and their supporting infrastructure, would be developed for recreation and transportation use, which would promote a destination management strategy. A total of 189 miles of roads would be maintained under Alternative III, with some existing user-created roads closed and reclaimed.

Alternative IV

This alternative emphasizes the protection of cultural resource communities and sites while, at the same time, encouraging resource use and development. This management strategy would maintain large blocks of undisturbed land, although not as large as Alternative II, and would provide for the retrieval of information on not only individual sites and artifacts, but also on their interconnectedness (i.e., how they relate to each other). Alternative IV would develop the outdoor museum concept with self-discovery of cultural and natural resources. In addition, 13 to 25 sites would be developed and visitation would be facilitated through the use of developed roads and interpretive signs.

Under this alternative, approximately 24,462 acres would be available for new oil and gas leases. Rangeland allocation would be calculated at 8,492 active AUMs, with 1,692 suspended AUMs. Common reserve allotments would be established. The Monument would meet Public Land Health Standards by adjusting the duration and extent of spring livestock grazing and by implementing rest-rotation schedules. Alternative IV would identify recreation objectives through the management of SRMAs and RMZs. Twenty facilities, and supporting infrastructure, would be developed for recreation and transportation use, which would promote a destination management strategy. A total of 213 miles of roads would be maintained under Alternative IV, with no user-created roads closed or reclaimed.

Alternative V

As the Preferred Alternative, Alternative V represents the best fit between protecting the objects of the Monument and allowing multiple uses of appropriate resources. Alternative V emphasizes the protection of cultural resource communities and sites while, at the same time, providing for resource use and development. This management strategy would maintain large blocks of undisturbed land, although not as large as Alternative II, and would provide for the retrieval of information on not only individual sites and artifacts, but also on their interconnectedness (i.e., how they relate to each other). Alternative V would develop the outdoor museum concept with self-discovery of cultural and natural resources. In addition, 13 to 25 sites would be developed and visitation would be facilitated through the use of developed roads and interpretive signs.

To protect against drainage, it is estimated that up to 880 acres would be made available for oil and gas leases. Rangeland resources would be managed to reduce conflicts between livestock grazing and recreational activities, and to protect cultural resources by closing five livestock grazing allotments. Allocation would be calculated at 6,437 active AUMs, with 3,706 suspended AUMs. Common reserve allotments would be established. The Monument would meet Public Land Health Standards by emphasizing a reduction of authorized use, by adjusting the duration and extent of spring livestock grazing, and by implementing rest-rotation grazing schedules.

Alternative V would achieve recreation objectives through the management of SRMAs, consisting of several RMZs. Eleven facilities, and supporting infrastructure, would be developed to support recreation and transportation use. A total of 169 miles of roads would be maintained under this alternative, with many user-created roads closed and reclaimed.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The environmental consequences that could result from the management prescriptions of the five alternatives are described in Chapter 4. These potential consequences are analyzed and discussed for each resource or resource use, providing an analysis of environmental effects resulting from management of all resources and resource uses. This discussion includes an analysis of cumulative effects, which are defined as the impacts that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions.

The BLM encourages the public to review and comment on the alternatives and to raise concerns, if any, about proposed management.

READER'S GUIDE

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document is presented in five chapters and appendices, consistent with all applicable Federal requirements guiding the preparation of a Draft Resource Management Plan (DRMP) and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The following are the chapter titles for this document and brief descriptions of the chapter contents:

