



## San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council (RAAC)

### Meeting Minutes

**August 14, 2024**

*Orangeville, Utah*

### Meeting Attendees:

- **San Rafael Swell RAAC members:** Edward Geary, Kent Wilson (chair), Rod Player, Sue Bellagamba, Keven Jensen
- **BLM employees:** Molly Hocanson, Dana Truman, Kyle Beagley, Stephanie Howard, Elijah Waters, Jeremy Dyer, Christina Judd, Marcia deChadenedes, JD Mallory, Jaydon Mead, Bridget Murray
- **Members of the public:** Terri Bennett (Emery County Trails Committee), Julie Johansen (ETV News), Jim Jennings (virtual), Judi Brawer (virtual), Christian Probasco (virtual)

### Welcome and Introductions

This portion of the meeting agenda was skipped.

### Getting to Yes- Conflict Resolution

#### **Dispute Resolution Specialist, Marcia deChadenedes**

- Council member introductions, role, and connection to resources.
  - Robert's Rules of Order
  - Group Agreements
    - Respect.
    - A desire to understand others' outlooks.
    - Honor diversity.
    - Learn from each other.
    - No Interrupting.
    - Be respectful of time.
    - Listen.
      - Hear the whole story being told and be thoughtful with your reaction.
    - Recognize the partnership between the council and the BLM

- Book: Getting to Yes-Negotiating agreement without giving in
  - Six steps of the book
    - Separate the people from the problem.
    - Focus on interests, not positions.
    - Learn to manage emotions.
    - Express appreciation.
    - Put a shared positive spin on your message.
    - Escape the cycle of action and reaction.

## **Overview of Field Tour**

### **Price Field Office, Field Manager Kyle Beagley (Acting)**

- Stop one: South Temple Wash campground. There was a discussion on fees and future displacement of campers from Goblin Valley State Park.
- Stop two: the backside of Wildhorse Canyon. There was a discussion of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and camping management.
- Stop three: Crack Canyon. There was a discussion of access and delineating experiences based on access points.
- Questions
  - Does there need to be an ACEC at stop two now that the petroglyphs/pictograms it was designated for is in wilderness?

## **San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Program Updates**

### **San Rafael Swell Travel Management Plan (TMP), Jaydon Mead (BLM)**

*Please see the attached presentation.*

- TMP Purpose and Need
- Definitions
- Draft Environmental Assessment
- Purpose of the San Rafael Swell
- Recreation
  - 22 Route Network Geographic Areas
    - These are areas that the TMP planning area was divided into so that determinations of use and necessary changes could be made.
- Cultural/ Historical
  - It is estimated that half of the identified cultural/historical sites evaluated in the TMP are in the recreation area.
- Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
- Natural Areas within the Recreation Area

- Scenic
- Wildlife
  - There are no detections of Mexican Spotted Owls in the recreation area, but there is likely owl use as the area is surrounded by occupied habitat on 3 sides.
- Plants
- Education
- TMP Public Comments
  - Route specific substantive comments
  - Non-route specific substantive comments
  - BLM requested council feed back on multiple routes.
- What's next? Reviewed project schedule, anticipated decision in November or December of 2024.
- Questions
  - How many council members reviewed the Environmental Assessment?
  - What is environmental justice?
  - How are pinyon jays going to be handled in the Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA)?
  - Which way is vandalism trending compared to 30 years ago?

## **Camping Management within the Recreation Area, Bridget Murray (BLM)**

*Please see the attached presentation.*

- Definitions
  - *Dispersed camping* is camping outside of a campground.
    - Inconsistencies in this definition is where the barrier to management exists.
    - There are no current, legally enforceable restrictions for camping at trail heads, range improvements, etc.
  - Impacts
- Introduce BLM approach/framework
  - Visitor focus groups from 2023 is the management baseline for how the Price Field Office is looking to improve recreation experiences while protecting resources.
  - Signs and Education
    - BLM is trying to set the expectation that information is available.
  - Use area patrols
  - Visitation counting
  - Campsite inventories
  - Realistic goals: limits of the BLM
- Identify management considerations and decisions to be made
  - Zone development
  - Adaptive management
- Illustrate challenges and opportunities through an example (Temple Mountain)

- Camping
- Spectrum of management options
- Summarize discussion points
- Questions
  - How many plants and animals have been displaced?
  - How many acres of dispersed camping are there?
  - How does dispersed camping look like into TMP zones?
  - How has it changed over 10 years?
  - What resources overlay those zones?

## **Council Members Workshop**

This portion of the meeting agenda was skipped.

## **Resource Management Plan Amendment Preliminary Alternatives, Molly Hocanson (BLM)**

*Please see the attached presentation.*

- How are alternatives developed?
  - We are currently at RAAC recommendations.
  - Needs include ensuring that there aren't conflicts between alternatives and there is conformance with the Dingell Act. This need does not include the No Action Alternative.
- Preliminary Alternatives
  - Alternative A-No Action
  - Alternative B-Most Management
  - Alternative C-Balanced management
  - Alternative D-Least management
  - Examples (e.g., visual resource management, film permits, group sizes, etc.) and discussion
- Council Review of Maps
- Questions
  - Would renewables be allowed in a utility corridor?
  - Would visual resource management changes impact range improvements?
  - What could be built in each visual resource management class?
  - Is it necessary to have natural areas over the recreation area?
  - How does BLM get the word out on the decisions made to make them successful in implementation?
  - Is there a difference between institutional, non-profit, and commercial entities when discussing special recreation permits?
  - Would wildlife/plant limitations to recreation take the form of polygon development for the plan?
  - How many prior and existing mining claims exist in the recreation area?



- Is BLM considering new ACECs?

## **Public Comment Period**

The public comment period was held from 2:45pm to 3:15pm. No public comments were received.

## **Council Discussion**

- Questions
  - Does the council think there is an economic impact of closing roads in the TMP?
    - Yes.
- Motions Passed as Council Recommendations
  - 1) The RAAC passed a motion recommending the BLM leave route SS4154 open.
  - 2) The RAAC passed a motion endorsing Alternative C of the TMP for routes SS4564 and SS4562 with an amendment to the motion that, before the routes are opened, prescribed protective/educational measures must be put in place by the BLM.
  - 3) The RAAC passed a motion for recommendation that routes SS3158, SS3532, and SS3161 have a seasonal route closure for bighorn lambing from mid-April to early June.
  - 4) The RAAC passed a motion to recommend eliminating ACECs in the SRS Recreation Area except for rock art sites and heritage sites at Copper Globe, Swasey's Cabin, and Temple Mountain.
  - 5) The RAAC passed a motion to recommending the BLM modify boundaries of ACECs within the SRS Recreation Area to what is necessary protect identified relevant and important values.
  - 6) The RAAC passed a motion recommending the BLM follow the Endangered Species Act and Dingell Act to protect endangered and sensitive plant species through the creation of ACECs.
  - 7) The RAAC passed a motion recommending the BLM keep ACECs within the SRS Recreation Area where there are valid and existing mining claims.
  - 8) The RAAC passed a motion recommending the BLM remove the natural areas that overlap with the SRS Recreation Area.



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# San Rafael Swell Travel Management Plan

Public Meeting

June 2024



Overview of Environmental Assessment

How TMP relates to purpose of the  
San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

Summary of public comments received

What to expect moving forward

Questions

If interested, we can review routes and  
areas on interactive maps and have  
additional discussions as needed





# **Purpose**

The purpose of this TMA is to clearly designate inventoried and evaluated routes as open, limited, or closed to public OHV use, and to adopt an updated implementation plan.

# **Need**

The need for development of the SRS TMP is established by FLPMA which directs us to provide for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of public lands. 2008 RMP Transportation Objective to develop and maintain a transportation plan.

# **Other Guidance and Conformance**

- 43 Code of Federal Regulations 8342.1
- Endangered Species Act (Section 7)
- National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)
- Executive Orders 11644 and 11989
- BLM's Travel and Transportation Manual
- BLM's Travel and Transportation Handbook
- 2017 Settlement Agreement: BLM agreed to issue a new TMP for the San Rafael Swell TMA.



Devils Racetrack – Joe and his Dog





# Definitions

**OHV:** Off-highway vehicle (any motorized vehicle used by the public)

**OHV-Open:** A route that is recommended open for all modes of travel and uses.

**OHV-Limited:** A route that is recommended for limited use by travel mode, user, or season of use.

**OHV-Closed:** A route that is recommended closure to public use, **though authorized use may continue.**



All motorized travel is limited to designated routes as prescribed by the 2008 RMPs.

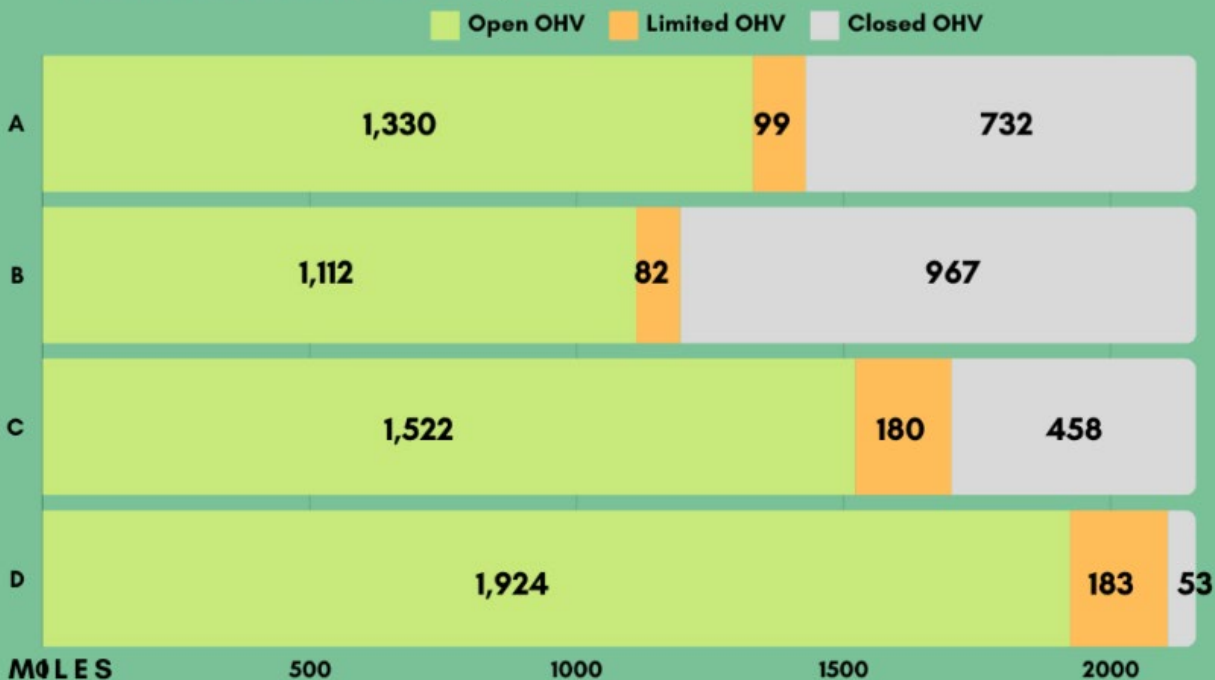


# SAN RAFAEL SWELL

## Draft Travel Management Plan

### Draft Alternatives

- Alternative A: Current legal travel plan (No Action).
- Alternative B: Resource Protection Emphasis.
- Alternative C: Multiple Use Emphasis.
- Alternative D: Access Emphasis.





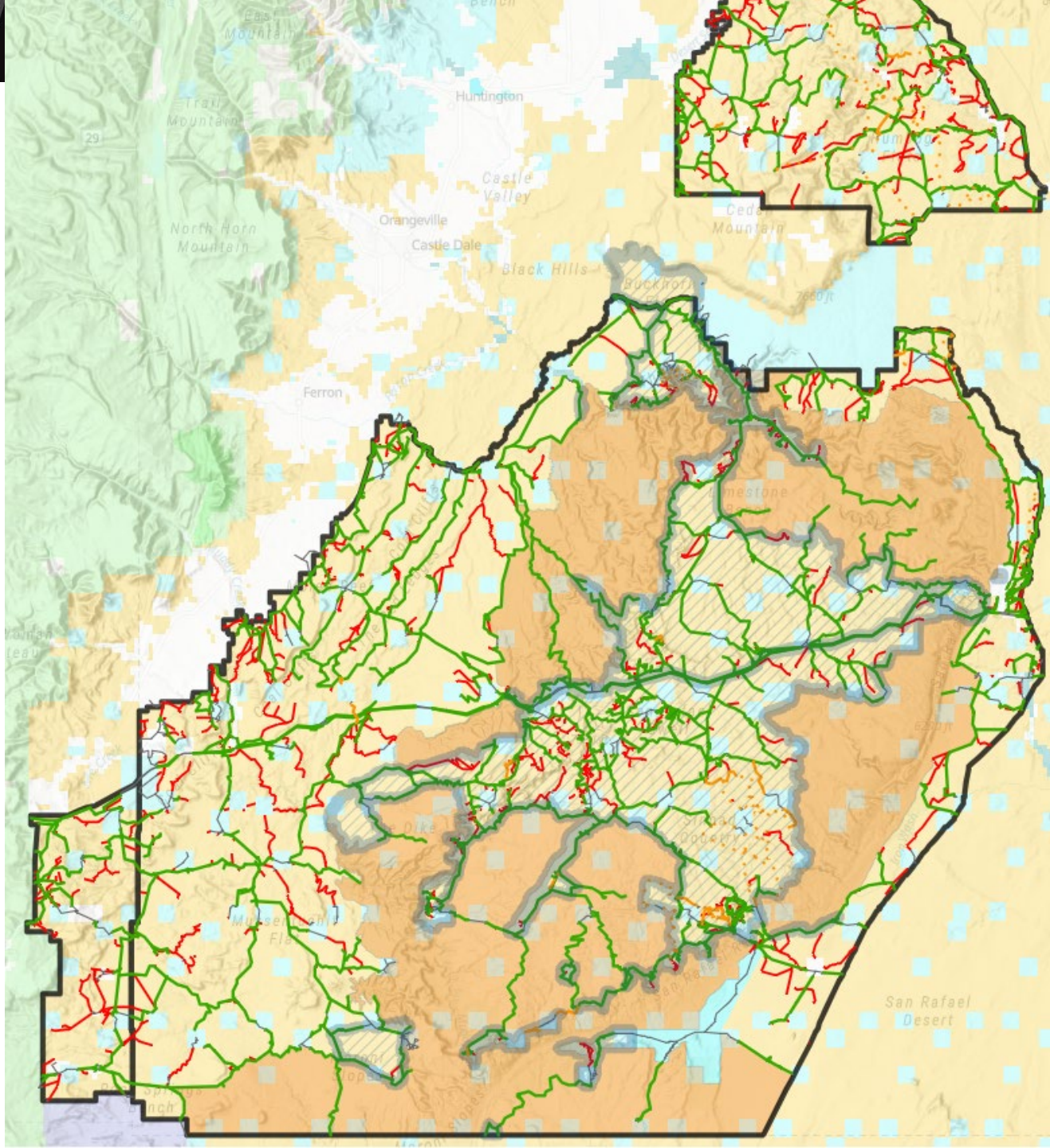


U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

**217,000 Acres**  
(less than 20% of  
planning area)

**Swell TMA is 1.15 Million  
Acres of BLM managed  
lands in Emery and Sevier  
Counties.**







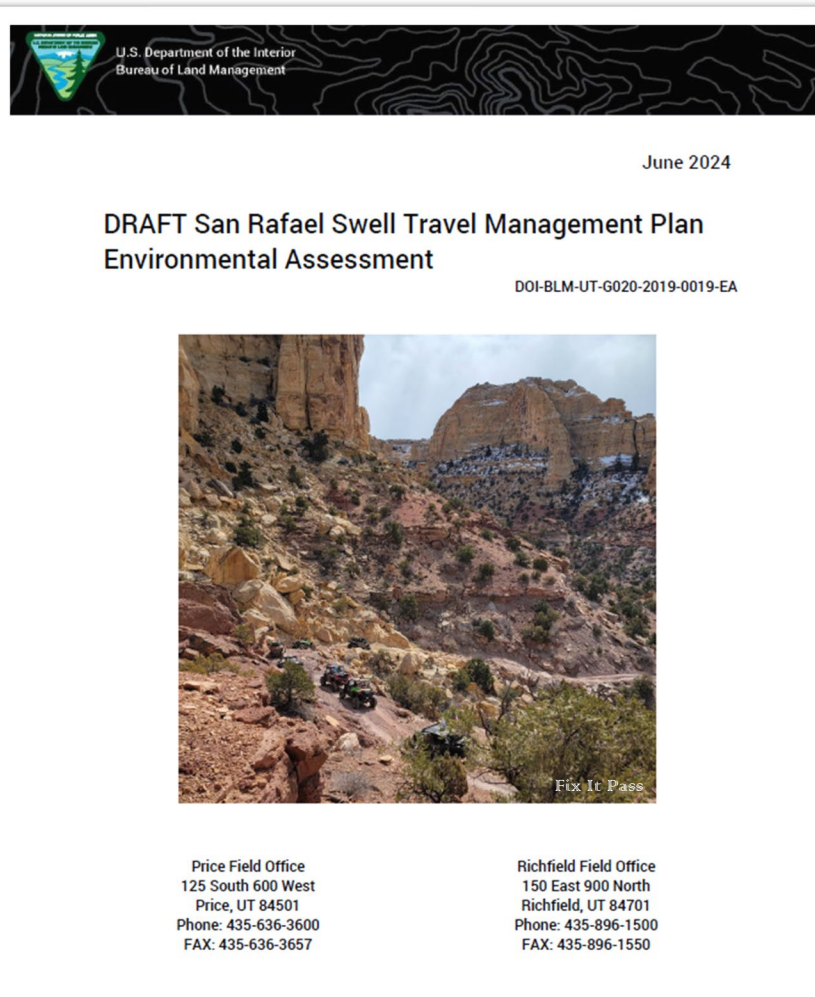
# San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

This committee can provide recommendations on routes within the recreation area.  
Routes outside of the recreation area will need to be commented on other ways.

<b><u>DESIGNATION</u></b>	<b><u>Alt A</u></b>	<b><u>Alt B</u></b>	<b><u>Alt C</u></b>	<b><u>Alt D</u></b>
Open	384	306	395	531
Closed	206	269	136	7
Limited to Aircraft	0	1	1	1
Limited to e-Bikes	12	12	17	18
Limited to Motorized Single Track	12	22	45	34
Limited to Seasonal	0	0	0	0
Limited to 52 inches	2	2	0	0
Limited to 66 inches	0	4	22	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>616</b>



# Draft EA



## Resources Analyzed in Detail

- Cultural Resources
- Lands with Wilderness Characteristics and BLM Natural Areas
- Native Vegetation
- Recreation (motorized and non-motorized)
- Soils
- Special Status Plants
- Visual Resources
- Water Resources
- Weeds
- Special Status Wildlife





Buckhorn Panel – San Rafael Canyon ACEC

# Draft EA

## Resources Analyzed in Brief

- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas and Climate Change
- ACECs
- San Rafael Swell Recreation Area
- Wilderness
- Environmental Justice
- Livestock Grazing
- Paleontological Resources
- Greater Sage-Grouse
- Socioeconomics
- Municipal Watershed/Drinking Water
- Migratory Birds
- Public Health and Safety
- Sensitive Plant Species
- Minerals
- Dark Night Skys
- Natural Soundscapes
- Big Game and Upland Game
- Sensitive Wildlife Species



Eagle Canyon – San Rafael Swell Recreation Area





# Purpose of San Rafael Swell

Provide for the protection, conservation, and enhancement of the listed resources in the Recreation Area:

- recreational
- cultural
- natural
- scenic
- wildlife
- ecological
- historical
- educational







# Recreational

- OHV Experiences
- Wilderness Access
- Variety of Camping Opportunities
- Cultural/Historic Viewing
- Hunting
- Wildlife Viewing
- Scenic Touring
- Hiking
- Biking
- Horse Riding
- Climbing
- Rock Hounding
- Geology Viewing
- Backcountry Flying
- And Many More....



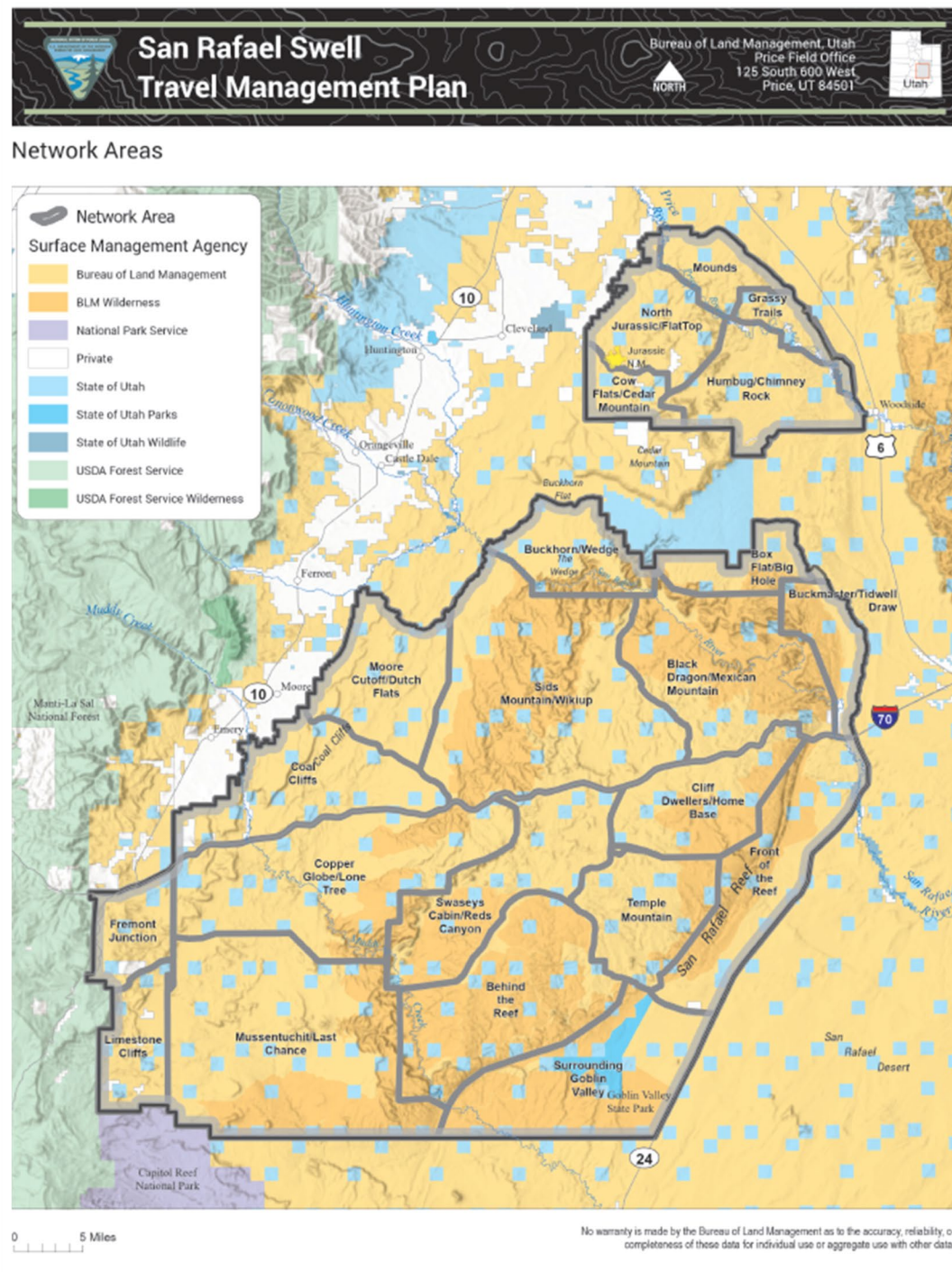




# What are these?

22 Route Network Geographic Areas.

We used them to show how we further considered route network connectivity, and how we applied the designation criteria by minimizing impacts to resources in each area.





# 11 Geographic Network Areas include parts of the Recreation Area

Table 3-17: Miles of Routes by Alternative in Each Route Network Geographic Area

	Designation	Alt. A	Alt. B		Alt. C		Alt. D	
		Miles	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)
Behind the Reef	OHV-Open	76	73	-3	82	+6	91	+14
	OHV-Limited	15	4	-11	16	+1	13	-2
	OHV-Closed	13	28	+15	6	-7	1	-12
Black Dragon/Mexican Mountain	OHV-Open	54	56	+3	65	+12	77	+23
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	23	20	-3	11	-12	0	-23
Sids Mountain/Wikiup	OHV-Open	132	127	-5	146	+14	166	+34
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	1	+1	1	+1
	OHV-Closed	38	43	+5	23	-15	2	-36
Surrounding Goblin Valley	OHV-Open	29	23	-6	31	+2	37	+8
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	9	15	+6	7	-2	1	-8
Swaseys Cabin/Reds Canyon	OHV-Open	111	98	-13	118	+7	151	+40
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	4	+4
	OHV-Closed	46	60	+13	39	-7	2	-44
Temple Mountain	OHV-Open	27	18	-9	31	+4	59	+31
	OHV-Limited	33	26	-7	48	+15	38	+5
	OHV-Closed	38	53	+16	19	-18	1	-36
Buckhorn/Wedge	OHV-Open	68	65	-3	70	+2	77	+9
	OHV-Limited	12	12	-	17	+5	20	+8
	OHV-Closed	18	21	+3	12	-6	1	-17
Cliff Dwellers/Home Base	OHV-Open	25	24	-1	31	+6	44	+20
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	20	21	+1	14	-6	-	-20
Copper Globe/Lone Tree	OHV-Open	94	90	-4	116	+21	166	+72
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	2	+2	23	+23
	OHV-Closed	97	101	+4	74	-23	2	-95
Front of the Reef	OHV-Open	51	37	-14	67	+16	74	+23
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	24	38	+14	9	-16	2	-23
Mussentuchit/Last Chance	OHV-Open	83	74	-9	92	+8	125	+41
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	4	+4	-	-
	OHV-Closed	42	51	+9	30	-12	1	-41





# Cultural/Historical



Head of Sinbad Rock Art

## SAN RAFAEL SWELL Draft Travel Management Plan

### Cultural Resources

Site Status	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
NRHP Listed	4	5	6	5
NRHP Eligible	167	171	197	225
Not Eligible for NRHP	208	197	248	279
Undetermined NRHP Eligibility	149	109	176	206
<b>Total Sites in Alternative</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>715</b>

**Cultural sites within 1/4-mile of Open/Limited Routes**





# LWCs

## Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area



	Designation	Alt. A	Alt. B		Alt. C		Alt. D	
		Miles	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)
Block Mountain LWC	OHV-Open	2	-	-2	0	-1	5	+4
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	4	6	+2	5	+1	0	-4
Devils Canyon LWC	OHV-Open	-	-	-	-	-	19	+19
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	1	+1	-	-
	OHV-Closed	19	19	-	18	-1	-	-19
Mexican Mountain LWC	OHV-Open	21	13	-8	28	+7	41	+20
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	4	+4	4	+4
	OHV-Closed	24	32	+8	13	-11	0	-24
San Rafael Reef LWC	OHV-Open	1	-	-1	1	-1	13	+11
	OHV-Limited	10	-	-10	14	+4	17	+7
	OHV-Closed	18	29	+11	15	-3	-	-18
Sid's Draw LWC	OHV-Open	0.5	-	-0.5	0.7	+0.2	1	+1
	OHV-Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OHV-Closed	1	1	+0.5	0.7	-0.2	-	-1
Sids Mountain LWC	OHV-Open	1	-	-1	2	+2	5	+4
	OHV-Limited	12	12	-	14	+2	17	+4
	OHV-Closed	9	10	+1	5	-4	1	-8

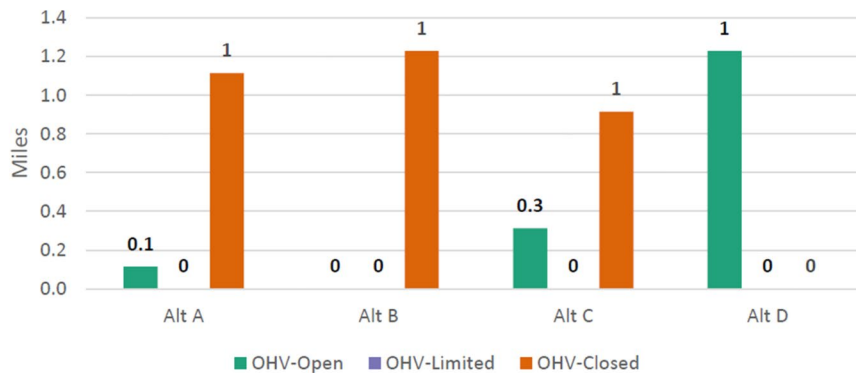




# Natural Areas in Rec Area

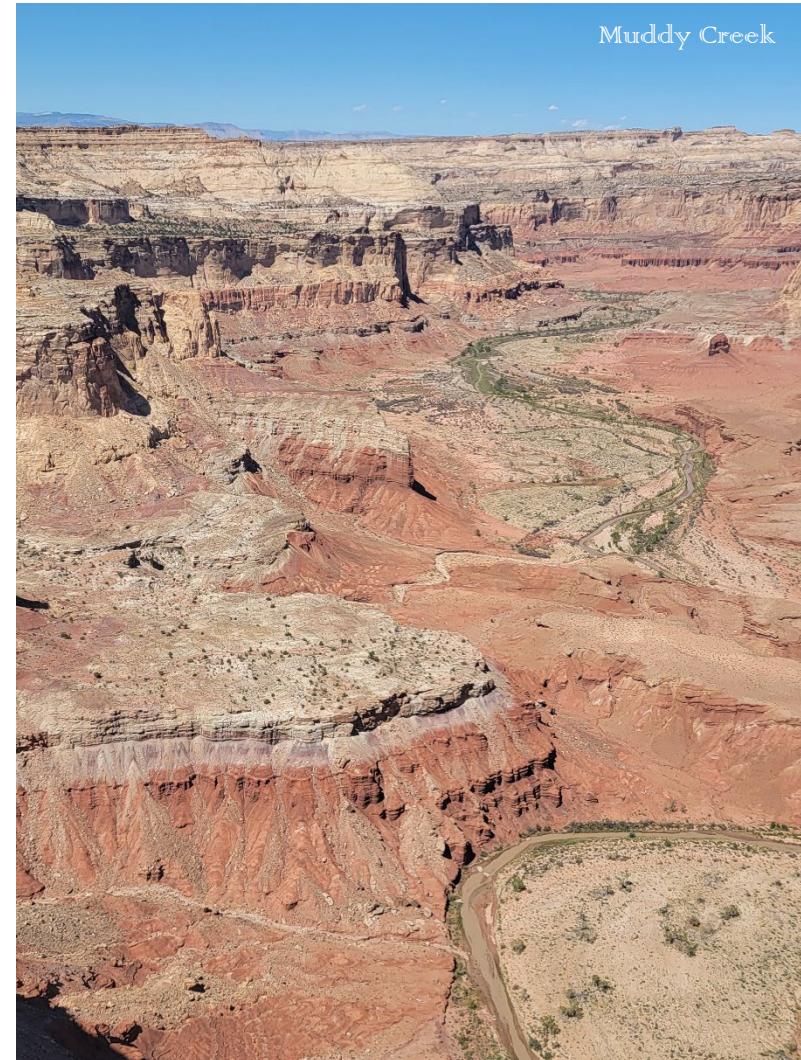
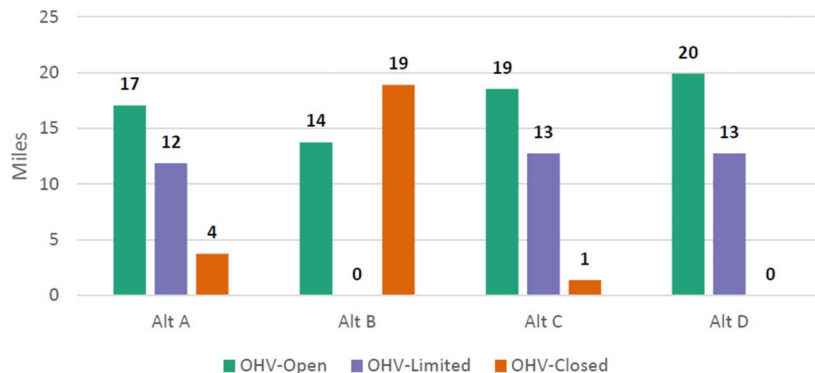
- Hondu Country

Figure 3-2: Miles of Evaluated Routes in the Hondu Country Natural Area



- Muddy Creek/Crack Canyon

Figure 3-5: Miles of Evaluated Routes in the Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon Natural Area







Eagle Canyon



# Scenic

I-70 Spotted Wolf



**Table 3-35: Miles of Evaluated Routes in Visual Resource Management Classes**

		Alt. A	Alt. B		Alt. C		Alt. D	
Designation		Miles	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)	Miles	Change from Alt A (miles)
VRM Class I	OHV-Open	209	208	-1	233	+24	259	+50
	OHV-Limited	2	3	+1	4	+2	4	+1
	OHV-Closed	55	54	-0	29	-26	3	-52
VRM Class II	OHV-Open	383	326	-57	440	+58	568	+185
	OHV-Limited	30	31	+1	62	+31	68	+37
	OHV-Closed	232	287	+56	143	-89	9	-223



# Wildlife

## (T&E and Sensitive)

Mexican Spotted Owl



Photo not from the San Rafael Swell

**Table 3-43: Acres of Special Status Fish Habitat within 100-Meter Buffer of OHV-Open or OHV-Limited Routes by Alternative**

Species	Conservation Status	Acres of Habitat in TMA	Alternative A Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative B Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative C Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative D Area of Impact (Acres)
<b>ESA Listed Fish Species</b>						
<del>Colorado Pikeminnow</del>	<del>Endangered</del>	<del>11,831</del>	<del>1,039</del>	<del>345</del>	<del>1,878</del>	<del>2,023</del>
<del>Bonytail</del>	<del>Endangered</del>	<del>848</del>	<del>115</del>	<del>90</del>	<del>126</del>	<del>130</del>
<del>Razorback Sucker</del>	<del>Endangered</del>	<del>848</del>	<del>115</del>	<del>90</del>	<del>126</del>	<del>130</del>
<del>Humpback Chub</del>	<del>Threatened</del>	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>
<b>BLM Sensitive Fish Species</b>						
<del>Flannelmouth Sucker</del>	<del>BLM Sensitive</del>	<del>7,221</del>	<del>398</del>	<del>200</del>	<del>533</del>	<del>890</del>
Bluehead Sucker	BLM Sensitive	7,100	398	200	533	890
Roundtail Chub	BLM Sensitive	6,814	378	187	519	877

**Table 3-46: Acres of ESA Listed Wildlife Potential Habitat Within Species-Specific Buffers of OHV-Open and OHV-Limited Routes by Alternative**

Species	Conservation Status	Buffer Distance	Acres of Potential Habitat in TMA	Alternative A Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative B Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative C Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative D Area of Impact (Acres)
<b>T&amp;E Species</b>							
Mexican Spotted Owl*	Threatened	0.5 mile	748,999	296,124	268,438	337,050	376,803
<del>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher</del>	<del>Endangered</del>	<del>0.25 mile</del>	<del>12,418</del>	<del>2,590</del>	<del>2,252</del>	<del>2,398</del>	<del>2,363</del>
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Threatened	0.25 mile	1,313,353	303,450	262,140	349,844	406,316
Monarch butterfly	Candidate	100 meters	1,313,353	102,514	87,137	121,481	146,451



# Wildlife

## (Sensitive and Game)



Desert Bighorn Sheep  
near Temple Mountain

Table Appx - 19: Miles of OHV-Open and OHV-Limited Routes by Alternative within Potential Big Game and Upland Game Birds Habitat

Species	Acres of Potential Habitat in TMA	Alternative A (miles)	Alternative B (miles)	Alternative C (miles)	Alternative D (miles)
<b>Big Game</b>					
Desert bighorn sheep	476,377	426	355	471	584
Mule deer	42,717	76	37	62	70
Pronghorn	96,412	145	136	210	267
<del>Rocky Mountain elk</del>	<del>15,767</del>	<del>24</del>	<del>23</del>	<del>35</del>	<del>54</del>
<b>Upland Game</b>					
Chukar	29,688	37	14	36	51
Wild Turkey	6,021	9	6	11	15

Table 3-47: Acres of BLM Select Sensitive Wildlife Potential Habitat Within Species-Specific Buffers of OHV-Open or OHV-Limited Routes by Alternative

Species	Buffer Distance	Acres of Potential Habitat in TMA	Alternative A Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative B Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative C Area of Impact (Acres)	Alternative D Area of Impact (Acres)
<b>Birds</b>						
Burrowing Owl	0.25 mile	1,313,353	361,578	315,307	414,962	477,310
Ferruginous Hawk	0.5 mile	716,836	382,590	340,003	424,092	458,206
Golden Eagle	1 mile	1,313,353	633,445	566,352.3	700,277	774,047
<b>Mammals</b>						
Kit fox	40 feet	596,516	28,345	18,292	26,337	29,892
White-tailed prairie dog	660 feet	1,313,353	195,751	167,878	229,290	271,333





# Plants (T&E and Sensitive)

Table 3-31: Acres of ESA Listed and Select Sensitive Plant Species Potential Habitat within 300 feet of OHV-Open or OHV-Limited Routes by Alternative

Species	Conservation Status	Species-Specific Buffer	Acres of Potential Habitat in TMA	Alternative A Potential Habitat Impacted (Acres)	Alternative B Potential Habitat Impacted (Acres)	Alternative C Potential Habitat Impacted (Acres)	Alternative D Potential Habitat Impacted (Acres)
Barneby reed-mustard	Endangered	300 feet	801,100	58,138	49,912	66,930	78,777
Jones cycladenia	Threatened	300 feet	568,015	38,652	31,162	47,141	56,623
Last Chance townsendia	Threatened	300 feet	769,027	53,093	46,774	61,686	74,446
San Rafael cactus	Endangered	300 feet	1,143,760	81,557	70,506	96,391	115,239
Ute ladies'-tresses	Threatened	300 feet	105,549	5,912	5,139	7,152	8,951
<del>Winkler cactus</del>	<del>Threatened</del>	<del>300 feet</del>	<del>97,214</del>	<del>5,054</del>	<del>3,840</del>	<del>5,502</del>	<del>6,047</del>
Wright fishhook cactus	Endangered	300 feet	455,868	25,791	22,086	30,266	38,271
Maguire Daisy	Sensitive	300 feet	830,522	55,547	47,119	63,114	75,528
Creutzfeldt-flower	Sensitive	300 feet	52,699	3,796	3,730	6,428	8,330
Psoralea Globemallow	Sensitive	300 feet	528,865	38,520	29,187	49,249	59,586



Jones cycladenia near San Rafael Reef



Maguire Daisy unknown location



San Rafael Cactus near Wedge Overlook





# Educational

- Signing (Implementation Guide of EA)



SRSRAAC Field Trip at Temple Mountain Townsite



Respect and Protect Signs in Buckhorn Draw



Black Dragon Directional Sign





# Public Comment Summary

- 3 Public Meetings --- Nearly 60 participants
- Over 5,000 individual/group comments received
  - Primarily Form Letters supporting modified versions of either Alt B or Alt D.