- **Chapter 1 - Purpose and Need:** This chapter offers a brief history and background of the Monument and describes the purpose and need for the action, the scoping process and issues, planning criteria, the planning process, related plans and relevant policy, and the overall vision of the DRMP/DEIS.
- **Chapter 2 - Alternatives:** This chapter describes potential management approaches or “alternatives” and discusses the alternative development process. It describes five alternative land use plans evaluated in detail in this DRMP/DEIS, including the No Action Alternative and the Preferred Alternative.
- **Chapter 3 - Affected Environment:** This chapter describes the current physical, biological, human, and land use environments of the Monument. The description provides a baseline against which to compare the impacts of the alternatives. The baseline described in this chapter represents environmental and social conditions and trends in the Monument at the time this document was being prepared.
- **Chapter 4 - Environmental Consequences:** This chapter evaluates how, and to what extent, baseline conditions would be altered by the alternatives. These changes are measured in terms of adverse and beneficial impacts, direct and indirect impacts, and individual and cumulative impacts.
- **Chapter 5 - References:** This chapter provides full citation information for all references, published and unpublished, cited in this document, as well as personal contacts used in developing this DRMP/DEIS.

Appendices A through K provide supporting information for the chapters described above. The appendices and glossary provided in this document offer more detailed information, which some readers may find helpful when reviewing the main text of the document.

NOTE: Potential decisions and/or other discussions contained in this document may refer directly to maps and figures. In fact, many potential decisions are “map based”. Therefore, the reader must rely on the text, maps, and figures taken together to fully understand the potential decisions described for each alternative.

HOW TO COMMENT ON THIS DOCUMENT

The Environmental Protection Agency’s Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the Federal Register, initiates a 90-day public review and comment period. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

Website: <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/canm/>

Fax: 970-882-7035

Mail: Monument Manager
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
27501 Hwy 184
Dolores, CO 81323

Comments may also be made in person at one of the public meetings conducted in local communities. The specific locations, dates, and times for these meetings will be announced in local newspapers, in a newsletter, and on the BLM website.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CONSIDERATIONS

Public comments submitted during this planning review, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument office during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m., March through October; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., November through February), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law; however, there is no guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

TIPS FOR REVIEWING AND COMMENTING ON THIS DOCUMENT

Some questions you may want to consider while reading this document include:

- Does the Preferred Alternative provide for the uses and activities you consider to be the most important and relevant for the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument? If not, why not?
- Does the Preferred Alternative adequately protect the values, resources, and/or conditions that you consider to be the most important for the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument? If not, why not?
- Is there new or additional information that you believe would have a bearing on the analysis? If so, what specifically?
- Do you believe that the BLM needs to clarify any of the potential decisions? If so, which ones?

Table ES-1 Summary of Major Management Actions by Alternative				
Alternative I (No Action)	Alternative II	Alternative III	Alternative IV	Alternative V (Preferred)
Cultural Resource Management				
Allocate sites for uses specified in BLM Manual	Develop the Outdoor Museum Concept			
	Allocate 13 sites for public use	Allocate 13 to 25 sites for public use	Allocate 13 to 25 sites for public use	Allocate 13 to 25 sites for public use
Meet NHPA Section 106 requirements	Meet NHPA Section 106 requirements; protect cultural resource communities, sites, and isolated finds	Meet NHPA Section 106 requirements; protect cultural resource communities and sites		
Stabilize or repair 240 sites	Document and allow standing walls to deteriorate	Document and allow standing walls to deteriorate	Stabilize and preserve standing walls	Document and allow standing walls to deteriorate; consider stabilization for human-caused impacts
Conduct Class III inventory of cultural resource emphasis areas	Conduct Class II inventory of areas receiving high public use, lacking intensive inventory, needing records clarification, and areas with little previous inventory, as funding is available			
Conduct investigations according to current policy	Develop research goals via Advisory Panel	Develop research goals via Monument staff, with peer review	Develop research goals via Monument staff	Develop research goals via Monument staff, with peer review
Rangeland Resources Management				
Permit 8,492 active preference animal unit months (AUMs)	Permit 6,437 active preference AUMs	Permit 8,368 active preference AUMs	Permit 8,492 active preference AUMs	Permit 6,437 active preference AUMs