- 924 unique routes commented on. Some Routes had 50+ comments, other had 1 comment.
- Dozens of large letters from groups like Blue Ribbon Coalition, SUWA, PLPCO, EPA, Ride with Respect, Wasatch Mountain Club, Sage Riders, ORBA, Farm Bureau, many more individuals.



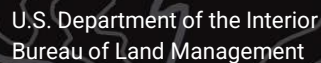
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

Reds Canyon/Lucky Strike Mine Overlook



## SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN RECREATION AREA





# Buckhorn / Wedge



Goodwater Rim Trailhead Sign

## Wedge Loop Road

## Mtn Bike Trails

## Rim Roads / Overlooks

## Dispersed Camping

## Endangered Cactus

## Bighorn Sheep

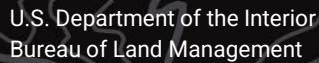


Cow/Calf Canyon, SRSRAAC Fieldtrip



## Cow/Calf Canyon?





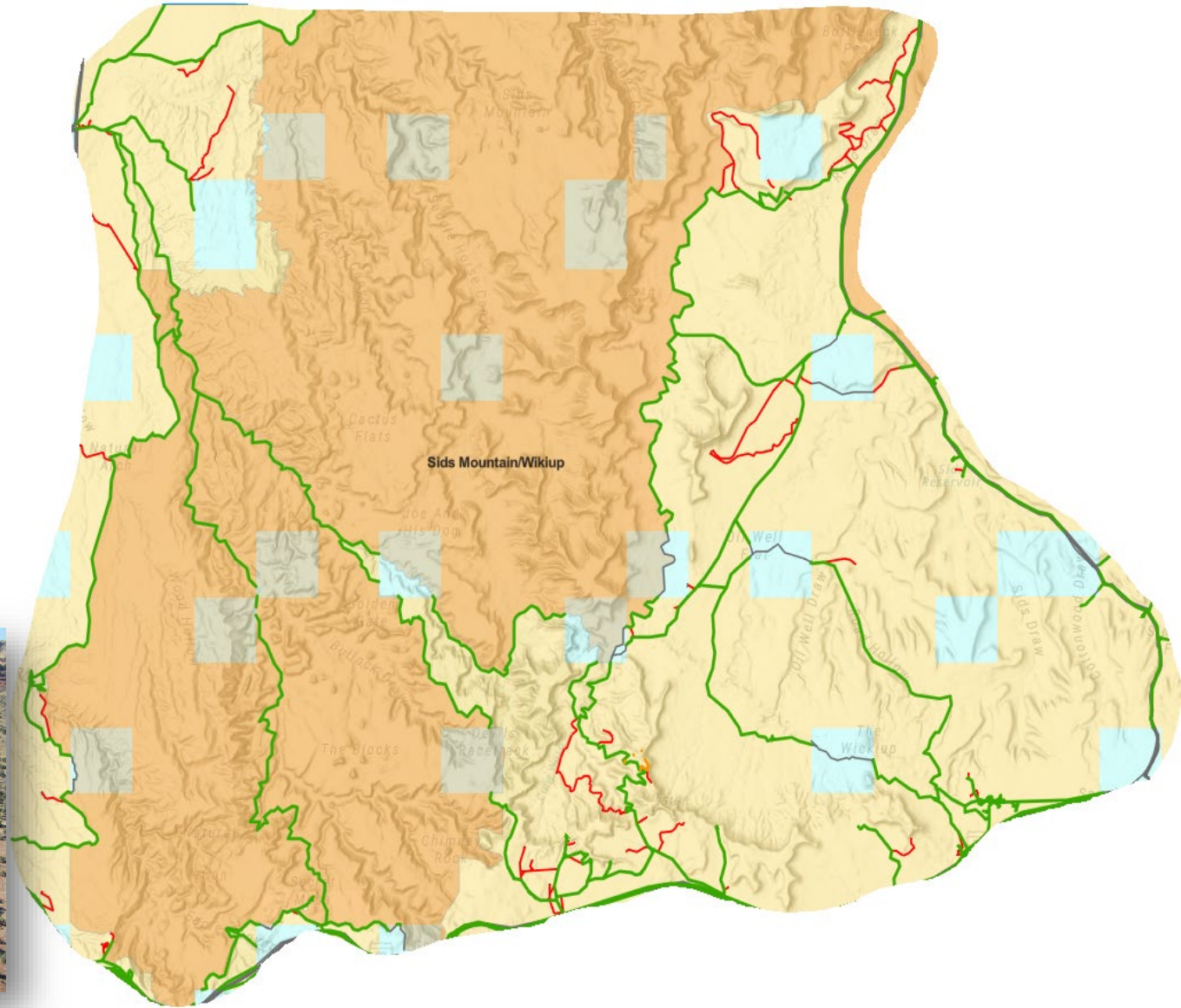
Motorized access to many desired destinations.

## Motorized use along Wilderness Boundaries

## Motorized Access to Dispersed Campsites

## Sids Draw LWC

## Calf Mesa?





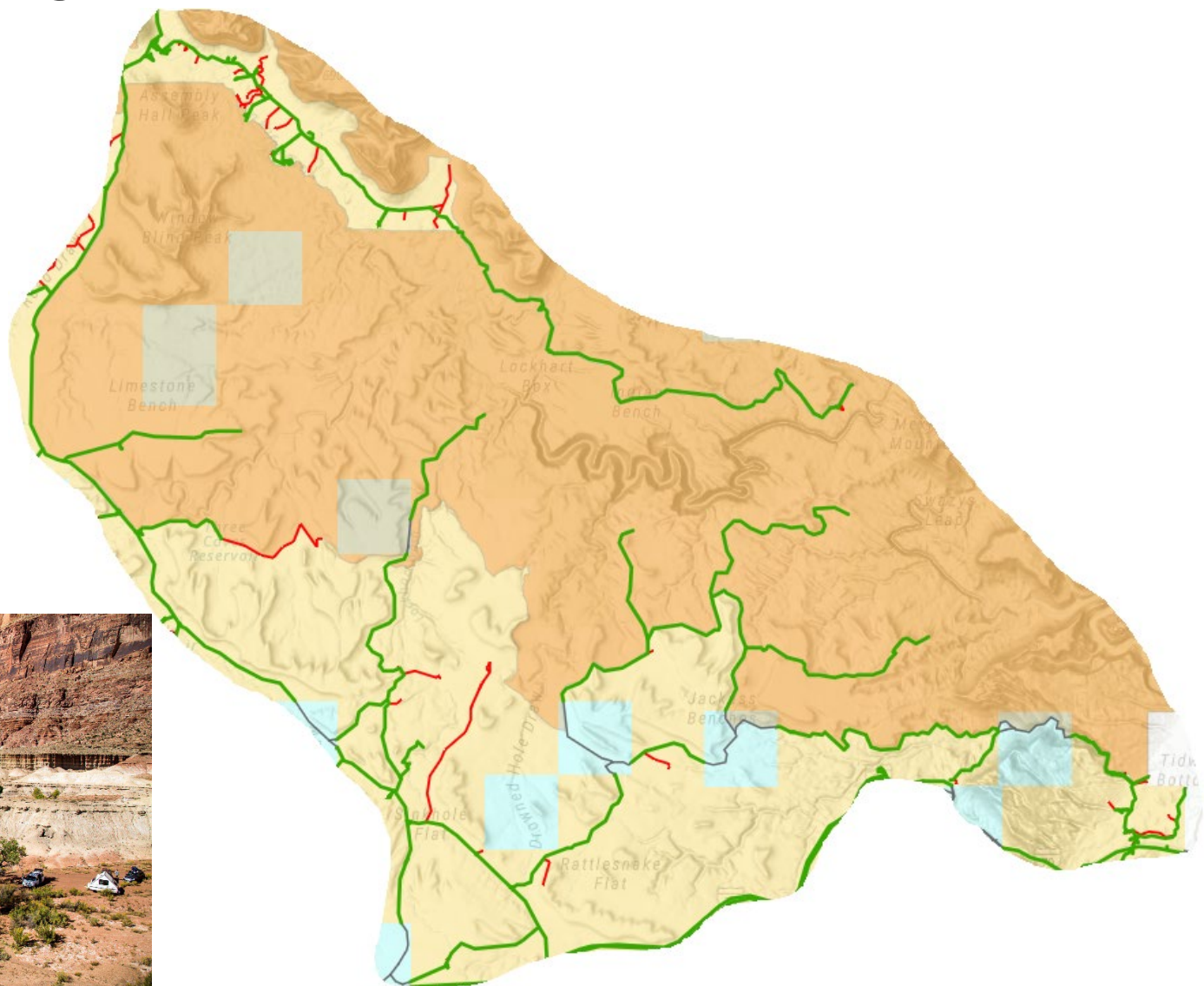
# Black Dragon / Mexican Mountain

Motorized use along  
Wilderness Boundaries

Access to Non-  
Motorized Trailheads

Mexican Mountain LWC

Motorized Access to  
Dispersed Campsites?



Camping near San Rafael River





# Cliff Dwellers / Home Base

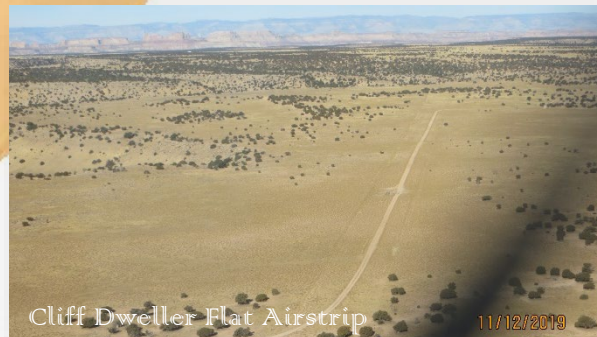
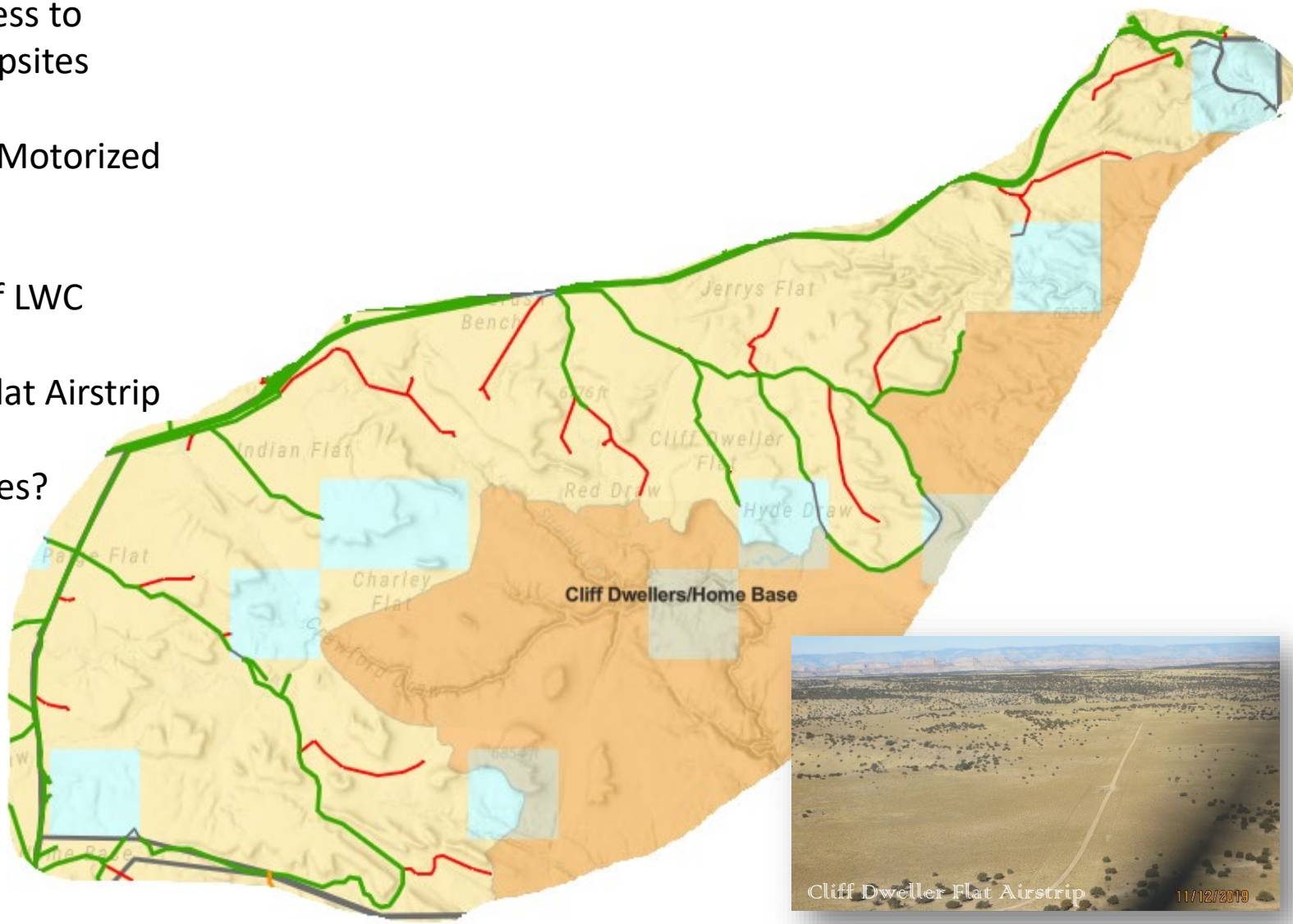
Motorized Access to  
Dispersed Campsites

Access to Non-Motorized  
Trailheads

San Rafael Reef LWC

Cliff Dwellers Flat Airstrip

Dead End Routes?



# Swasey Cabin

## Motorized access to historic sites

## Block Mountain LWC

## Motorized Access to Dispersed Campsites?







U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Reds Canyon

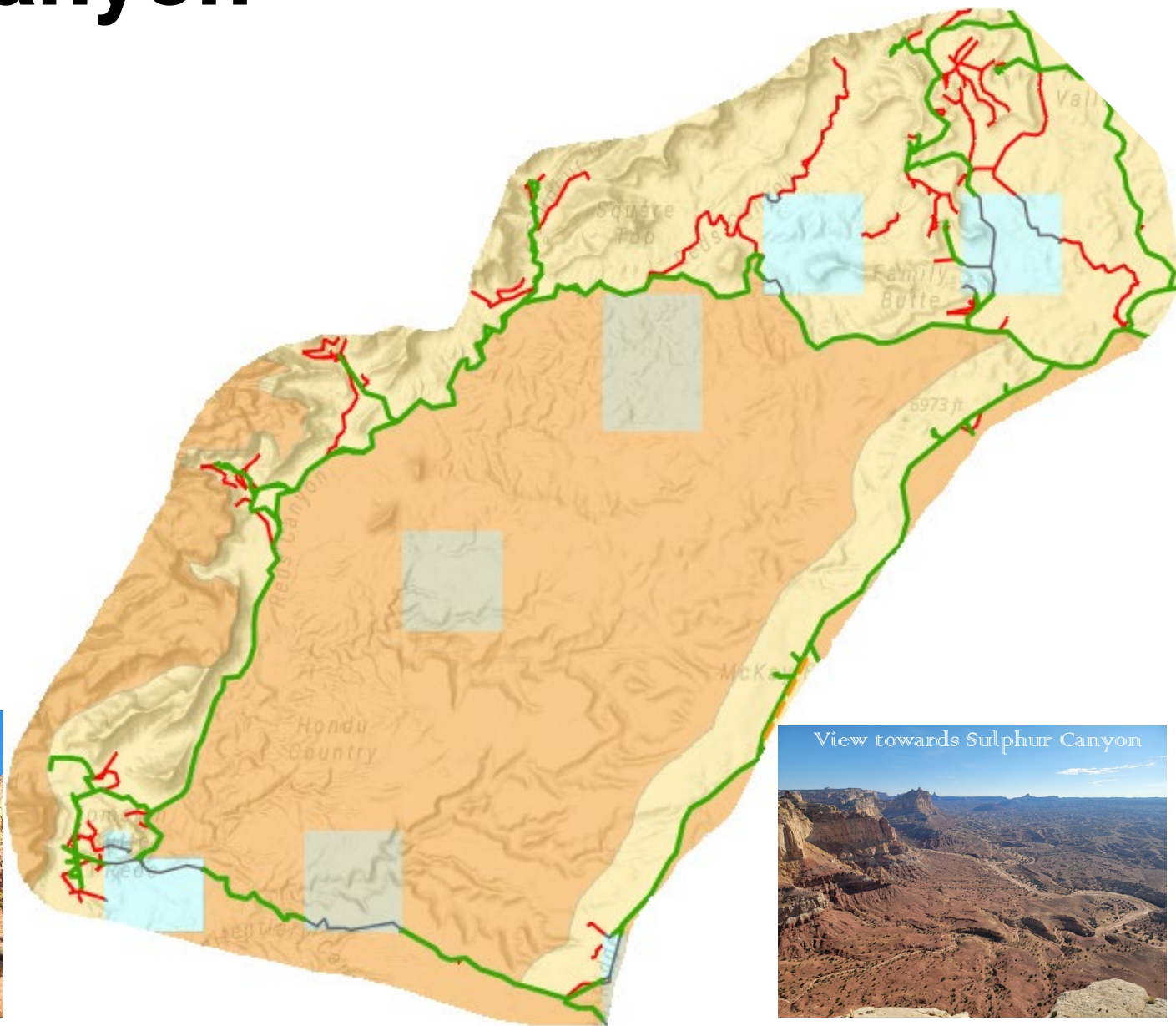
Dispersed Campsite  
Spurs around Family  
Butte

Desire to improve  
wilderness  
characteristics

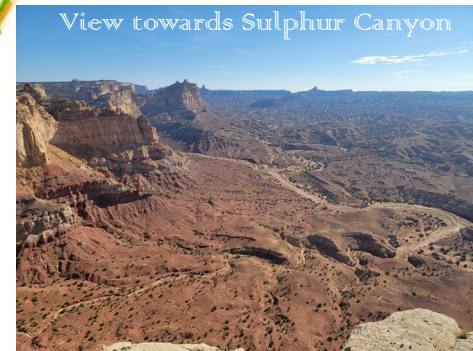
Motorized access to  
historic sites

What about other  
mining sites?

Cabin at Lucky Strike Mine



View towards Sulphur Canyon





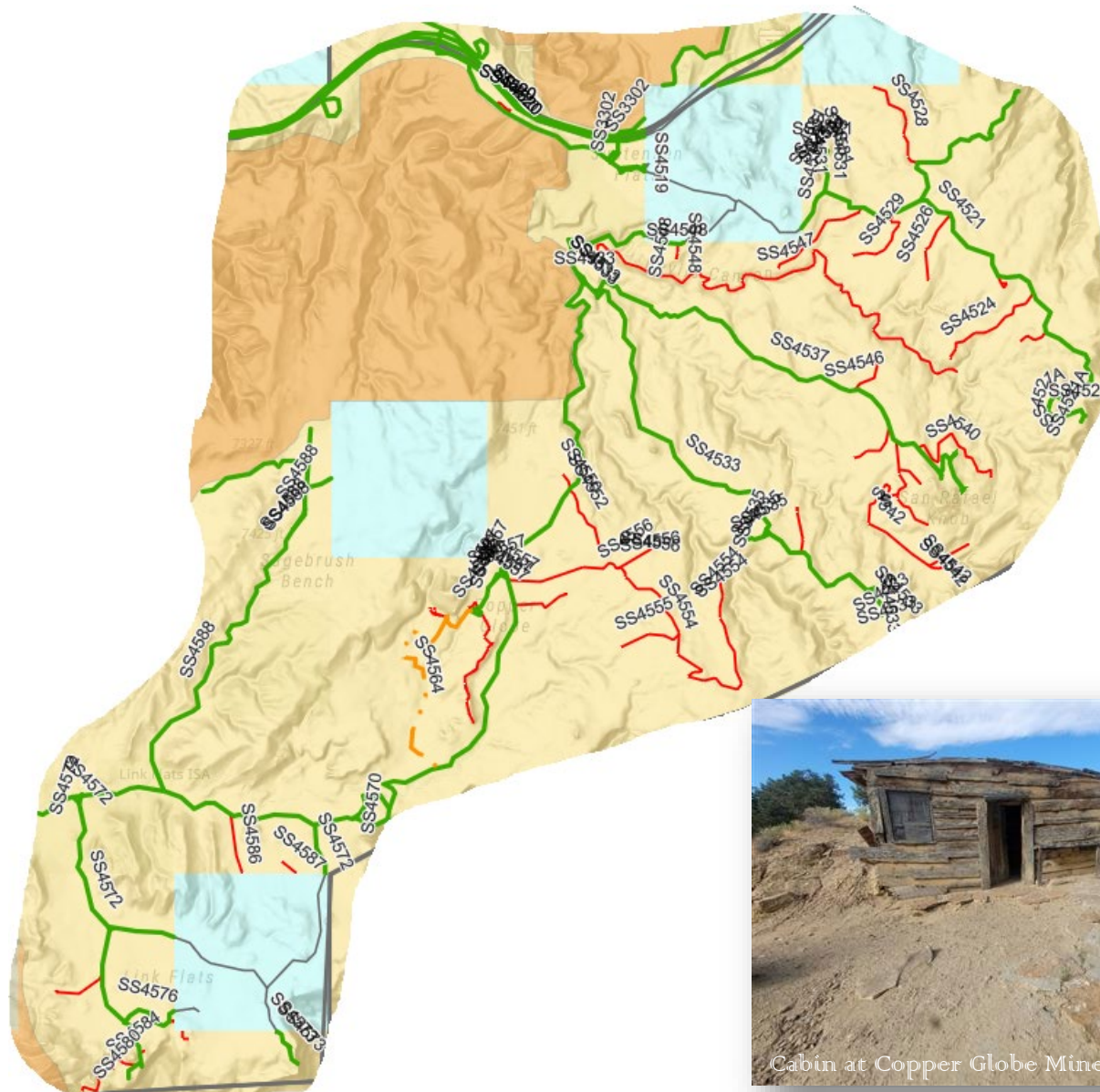
# San Rafael Knob / Copper Globe

Motorized access to  
overlooks and  
Historic Sites.

Non-Motorized  
Experience around  
San Rafael Knob

Sage Brush Bench and  
potential designated  
airstrip and enhanced  
motorized access to  
Wilderness  
Boundary?

66" trail near copper  
globe?



Cabin at Copper Globe Mine





# Temple Mountain / Behind the Reef

Interpretive OHV loop  
around Temple  
Mountain

Motorcycle Trail  
System

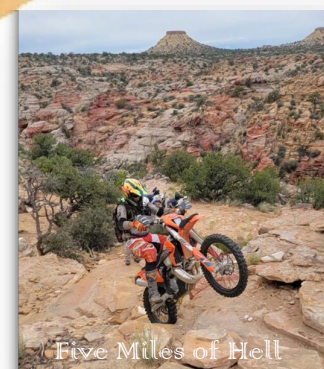
Wilderness Access  
Points

Dispersed Camping  
Spurs

Hidden Splendor and  
McKay Flat Airstrips

Behind the Reef Trail?

OHV 66" trails?







<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1440276226678066>

# Route Specific Comments

- Organizing comments into a spreadsheets
- Checking Route Forms
- Opinions without reasoning are not considered substantive, but they will still be considered while drafting our decision.





# Non-Route Specific Substantive Comments

Alternative Development

**ACECs**

Air Quality

Cultural

RS 2477

Impact Analysis

LWC

**Economics**

Minimization Criteria

Soundscapes

Concentration of Use

Process

Public comment

Recreation E Bikes

Recreation Airstrips

**Environmental Justice**

Recreation Camping

Recreation Conflicts

Recreation Historic Site Seeing

Riparian Areas

Plants

Soils

Water

Grazing

**Dingell Act Compliance**

Wetlands

Wildlife

Access to SITLA

Adaptive Management

Wilderness

Planning Process

**Resource Comments Theme**

(Providing data and questioned analysis)





# What's Next?

- Continue Reviewing Public Comments
- Continue Consulting (Cultural & FWS)
- Start preparing our decision.
- Update the EA as needed!
  - Thinking we will update the EA to reflect and document our decision as Alternative E.





## 2024 Schedule Highlights



We are here



- Released preliminary alternatives, scoping report, ect to public, **February 22, 2024**
- Received feedback from cooperative agencies, **March 15, 2024**
- Prepared draft EA, **March-May 2024**
- Release draft EA and initiated 45-day public comment period, **June 6<sup>th</sup>-July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**
- Review public comments and complete required consultation. **July-August 2024**
- Draft a decision and update EA. **September-October 2024**
- Sign a Decision: **November-December 2024**





U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Questions?



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

**Jaydon Mead**  
*Outdoor Recreation Planner*  
Office: 435-636-3646  
jmead@blm.gov

**Bureau of Land Management**  
**Price Field Office**  
125 South 600 West  
Price, UT 84501





# How to use the story maps

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/26c415c407d743ab940b254f4cd4e156>

## San Rafael Swell Travel Management Plan

Bureau of Land Management / Price, Utah Field Office

The screenshot displays the San Rafael Swell Travel Management Plan story map. The map area shows the San Rafael Swell region in southern Utah, with various geographical features labeled, including Reid Neilson Draw, Paige Flat, Charley Flat, Crawford Draw, Reid Neilson Draw, Georges Draw, Block Mountain, Home Base, Loan Man Butte, Lone Man Draw, Twin Knolls, Sinbad Country, Taylor Flat, and San Rafael Reef. The map is overlaid with a network of red lines representing travel management routes. The interface includes a left sidebar with a list of layers, a top toolbar with navigation and map controls, and a right sidebar with a legend and additional map controls.

**Layers List:**

- SRS Analysis Alt B
- San Rafael Swell TMP Alternative A
- San Rafael Swell TMP Alternative B
- San Rafael Swell TMP Alternative C
- San Rafael Swell TMP Alternative D
- Jurassic National Monument
- BLM UT Grazing Allotments & Pastures
- San Rafael Swell Recreation Area
- BLM UT Designated Wilderness
- BLM UT Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
- BLM UT Designated ACECs
- Utah Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat
- Utah Elk Habitat
- Utah Pronghorn Habitat
- Utah Mule Deer Habitat
- BLM UT Visual Resource Management Classes
- Surface Management Agency

**Map Controls:**

- Layers
- Visibility
- Legend
- Tables
- Basemap
- Add layers
- Print
- Search
- Full screen
- Information
- Zoom in
- Zoom out



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# SRSRA Dispersed Camping Management



August 14, 2024

Bridget Murray  
Outdoor Recreation Planner





# Goals of this presentation

- Definitions
- Introduce BLM approach/framework
- Identify management considerations and decisions to be made
- Illustrate challenges and opportunities through an example (Temple Mountain)
- Summarize discussion points



# Basic definitions

- Types of recreationists, based on activity and, by extension, needs
  - OHV recreation: primary purpose of riding technical off-road trails
  - Nonmotorized: primary purpose of biking, hiking, horseback riding, climbing, etc.
  - General: primary purpose of sightseeing, car camping, and point of interest visitation
- User contact: BLM staff talking face-to-face with visitors in the field
- Dispersed camping (more on this next): *vehicle-supported* camping outside of campgrounds





# Definitions: Dispersed camping

*BLM Website*

## Campsite Selection

Dispersed camp sites are located along most secondary roads and may not be marked. Popular locations can be recognized by the telltale flat disturbed area that has been used as a camp site before. Not all flat spots are sites. If possible, please use existing sites to avoid creating new disturbances. To further protect your public lands, campers must not dispose of any refuse, hazardous materials, sewage, or in any manner pollute the surrounding area.

**BLM Utah Fact Sheet:** There is a 14-day camping limit while occupying any campsite on BLM-managed lands.

- Only travel on designated routes. Check with local offices for off-roading information.
- Camp only in previously disturbed sites or areas.
- Do not dispersed camp in the vicinity of developed recreation sites such as picnic areas, campgrounds or trailheads. Do not camp in livestock watering areas.
- Do not trench, dig or level your site. Do not cut tree limbs to fit your tent or trailer.
- Pack out all trash.

**Moab FO:** Most of the field office remains open to primitive camping experiences, however dispersed camping is restricted to designated sites in certain areas, such as [site names].

There are a limited number of sites marked with a brown post and tent symbol. When dispersed camping please practice leave no trace principles such as packing out all trash and human waste.



# Definitions: Dispersed camping

## *Public definitions*

**REI:** Dispersed camping typically includes anything outside of a developed, designated campground. It's not wilderness camping per se, but it is undoubtedly more rustic than a designated area that might have tent platforms or electricity hookups. Unlike designated sites, dispersed spots typically do not have amenities... although well-trafficked areas may have the odd vault toilet.

**Designated-dispersed camping** combines elements of both.

Designated-dispersed areas typically have established vehicle-accessible sites but lack facilities like lavatories or potable water. Public land managers are starting to create more designated-dispersed areas in popular destinations in an effort to minimize damage to sensitive ecosystems. These established sites encourage campers to use existing spaces instead of creating new ones, which protects vegetation and habitat.

## **Cambridge Dictionary:**

**the activity of camping (= sleeping outside in a tent or special vehicle) on land that does not have any services and is not part of an official campground**

**The Dyrt:** "dispersed camping" is camping outside of a designated campground. This can mean driving up a forest access road to a pullout where you can park your small RV. It can also mean backpacking into the mountains and finding a flat spot to pitch your tent. Dispersed camping is best way to find free camping.

**Visit Utah:** Dispersed (or primitive camping) can take place on most public lands, including BLM lands, as long as it does not conflict with other authorized uses or in areas posted "closed to camping," or in some way adversely affects wildlife species or natural resources... Knowledge and research is KEY.





# Definitions: Dispersed camping

## Consistent across all

- Outside of developed campgrounds
- No/minimal developments
- No fees or reservations
- Self-reliance, plan ahead and prepare
- Vehicle or tent

## Inconsistent

- Existing campsites vs. any flat area
- Inclusion of wilderness camping
- Mention of other avoidance areas (trailheads, stock watering areas) and sensitive resources
- Only BLM: specific resource impacts (leveling sites, cutting back trees) and how to find designated dispersed (carsonites)
- Directing visitors to check with local offices



# Definitions: Dispersed camping

*And why do definitions matter?*

- Effective management will:
  - Use common definitions, language, and concepts
  - Lean on field messaging: signs, carsonites, maps
  - Assume minimum knowledge
  - *Assume that the average user doesn't check BLM websites or call our office, but may stop at informational signs*



For example: buffers and setbacks are extremely rare, usually only for streams. Designating sites is more common and clearer to message.





# Definitions: Impacts

Ground disturbance: loss  
of vegetation, soil  
compaction, leveling

Built features: fire  
rings, furniture, art

Waste: Trash, human,  
ash

Indicators of how often the site is  
used

Proliferation:  
Perimeter  
disturbances and  
spreading



# Example: Sparsely impacted

No trash, single fire ring, terrain and vegetation keeps the campsite confined to a small area.



*Amount of impact is not just a reflection of the **number** of visitors. It is a result of their number, type, and experience level as well as BLM administrative presence.*







# Example: Moderately impacted

Terrain keeps campsite confined to a smaller area with a durable surface (wash), but lots of trash and cut branches in the vicinity.

*Amount of impact is not just a reflection of the **number** of visitors. It is a result of their number, type, and experience level as well as BLM administrative presence.*



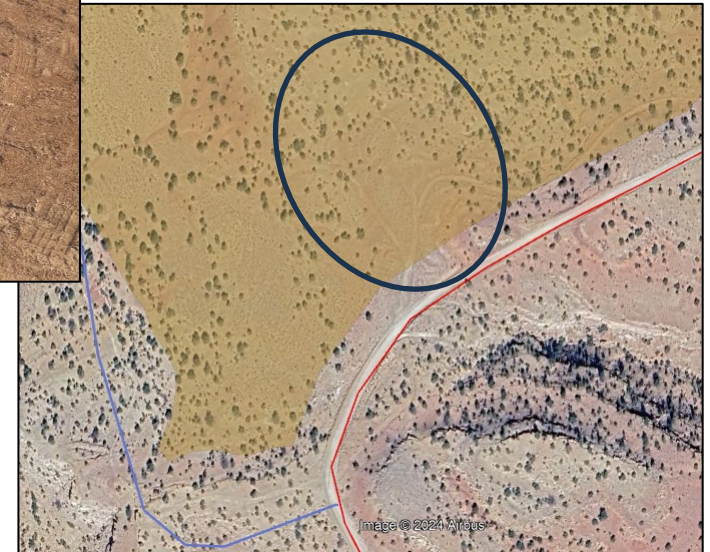




# Example: Heavily impacted

Obvious disturbances near sensitive resources, broken glass/unsanitary waste, new campsites cropping up and/or road braiding. Difficult to confine or reclaim.

*Amount of impact is not just a reflection of the **number** of visitors. It is a result of their number, type, and experience level as well as BLM administrative presence.*







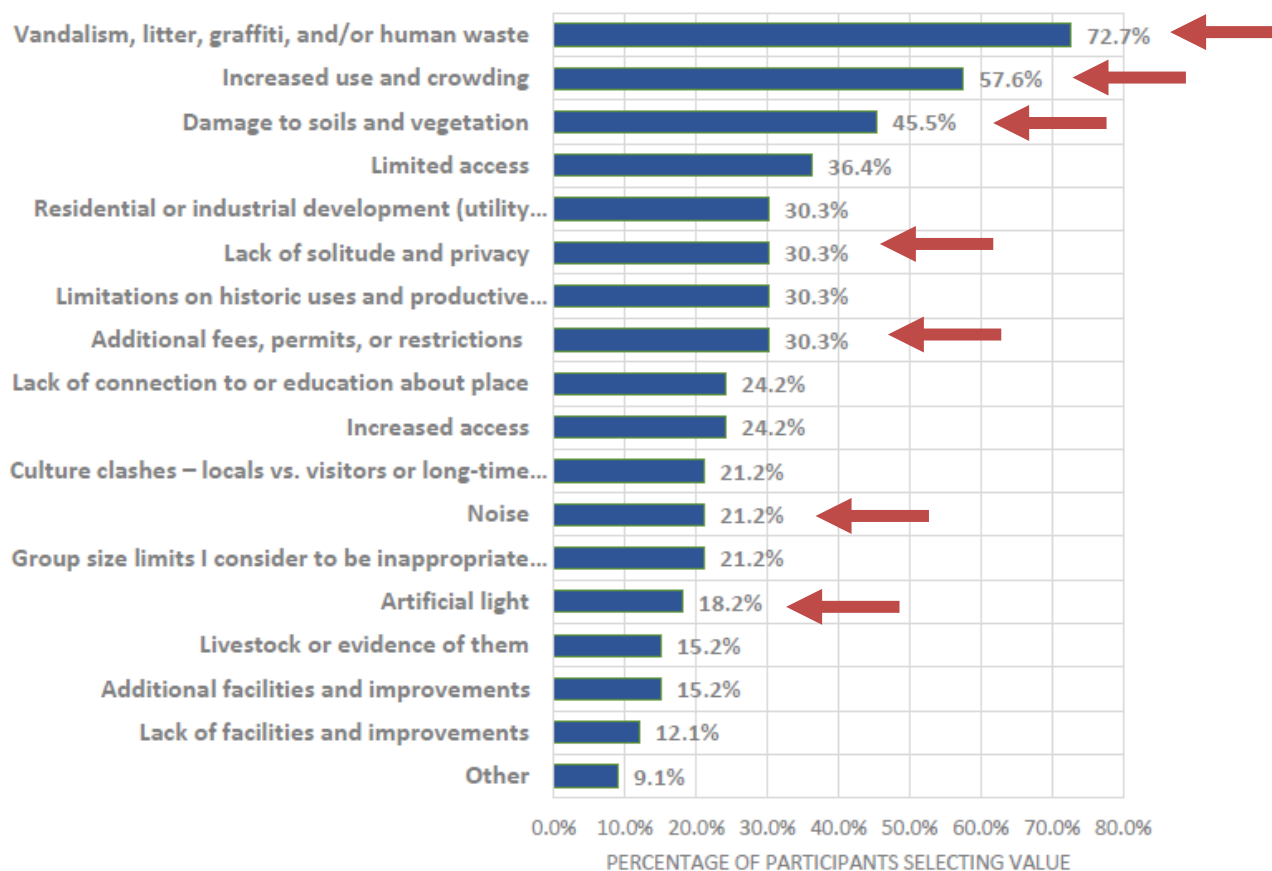
# Current BLM Approaches

Visitor use outreach (partner university)	<b>Who is coming to the Swell and what type of experience are they seeking?</b>
Sign development	<b>Where and how can we increase our agency presence to educate visitors, especially around dispersed use?</b>
Use area patrols	<b>What conditions is the BLM observing in the field, especially in dispersed areas?</b>
Visitation counting Campsite inventory	<b>What is the severity of camping impacts in relation to the number of visitors we receive? Where are our “problem areas” and what needs to be done to reduce resource impacts?</b>



# Visitor use focus groups (held in 2023)

## What diminishes the specialness of the landscape?



Four most popular activities: sightseeing, camping, OHV riding, hiking





# Visitor use focus groups (held in 2023)

Theme	Times mentioned
Fees (-)	6
Camping impacts (-)	3
Fees (+)	2
Camping access (-)	2
Designate dispersed (+)	1
Crowding (-)	1
General	
Enforcement	7
Future need for permits (where/what kind not specified)	2