Table ES-1 Summary of Major Management Actions by Alternative				
Alternative I (No Action)	Alternative II	Alternative III	Alternative IV	Alternative V (Preferred)
Administer 28 allotments	Administer 23 allotments	Administer 23 allotments	Administer 28 allotments	Administer 23 allotments
Establish no common reserves	Establish common reserve allotments			
Oil and Gas				
Defer leasing until completion of the DRMP/DEIS	Lease up to 880 new acres for drainage only	Lease up to 3,021 new acres	Lease up to 24,462 new acres	Lease up to 880 new acres for drainage only
	Permit up to 2 new well pads in 20 years on new leases	Permit up to 8 new well pads in 20 years on new leases	Permit up to 59 new well pads in 20 years on new leases	Permit up to 2 new well pads in 20 years on new leases
Recreation Management				
Develop no promotion strategy; develop facilities as needed; maintain developed recreation sites at Lowry, Painted Hand, and Sand Canyon Pueblo for interpretation	Promote an undeveloped management strategy; focus on incidental visitors and/or local residents; minimize infrastructure and visitor facilities	Promote a destination management strategy; focus on establishing destinations for regional visitors, actively marketing communities in the Four Corners area; provide specific public access points and appropriate support facilities	Promote a destination management strategy; focus on establishing destinations for national and international, as well as local and regional visitors; provide specific public access points with more infrastructure and visitor facilities	Promote an undeveloped management strategy for three SRMAs; promote a destination management strategy for three other SRMAs
Make no designations	Manage 8,211 acres for public visitation; 157,124 acres managed for backcountry use	Manage 18,875 acres for public visitation; 146,460 acres managed for backcountry use	Manage 47,056 acres for public visitation; 118,279 acres managed for backcountry use	Manage 7,875 acres for public visitation; 157,460 acres managed for backcountry use
Continue dispersed	Prohibit recreational	Prohibit recreational	Prohibit recreational	Prohibit recreational

Table ES-1 Summary of Major Management Actions by Alternative

Alternative I (No Action)	Alternative II	Alternative III	Alternative IV	Alternative V (Preferred)
recreational camping	shooting, geocaching, climbing, camping, and campfires	shooting, geocaching, and climbing Prohibit camping and campfires in Pueblo sites, Sand Canyon-Rock Creek, and Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC) SRMAs; allow these activities in other SRMAs	shooting, geocaching, and climbing Prohibit camping and campfires in Pueblo sites, Sand Canyon-Rock Creek, and AHC SRMAs, except in designated sites; allow these activities in other SRMAs	shooting and geocaching Allow climbing in designated areas only. Prohibit camping and campfires in Pueblo sites, Sand Canyon-Rock Creek, and AHC SRMAs; allow these activities in other SRMAs
Identify 7 recreation/ transportation facilities	Identify 7 recreation/ transportation facilities	Identify 13 recreation/ transportation facilities	Identify 20 recreation/ transportation facilities	Identify 11 recreation/ transportation facilities
No new commercial permits	No new recreation special use permits; no renewal of existing special use permits	No new recreation special use permits; allow renewal of existing permits	Allow new recreation special use permits, on a case-by-case basis	Allow up to 10 recreation special use permits
Transportation Management				
Total roads (public access + Administrative)=149 miles	Total roads (public access + Administrative)=139 miles	Total roads (public access + Administrative)=189 miles	Total roads (public access + Administrative)=213 miles	Total roads (public access + Administrative)=169 miles
OHV travel classified as Closed on 25,976 acres and Limited on 139,359 acres; travel on designated roads only	OHV travel classified as Closed on 38,598 acres and Limited on 126,737 acres; travel on designated roads only	OHV travel classified as Closed on 25,976 acres and Limited on 139,359 acres; travel on designated roads only	OHV travel classified as Closed on 25,976 acres and Limited on 139,359 acres; travel on designated roads only	OHV travel classified as Closed on 38,598 acres and Limited on 126,737 acres; travel on designated roads only