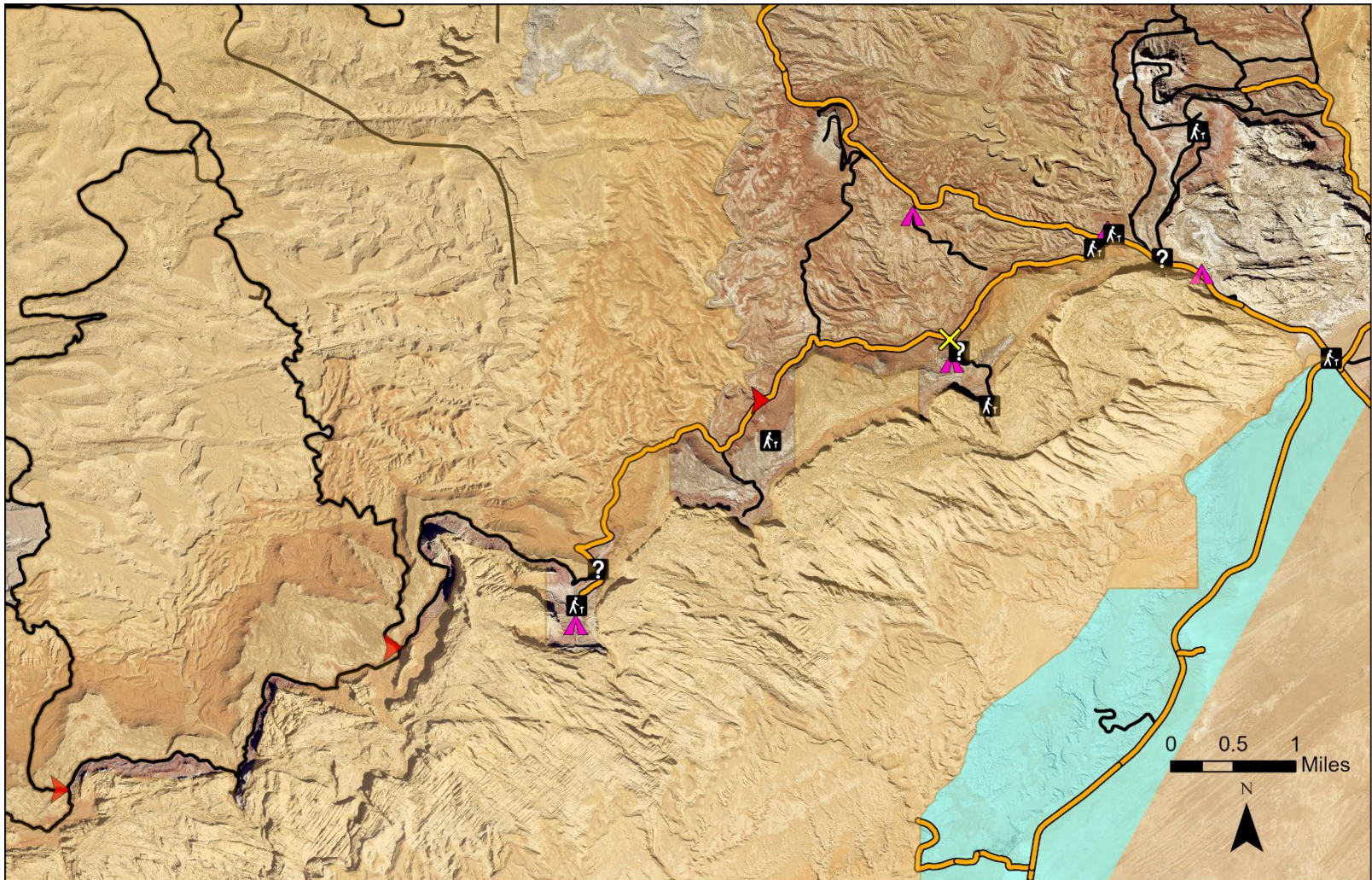
# Signs and education

- Mentioned 25+ times in focus group responses
  - Responsible recreation and safety
  - Sites and opportunities
  - Resources (geology, cultural, natural, history)
- FY24: 60+ hours spent designing kiosks and panels, 100+ installing kiosk and directional signs
- Focus has been developed campgrounds (greatest number of visitors) and updating directional signage





# Signs and education







# Use area patrols

- Increase BLM presence in less-visited areas: sign installations, impact rehabilitation, campsite inventory, maintaining trail markers, etc.
- Document:
  - Visitor contacts and comments
  - Work undertaken/completed projects
  - Issues observed
  - Future projects

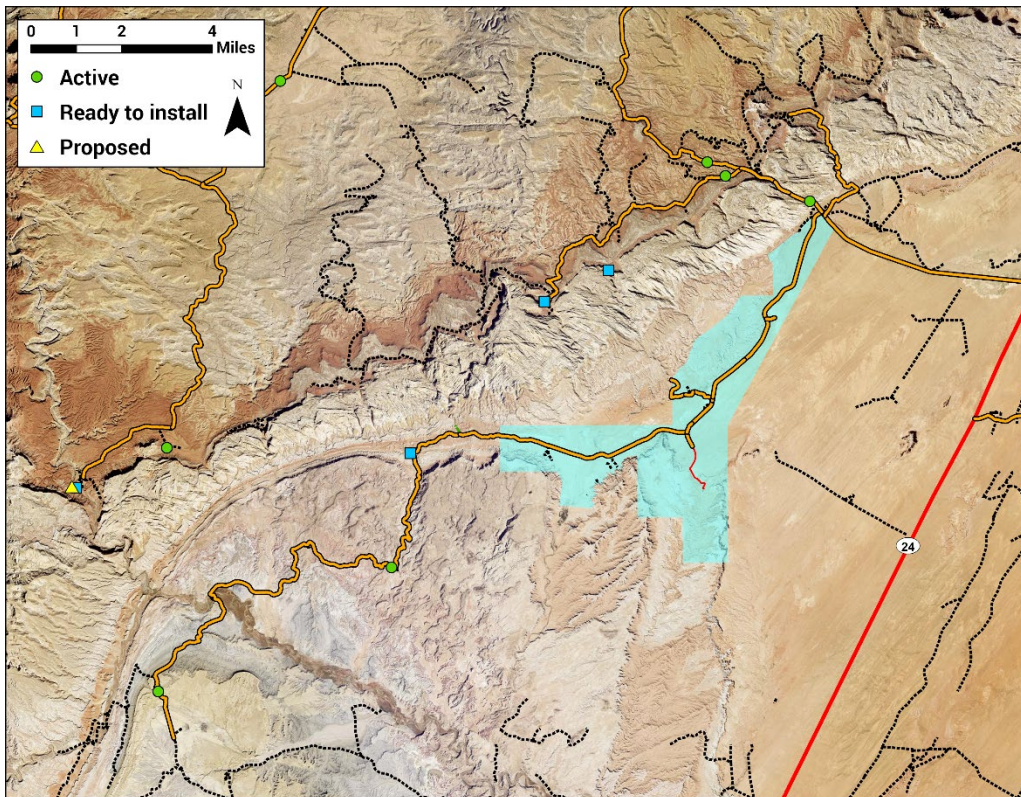






# Visitation counting

- Track visitation throughout field office in three-year increments
- High, moderate, and low use areas with all types of recreation use and pressures





# Campsite Inventory

## Resource Impacts

Fire Ring

No value

Fire Impacts

No value

Describe (and pack out) trash found

### Type of Veg Damage

- ☐ Low: grasses are trampled/denuded, but no damage to shrubs or trees
- ☐ Moderate: Some shrubs partially run over or cracked branches
- ☐ High: Bushes run over, tree roots/soil exposed

### Perimeter impacts

- ☐ None: campsite impacts are contained to the fire ring area
- ☐ Light: Some loop or parking tire tracks, tent pads, etc.
- ☐ Moderate: Single-use cross-country tracks; broken, cut or run-over vegetation; social trailing with some human waste piles
- ☐ Heavy: Many tire tracks with new sites cropping up. Vegetation damage, trash, and/or human waste piles present.

Evidence of the site gradually expanding

100+ campsites in just three inventoried areas

1. What is the extent of resource impacts?  
How severe are they, and what can be readily reversed?





# Campsite Inventory

## Vegetation Type

- ☐ Pinyon-Juniper
- ☐ Grasses
- ☐ Sagebrush
- ☐ Riparian
- ☐ Bare

## Perimeter type

- ☐ Topography: cliff, wash, etc.
- ☐ Dense vegetation: no vehicle passage
- ☐ Open vegetation: partially passable to vehicles (e.g. p-j)
- ☐ None: slickrock or other flat, open surface

## Trailer Capacity

- ☐ Not enough space for trailer or RV
- ☐ Space for 1-2 trailers to park together and turn around
- ☐ 3+ trailers, open ("wagon circle")
- ☐ 3+ trailers, scattered

Number of trailers that can easily fit; must be adequate space for trailer to turn around without creating new disturbance. Most end-of-road "teardrops" allow 1-2. Moderately

How big are the sites? What is the potential for a campsite to grow or for campsites to continue proliferating in a given area? Which sites are naturally contained, or could reasonably be contained by the BLM?



# Realistic goals: limits of the BLM

Visitor contacts in  
dispersed areas

Resources (budgets,  
vehicles, staff)

Large, dispersed  
area

Field season  
length/weather  
conditions

Time constraints: one  
part of a 2.2-million acre  
field office





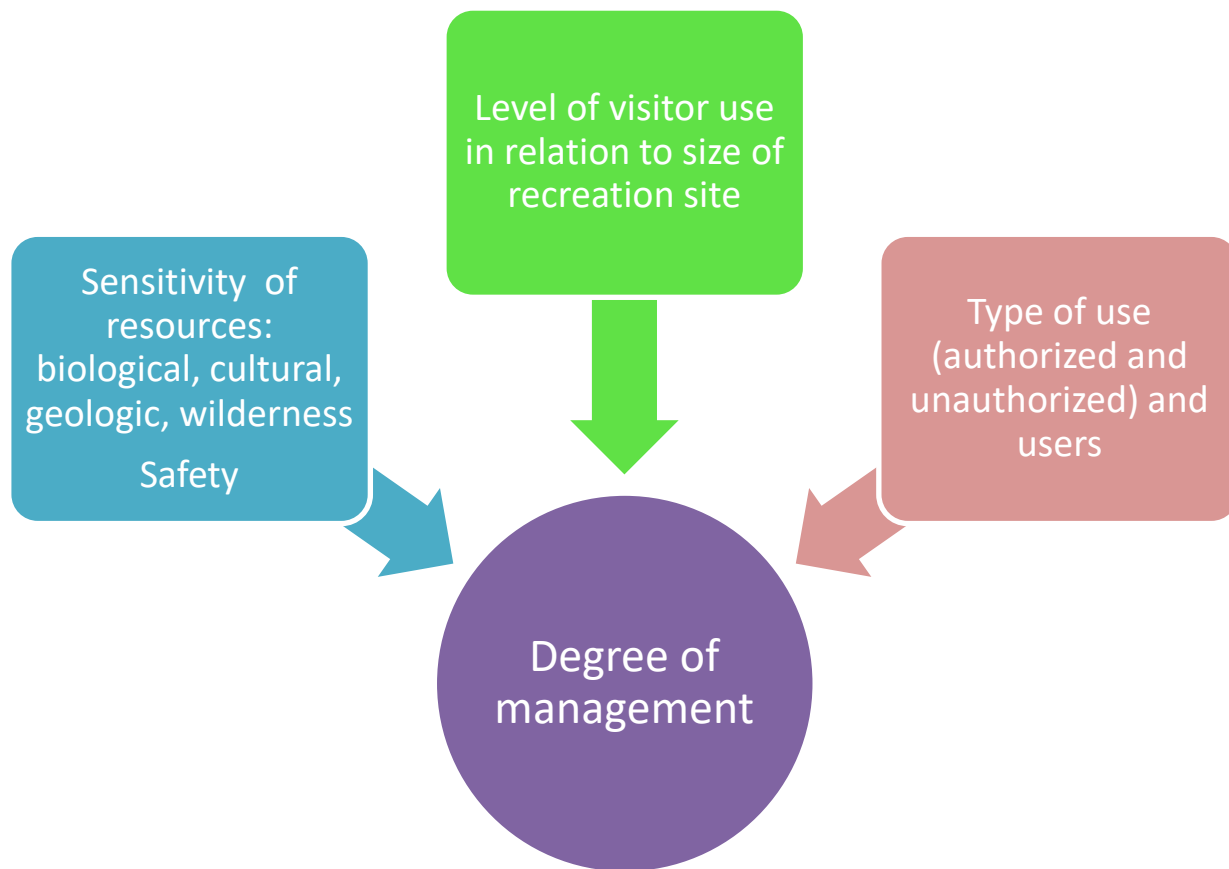


# Management Framework

- Prioritization and sensitive areas
- Zone development
- Adaptive management



# How to prioritize management?

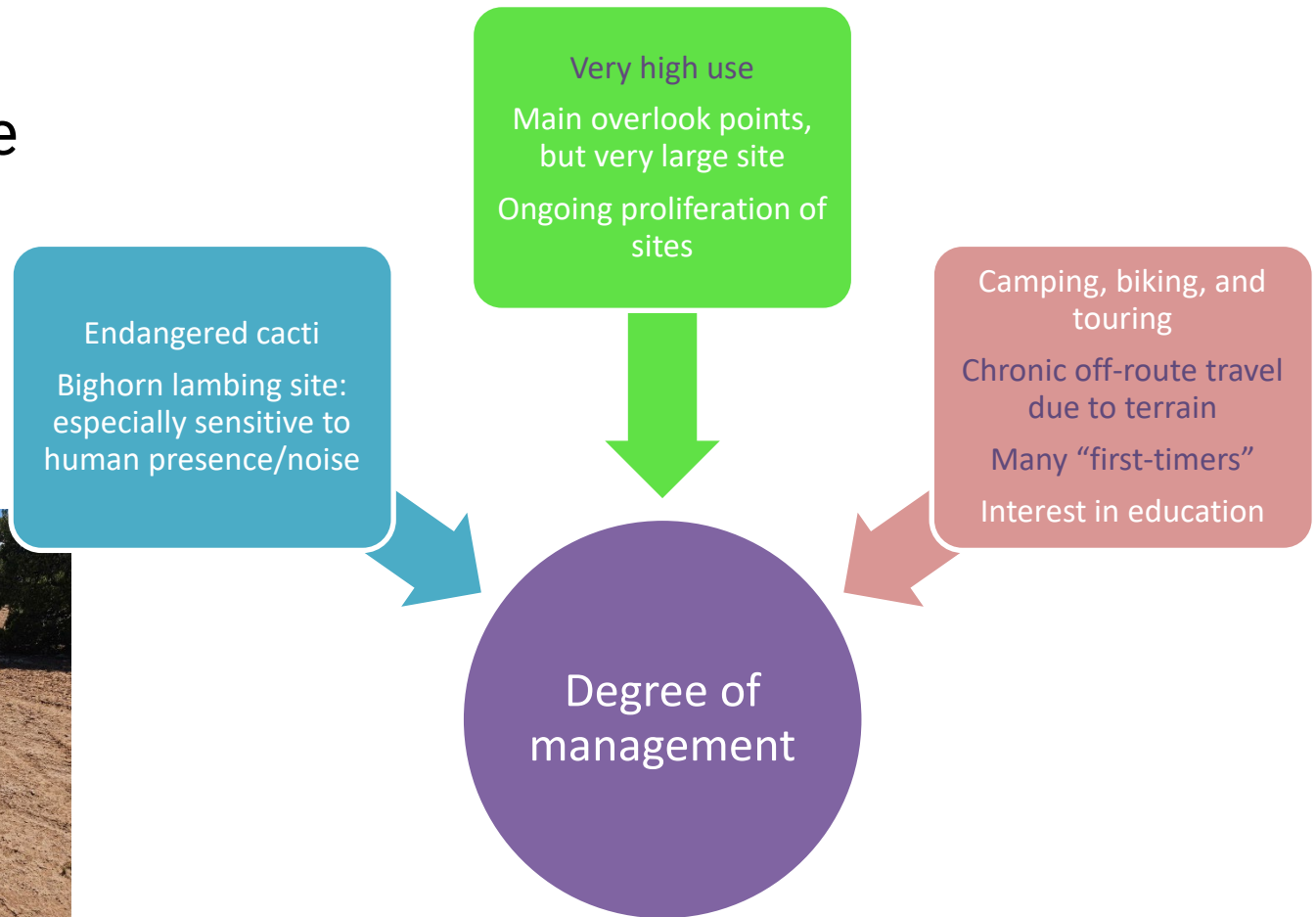






# How to prioritize management?

## High-risk: The Wedge





# How to prioritize management?

## Low-risk: Tomsich Butte



Bighorn sheep, MSO habitat  
Cultural and historic sites  
Uranium mines

Lower use (data pending)  
Physically confined, more natural barriers  
Highest use is seasonal with time for recovery

Camping, wilderness hiking (no trails), boating  
Remote, no amenities

Degree of management



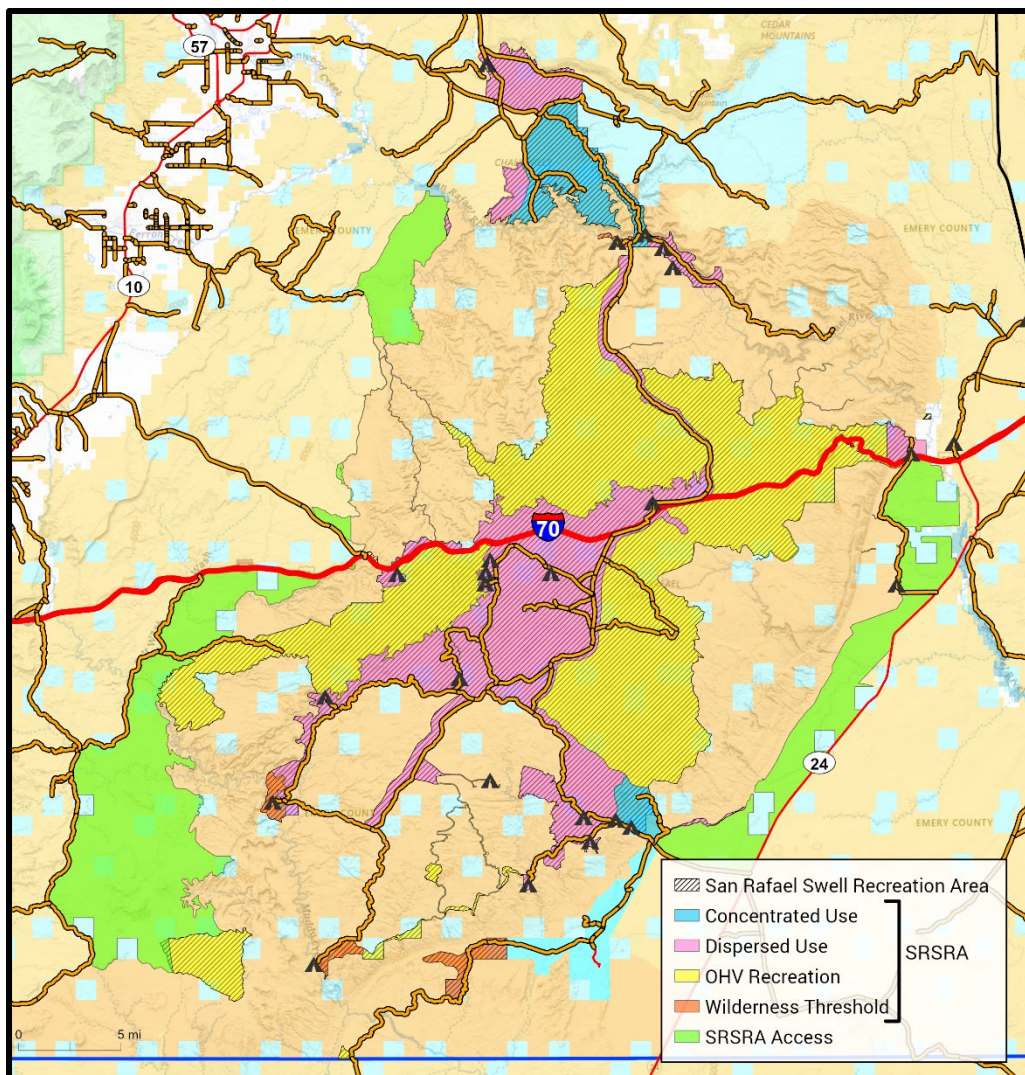


# Zone Development

- Type and level of use
- Resource sensitivity/risk
- Visitor desired experiences and outcomes



# Zone Development

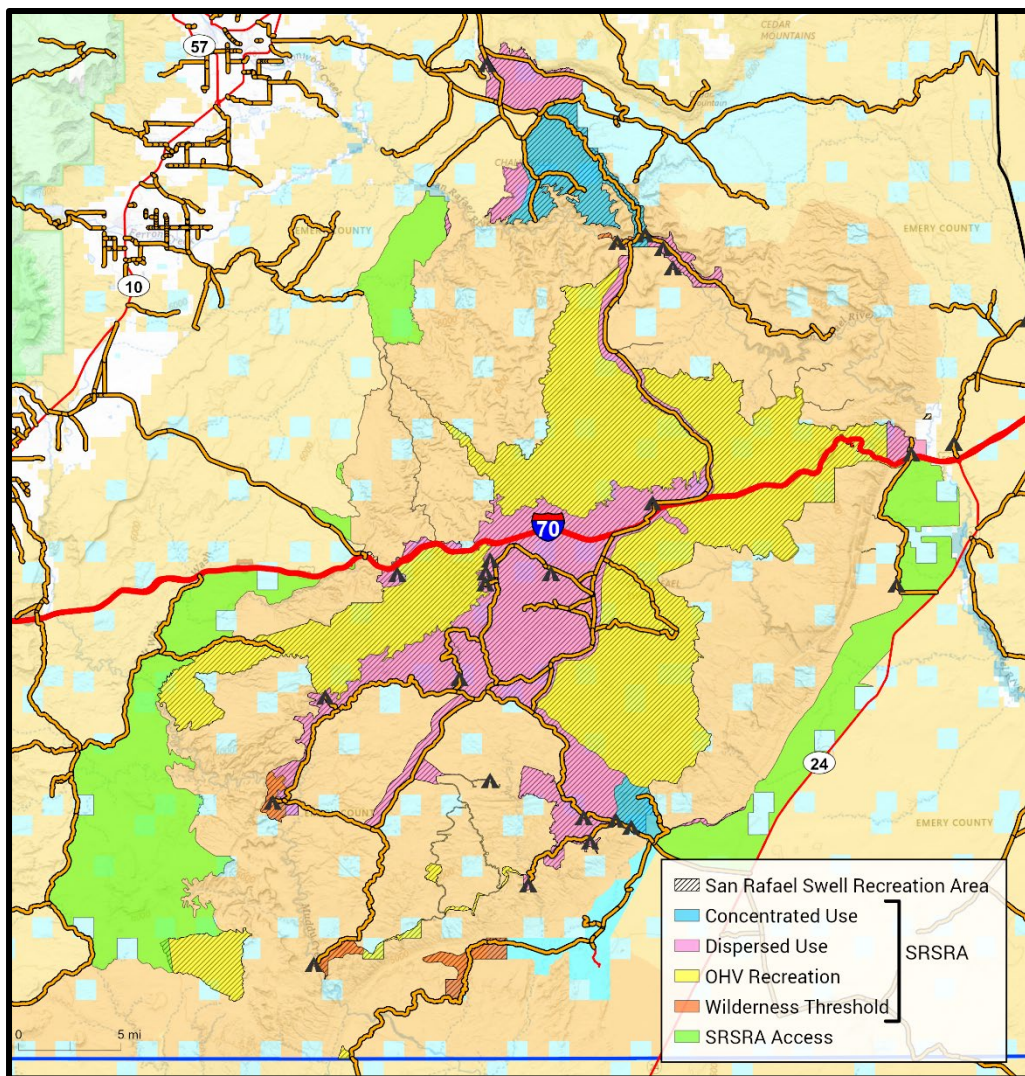


Concentrated use:  
centers of current  
RMZs. Account for ?%  
of visitation to the  
SRSRA; all have  
sensitive resources as  
well which are  
compromised by the  
high level of visitation.





# Zone Development



Concentrated use

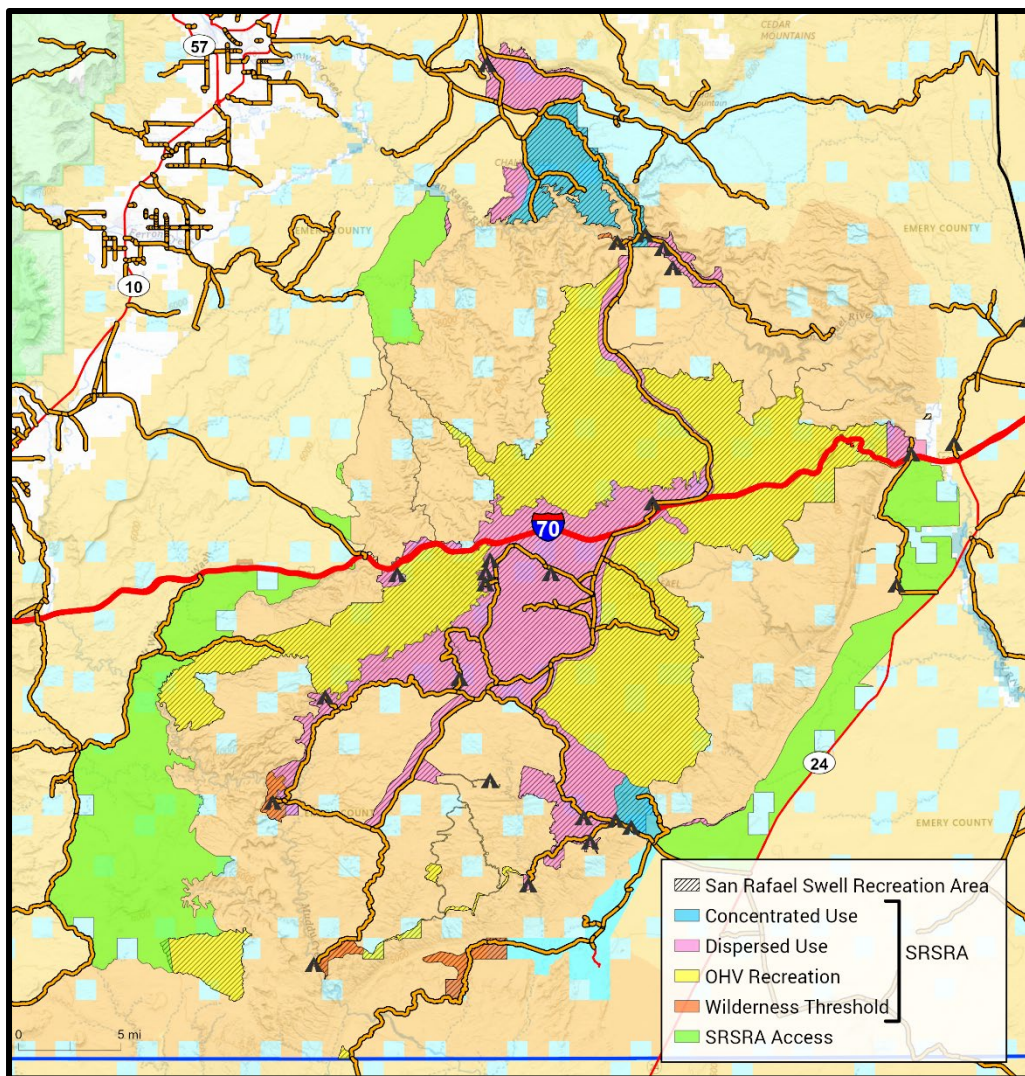


Dispersed use: accessible by County B roads, currently have some of our largest camping impacts. Opportunity to facilitate free recreation with fewer regulations, but some may still be needed. Harder to maintain agency presence.





# Zone Development



Concentrated use



Dispersed use

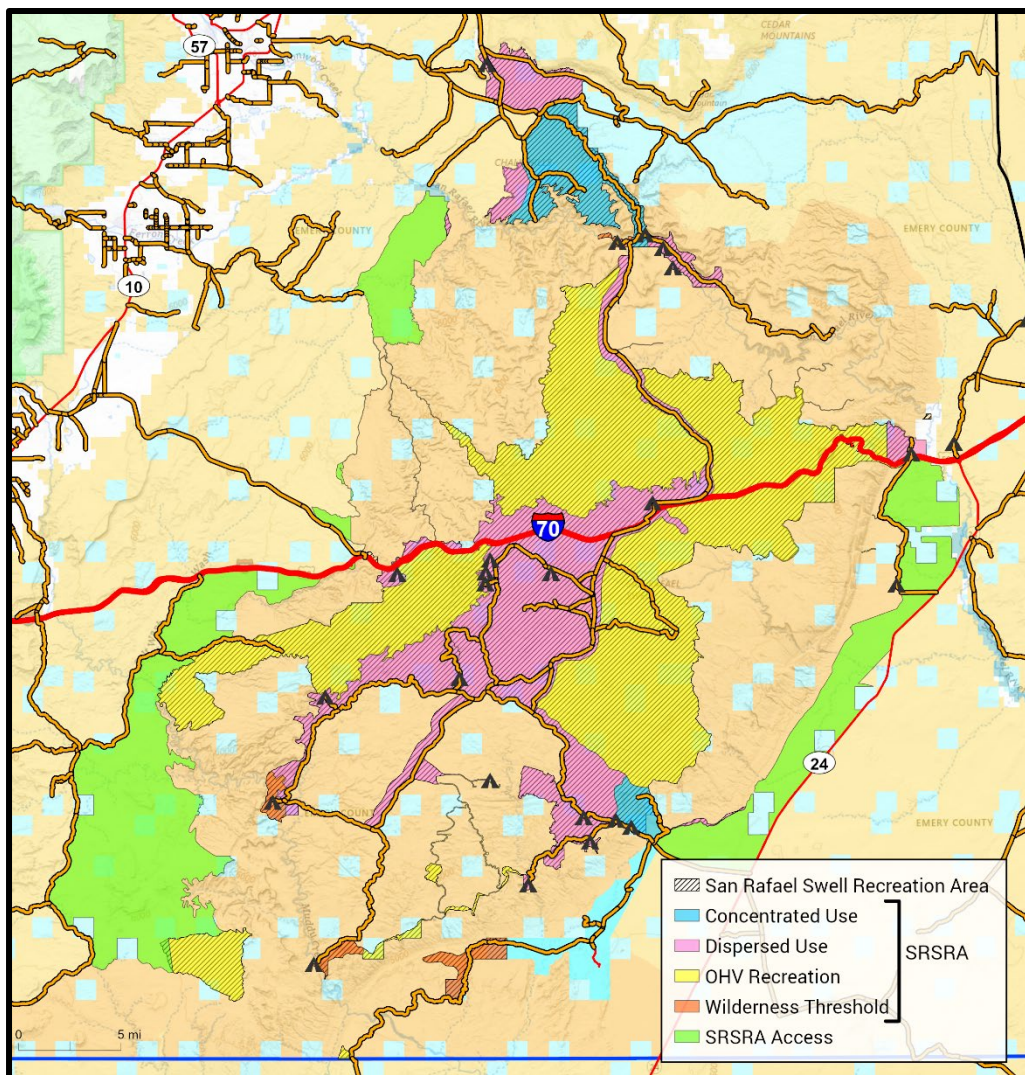


Motorized backcountry:  
maximum vehicle access,  
many areas are mostly  
day use (recreational  
trails). Fewer camping-  
related restrictions with  
more opportunities for  
education (patrols,  
trailheads).





# Zone Development



Concentrated use



Dispersed use



Motorized backcountry

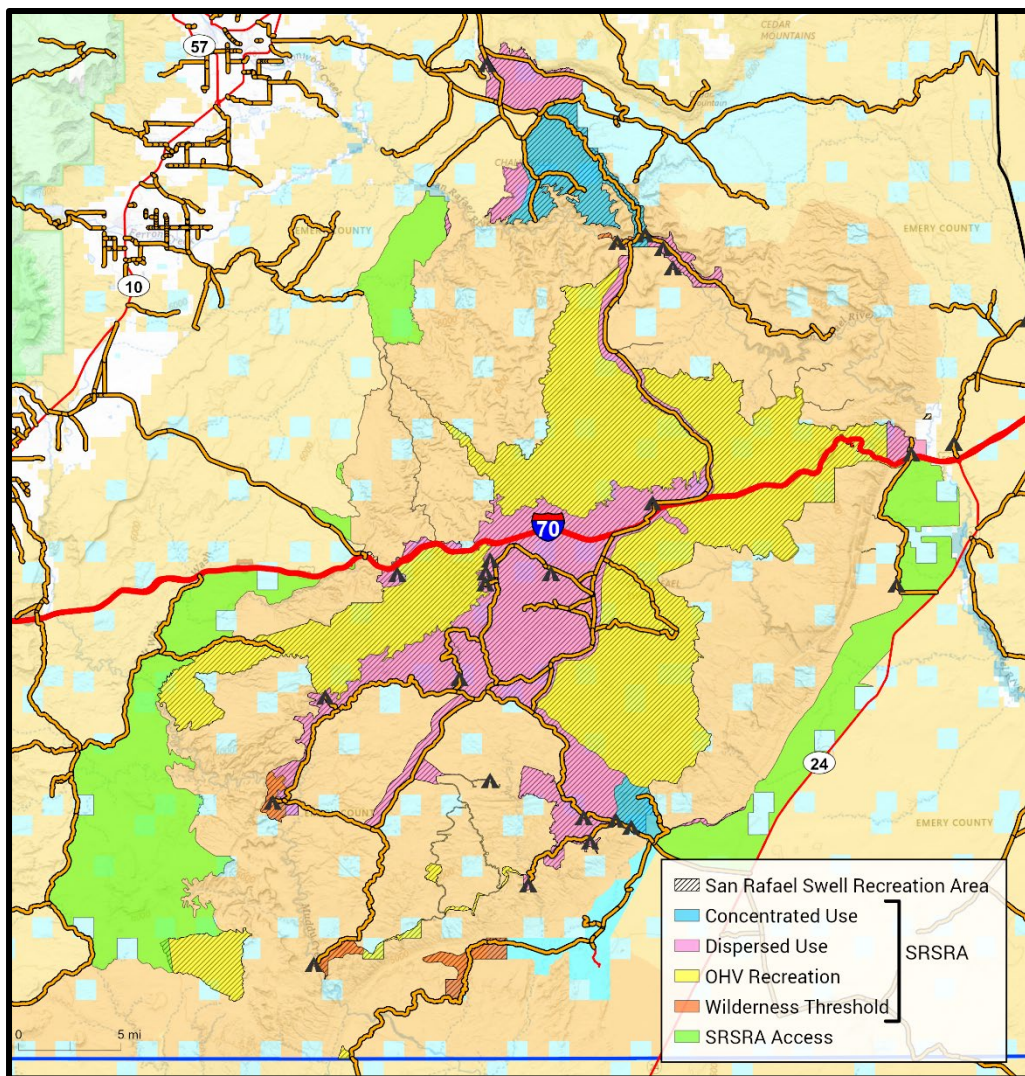


Wilderness threshold:  
key wilderness access  
points, mostly utilized as  
trailheads or most  
primitive campsites.  
More sensitive resources  
(riparian zones), high-  
use trailheads may need  
camping restrictions.





# Zone Development



Concentrated use



Dispersed use



Motorized backcountry



Wilderness threshold

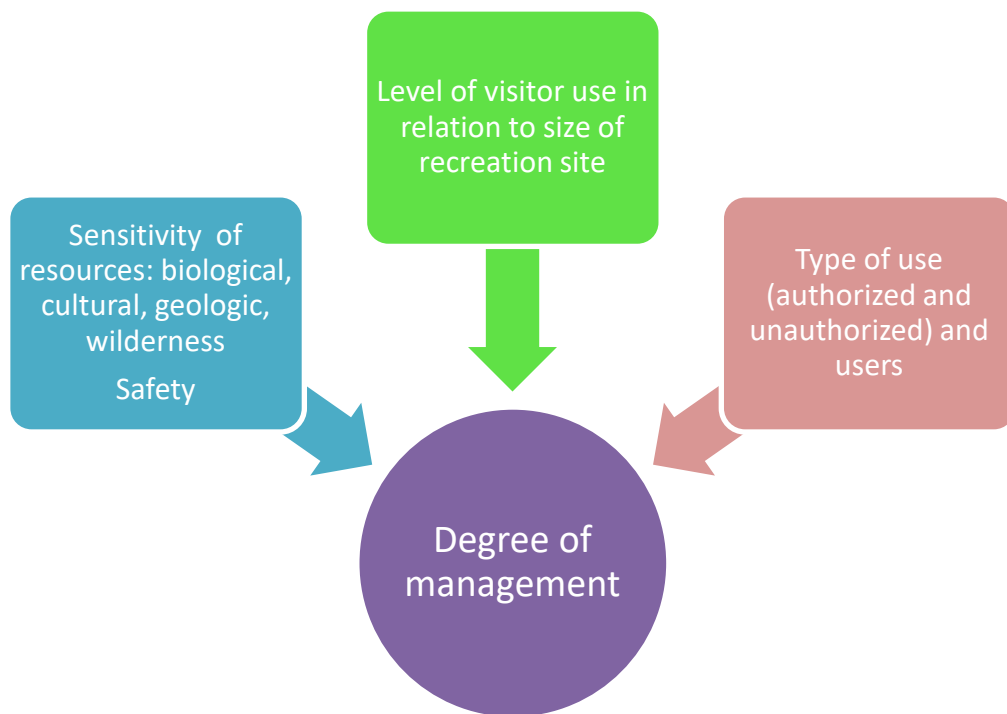


SRSRA Access: provide key access to the Swell (recreation area and wilderness). Management should be consistent as visitors may not know boundaries.





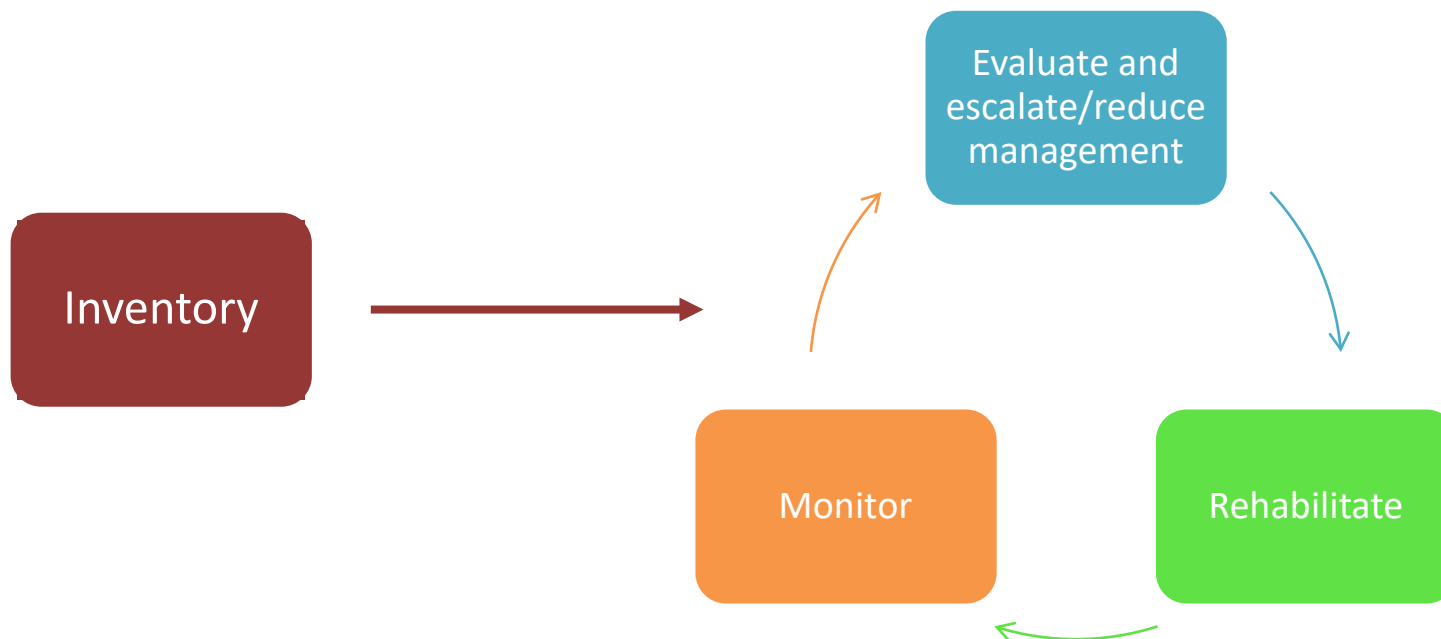
# Zone development



Zones can change based on the resources present and site-by-site human impact concerns (e.g., some wilderness threshold areas are purple/dispersed use)



# Adaptive management

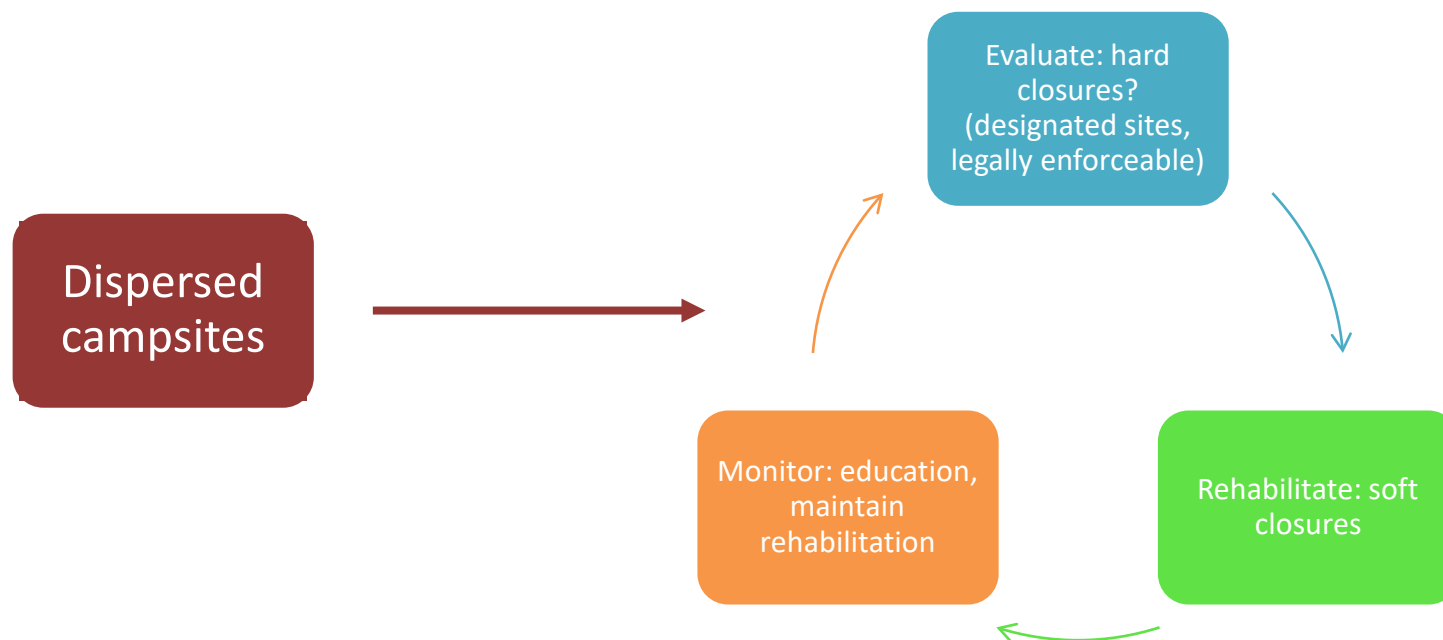


Identifying benchmarks  
where we may need to  
change approaches will  
allow greatest flexibility





# Adaptive management



Example: camping  
management



# Example: Temple Mountain

- Geographic level of management: entire rec area, zones, site-specific
- Types of management and realistic implementation



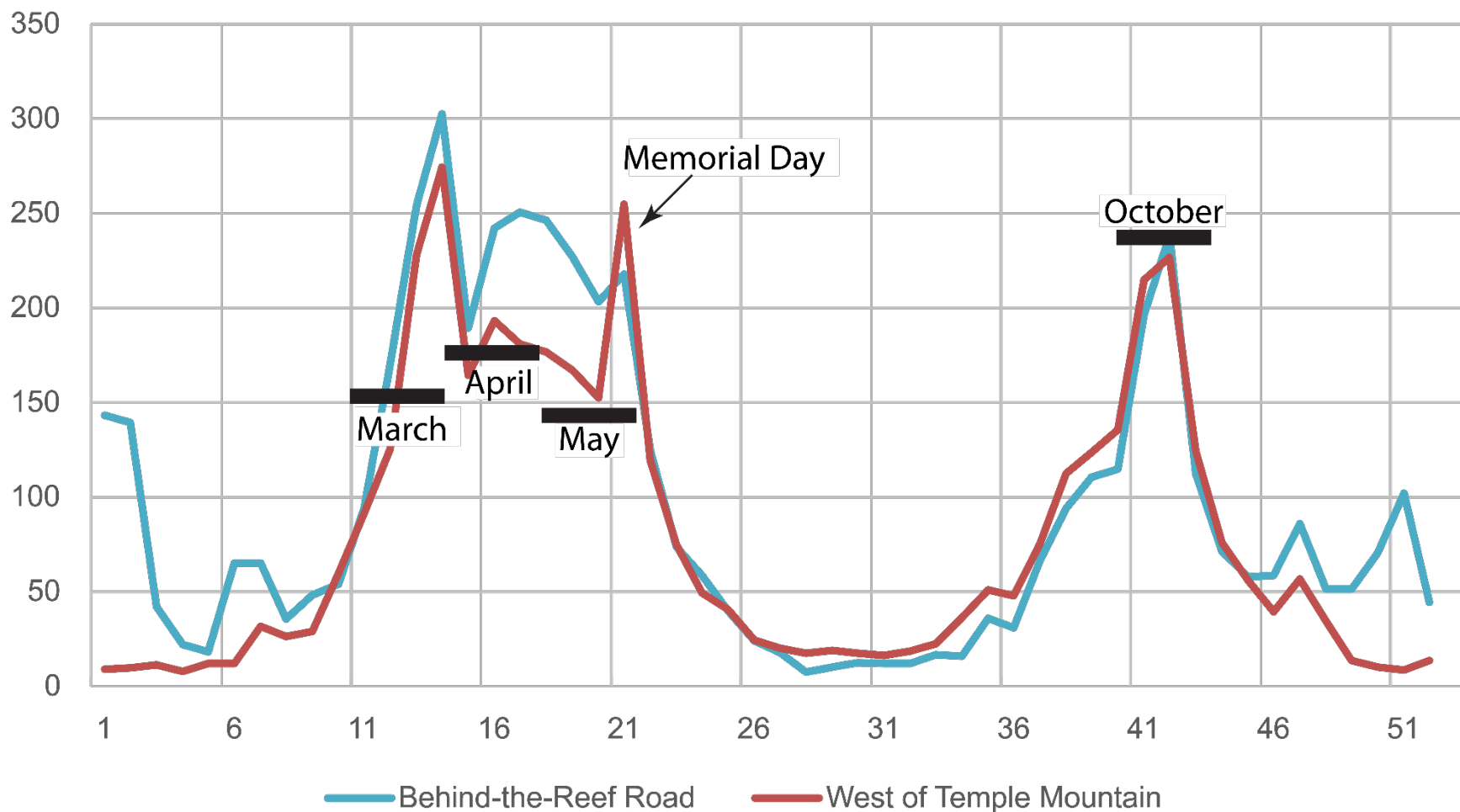


# Camping in the Temple Mountain Area

- Developed: Goblin Valley State Park, Temple Mountain Townsite, South Temple Wash
- Dispersed: Around the townsite, Wild Horse Canyon, various roadside,



## Temple Mountain Weekly Average Traffic, 2018 - 2024



Peak weekly traffic: 250-300 vehicles/150-250 parties

High use season weekly traffic: 150-250 vehicles/100-200 parties





# Behind-the-Reef Road camping capacity

**Wild Horse Canyon:**  
capacity for 25-30+  
vehicles

**Crack Canyon: 6**

**Chute Canyon: 4**

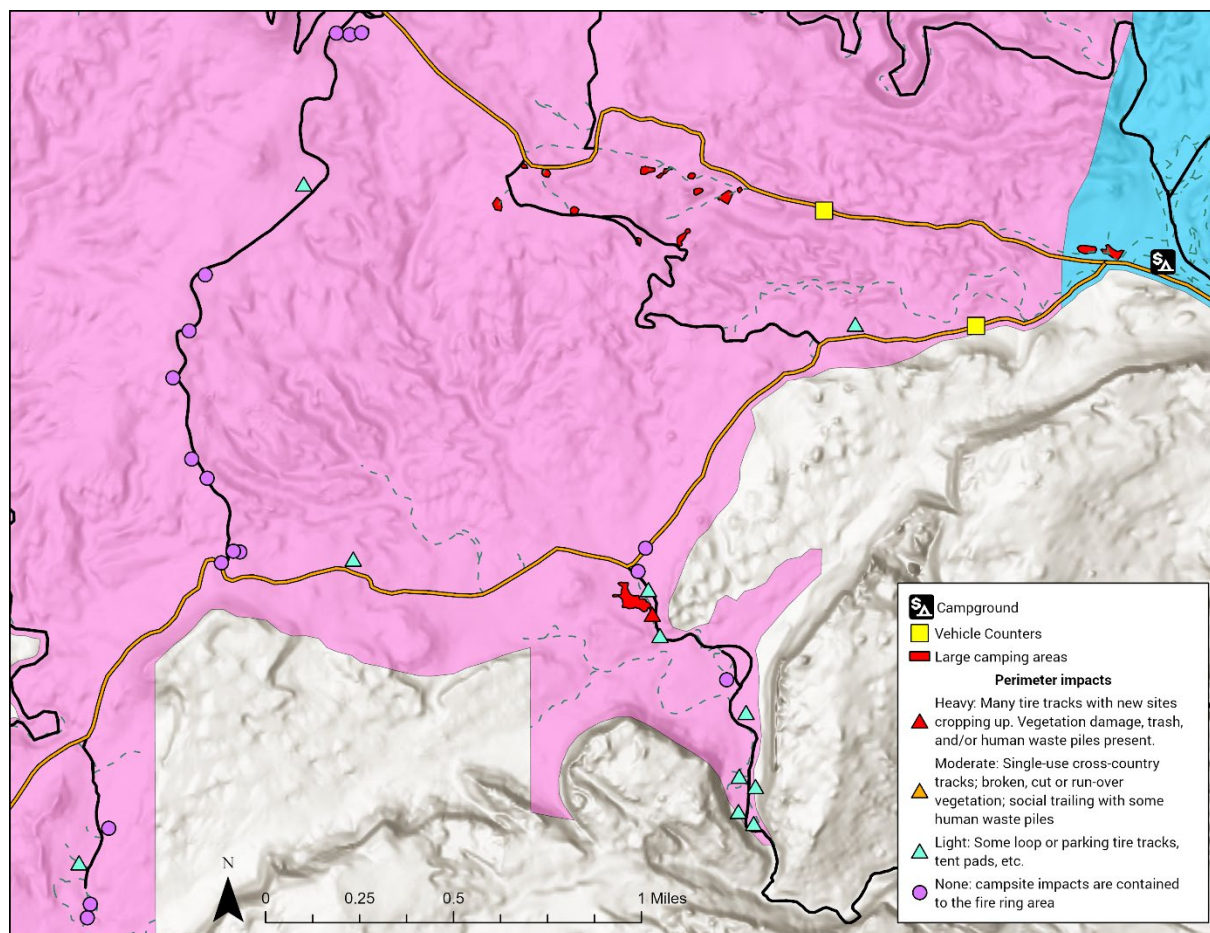
**BLM 850 (lower): 9**

**BTR Road: 9**

**Total: 50-60 vehicles**

Total of 31 defined  
campsites and a 2-acre  
area (3-6+)

**BTR Counter: 200-250  
vehicles** during high-use  
season, including day use  
(e.g., BTR trail group  
rides, hikers, campers  
driving to other areas)

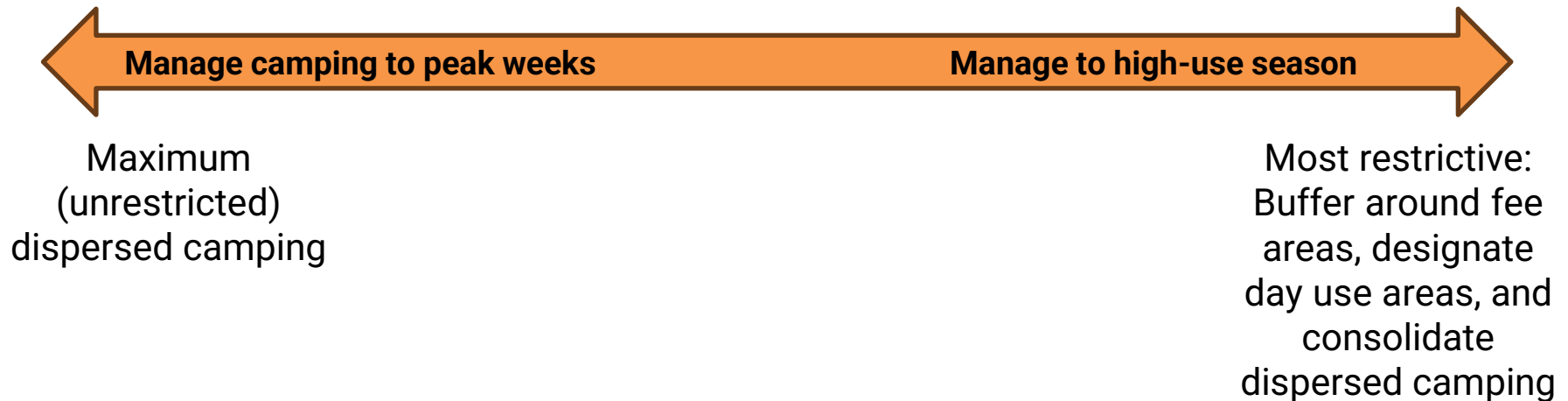




# Spectrum of management options

Close some/open some

- Inform visitors of other recreation sites
- Designate sites, but scatter throughout the area to spread out use
- Allow campsites “recovery periods”: some sites only designated during high-use windows





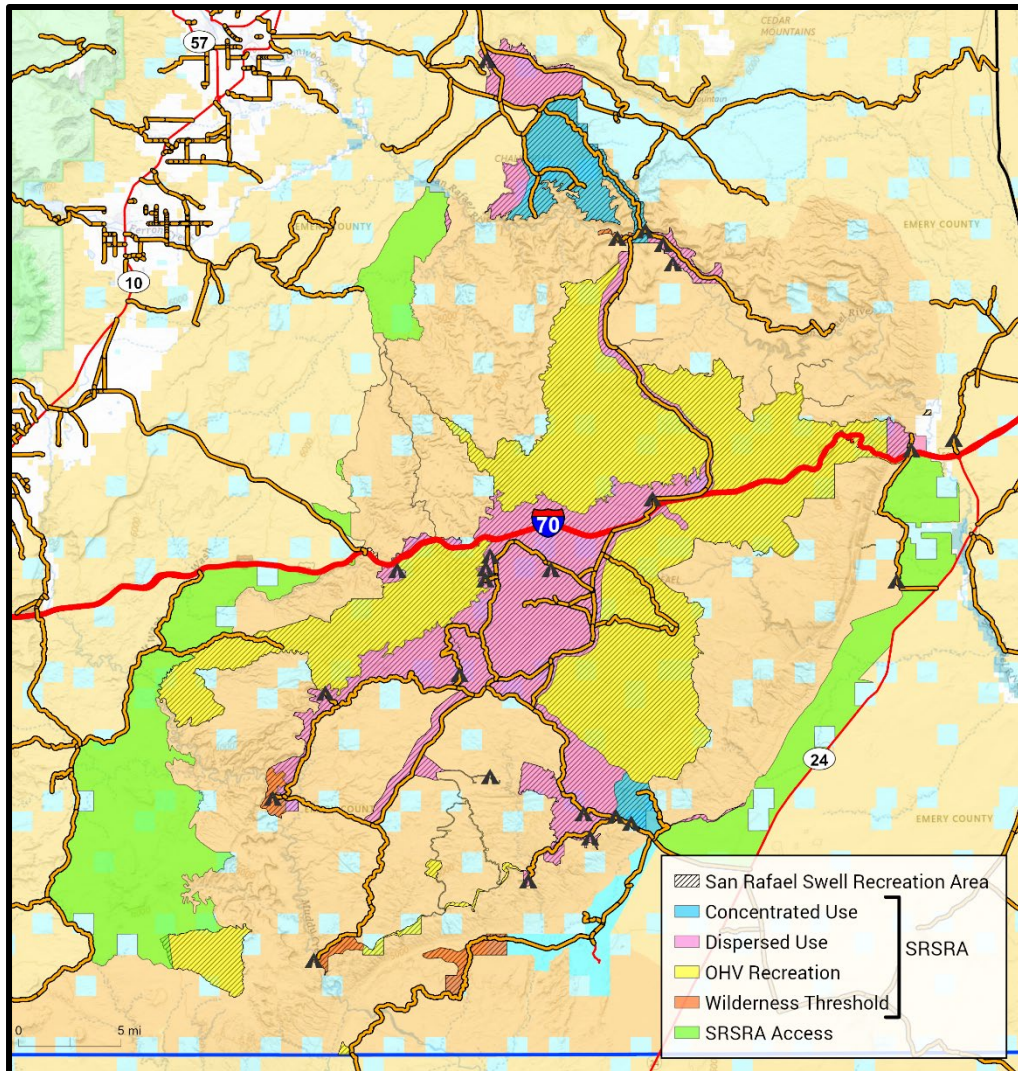


# Open discussion points

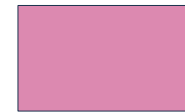
- Thoughts on campsite inventory? Additions?
- What does minimum management look like?  
Zones are one approach—changes or other tactics?
- Developing a plan that we can feasibly implement
- Supplemental rules: what rules should be legally enforceable and where do they apply?  
What uses are acceptable in each zone?



# Potential Management Zones



Concentrated use



Dispersed use



Motorized backcountry



Wilderness threshold



SRSRA Access





U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Alternatives Development







# How are alternatives developed?

- Analysis of the Management Situation
- Public Scoping comments
- Identify themes that focus on resolving anticipated issues and reflect the preliminary planning criteria
- Interdisciplinary workshops to formulate or refine alternatives
- RAAC recommendations
- Cooperator input

Some alternatives are just for clarification and to bring in the Dingell Act designation  
For instance:

- Motorized vehicles permitted only on designated motorized routes, No new roads
- Livestock Grazing will continue if established before March 2019
- Withdrawals (entry, appropriation, disposal, location, entry, and patent, and leasing).

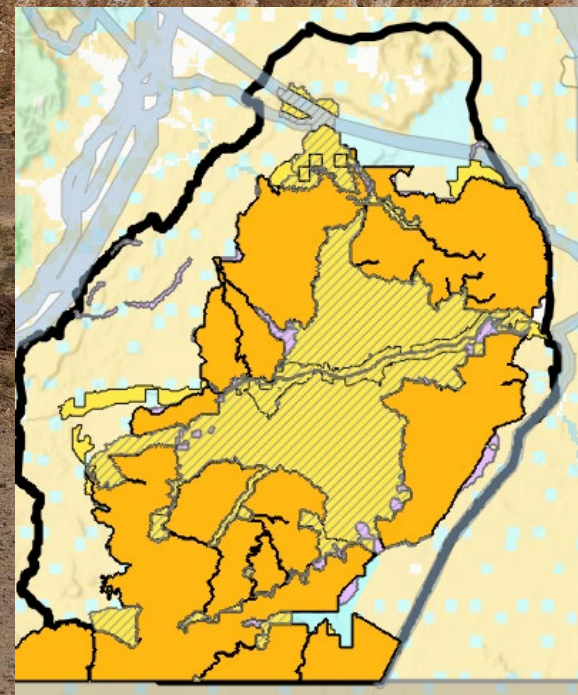
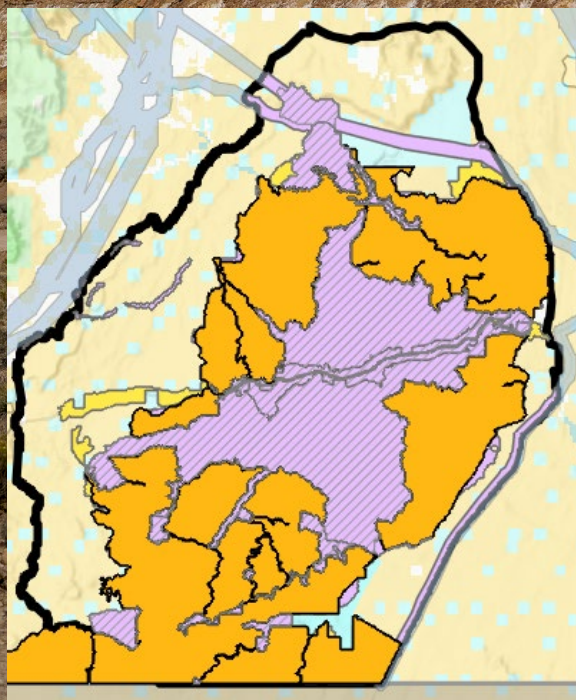
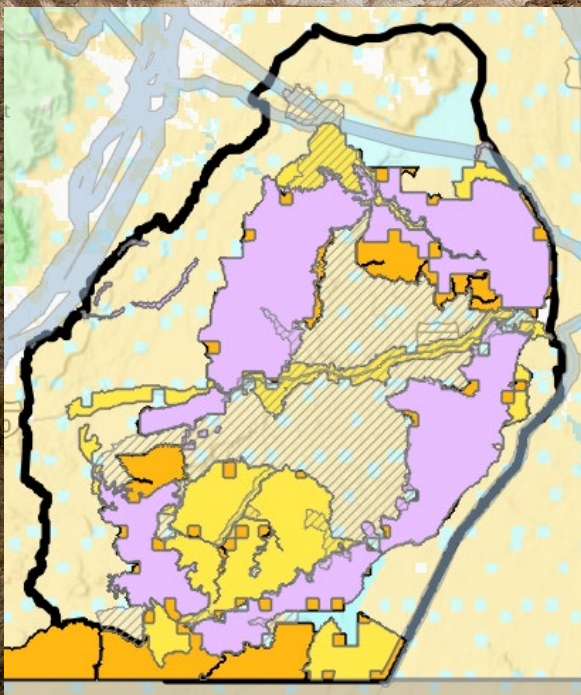
These will not differ between alternatives (except for the No Action).





# Preliminary alternatives

Resource	Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Most Management	Alternative C - Balanced Management	Alternative D - Least Management
<b>ROWs</b> <a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Rights-of-Way/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Rights-of-Way/</a>	Maintain current avoidance exclusion utility corridor	Make all of the Recreation Area exclusion except for ROWs for public health and safety and the utility corridor. No new utility corridors.	Make all of the Recreation Area avoidance. Exclusion for all utility scale renewable energy. Keep utility corridor. No new utility corridors.	Same as Alternative C

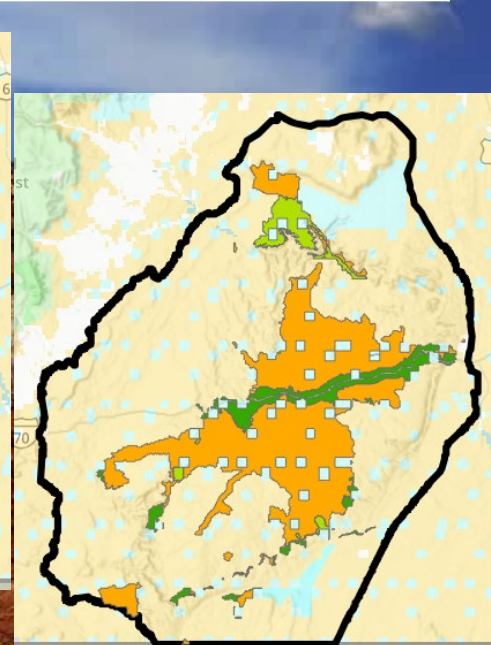
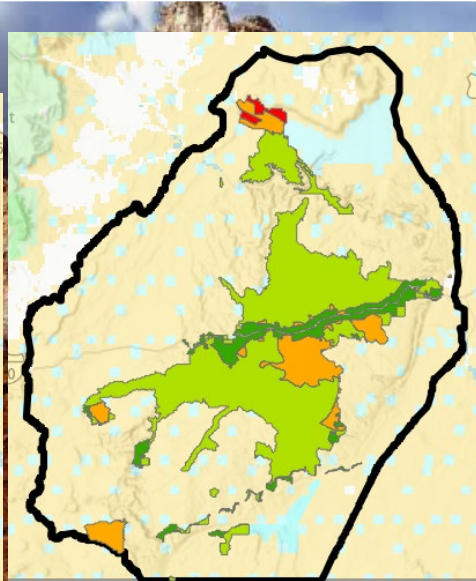
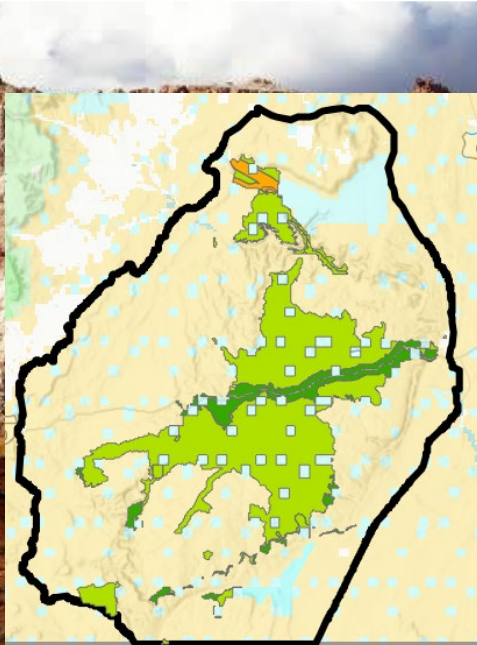
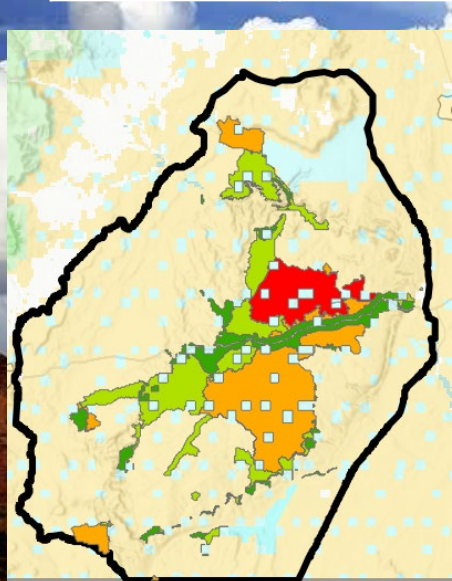






## Preliminary alternatives

Resource	No Action	Most Management	Balanced Management	Least Management
<b>Visual Resource Management</b> <a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Visual-Resource-Management/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Visual-Resource-Management/</a>	Maintain current VRM	Make all of the Recreation Area VRM II except utility corridor and ACECs will stay the same.	Follow visual resource inventory to designate classes.	Make all of the Recreation Area VRM III except utility corridor and ACECs will stay the same.

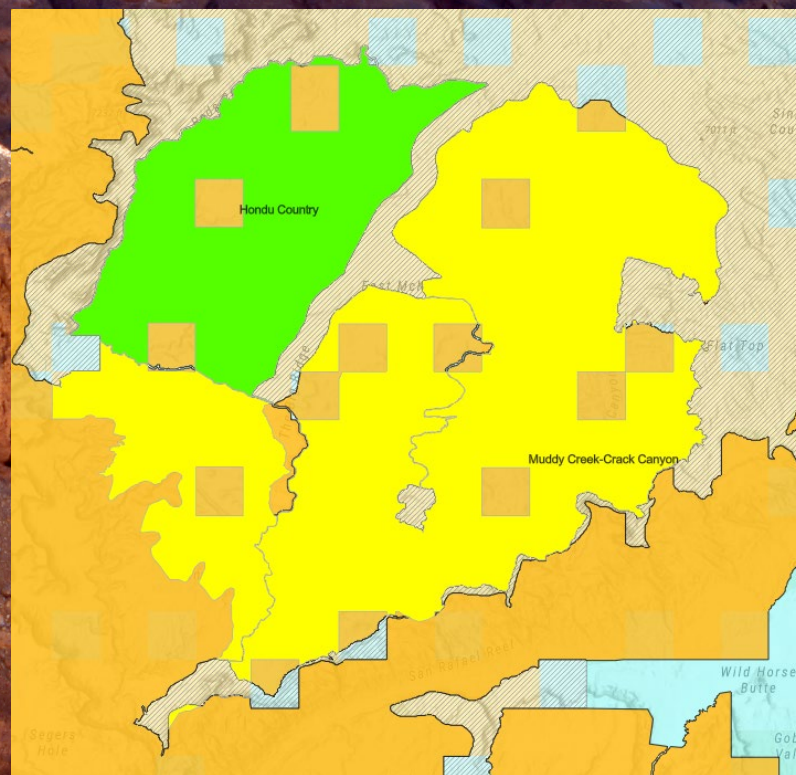
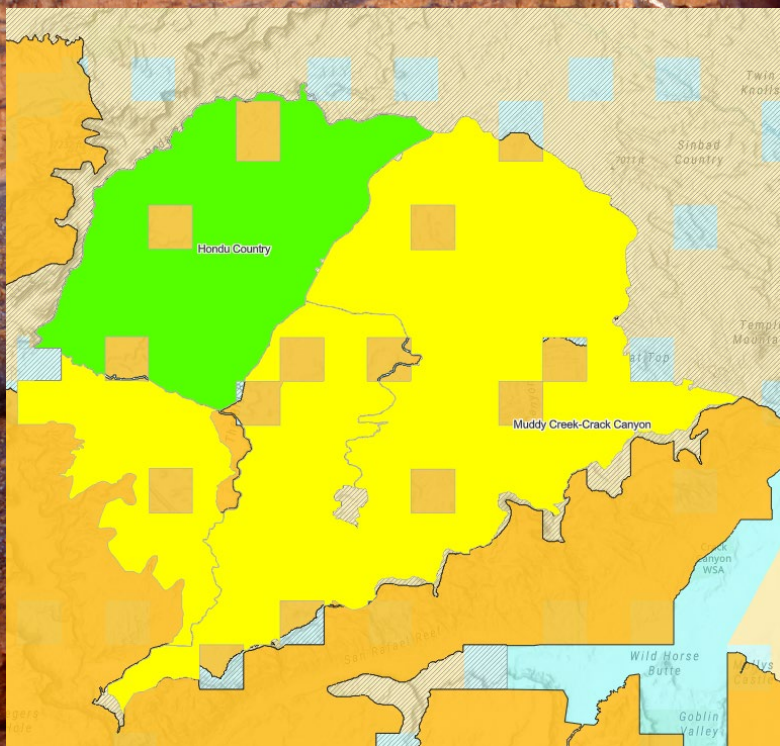






# Preliminary alternatives

Resource	No Action	Most Management	Balanced Management	Least Management
<b>Natural Areas</b> <a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Natural-Areas/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/Natural-Areas/</a>	Same as in 2008 RMP	Same as No Action	Remove the portions of natural areas that overlap the Recreation Area	Same as Alternative C





Resource	Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Most Management	Alternative C - Balanced Management	Alternative D - Least Management
Filming	Permit commercial filming on a case-by-case basis subject to a NEPA process	<p>Minimum-impact filming criteria: Filming would be allowed if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It would not adversely impact sensitive habitat or species, American Indian sacred site(s), or National Register– eligible sites.</li><li>• Would not involve the use of pyrotechnics more than a campfire in an appropriate setting and not involve explosives.</li><li>• The project, if it involves the use of livestock or exotic animal species, would provide certified weed-free feed for those animals and would include provisions for containment and/or capture of animals.</li><li>• It would not involve extensive restriction of public access.</li><li>• Limited filming would be allowed in areas with the following sensitive resources, can be avoided, mitigated, or reclaimed:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Historic, cultural, or paleontological sites, American Indian sacred sites</li><li>- Sensitive soils</li><li>- Sensitive species or habitat, wildlife habitat</li><li>- Relict environments</li><li>- Wetlands, floodplains, or riparian areas</li><li>- Water quality</li><li>- ACECs</li><li>- Wilderness</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Same as Alternative B and could add:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of heavy equipment would be allowed, provided that any resource damage can be avoided, mitigated, or reclaimed.</li><li>• Filming would be allowed in all areas, provided impacts to land, air, or water can be avoided, mitigated, or reclaimed and all regulatory requirements can be met.</li></ul>	Same as No Action





Resource	Alternative A - No Action -	Alternative B - Most Management	Alternative C - Balanced Management	Alternative D - Least Management
Group sizes/ SRPs	<p>All organized groups of more than 24 people will be required to contact the BLM; BLM's determination that a permit is not required will be documented in a Letter of Agreement. Criteria used to determine whether an SRP is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is the use appropriate to the site?</li><li>• Does the activity further recreation program goals and objectives?</li><li>• Is monitoring needed?</li><li>• Health and Safety Concerns?</li><li>• Bonding desirable to cover reclamation, damage to government property or resources?</li><li>• Insurance desirable to protect the U.S. Government from claims by group participants or third parties?</li><li>• Special services required, such as law enforcement, fire protection, exclusive use of public lands, reserved sites?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Should competitive OHV events and vending use be allowed?</li></ul> <p>Possible Criteria for Requiring an SRP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any commercial use.</li><li>• Non-mechanized group size limits for day use - XX amount of people</li><li>• Non-mechanized group size limits for overnight use – XX amount of people</li><li>• More than XX motorized vehicles/OHVs on designated routes (does not include County B roads or state and federal highways).</li><li>• Car camping with up to XX vehicles or more than XX people.</li><li>• Group events with the potential for user conflict.</li><li>• Any individual use that might impact purposes of the Recreation Area.</li></ul>	<p>Criteria for requiring an SRP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any commercial use or competitive events.</li><li>• Non-mechanized group size limits for day use - XX amount of people</li><li>• Non-mechanized group size limits for overnight use – XX amount of people</li><li>• More than XX motorized vehicles/OHVs on designated routes (does not include County B roads or state and federal highways).</li><li>• Car camping with up to XX vehicles or more than XX people.</li><li>• Group events with the potential for user conflict.</li><li>• Any individual use that might impact purposes of the Recreation Area. If needed, SRP thresholds would be developed in the implementation-level plan.</li></ul>	<p>Criteria for requiring an SRP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any commercial use or competitive events.</li><li>• More than XX non-motorized mechanized vehicles on designated routes (does not include County B roads or state and federal highways).</li><li>• Car camping with more than XX vehicles or more than XX people.</li><li>• Activities or events with the potential to conflict with existing resource management guidelines/prescriptions.</li><li>• Events with the potential for user conflict.</li><li>• Events that could impact public health and safety.</li></ul>



Resource	Alternative A - No Action -	Active/pending/past SRPs and inquiries received	Alternative B - Most Management	Alternative C - Balanced Management	Alternative D - Least Management
SRPs	No Restrictions on SRP Types	<p>OHV guiding and instruction</p> <p>OHV group rides and events*</p> <p>Competitive shooting</p> <p>Photography instruction</p> <p>Wilderness therapy</p> <p>Hunting</p> <p>Hiking</p> <p>Running races (road)</p> <p>Gravel bikepacking (county B roads)</p> <p>Mountain biking/bikepacking</p> <p>Camping</p> <p>Horseback riding (mostly wilderness, but stages in SRSRA)</p> <p>Rock climbing</p> <p>Canyoneering</p> <p>Helicopter tour landings</p> <p>Cultural site touring/general sightseeing</p> <p>Small music festival (Buckhorn)</p> <p>Small music festival (low-use area)</p> <p>Large festivals (low-use area)</p> <p>Very large festival (anywhere)</p> <p>Weddings</p> <p>Helicopter shuttles for nonmotorized recreation</p> <p>Rockhounding</p> <p>Rappelling off the Wedge</p> <p>Yurt (technically realty)</p> <p>Long-term caching of supplies to support other operations (base camp)</p>	The following SRP types will not be allowed in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area:	The following SRP types will not be allowed in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area:	The following SRP types will not be allowed in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area:





Resource	Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Most Management	Alternative C - Balanced Management	Alternative D - Least Management
Night skies	RMP is silent on this	Based BLM Technical Memo 457 (Night Sky and Dark Environments: BMPs for Artificial Light at Night on BLM-Managed Lands), strategies to reduce light pollution would be applied for all alternatives during planning and design of projects (or other management actions) resulting in protection of San Rafael Swell Recreation Area dark night skies.	Same in all alts	Same in all alts
Recreational Target Shooting	RMP is silent on this	No recreational target shooting within established campgrounds and in the Buckhorn Wash, Temple Mountain, and the Wedge.	Same as Alternative B	No restrictions on recreational target shooting
Public Lands Rule	Not in place in 2008	Protect the most intact, functioning landscapes Restore degraded habitat and ecosystems Use science and data, including Indigenous Knowledge, as the foundation for management decisions	?	?



Resource	No Action	Most Management	Balanced Management	Least Management
SRMA/RMZs	No change to 2008 RMP	Keep the SRMA and RMZs, could modify those areas	Create zones (5) – Concentrated Use, Dispersed Use, OHV/Recreation (Motorized Backcountry), Wilderness Threshold (Wilderness Access), Rec Area Access RSCs?	Remove SRMA and RMZs, Education and minimal visitor services
Wildlife/Plants/Cultural	No change	Add adaptive management – Surveys, monitoring, collaboration with other agencies/entities  Allocations for cultural sites	Is there appropriate management decisions to incorporate into the Recreation zones for these sensitive resources	No change to RMP Decisions







Resource	No Action	Most Management	Balanced Management	Least Management
<b>ACECs</b> <a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/ACEC/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c723d116191049019959b82b0d299674/page/ACEC/</a>	Same as in 2008 RMP	Keep all ACECs	Refine boundaries to only protect the relevant and important values. Look at management decisions and evaluate if there is more needed or need to be brought into conformance.	Remove all ACECs that overlap the Recreation Area.

