

**To:** Ginn, Allison[aginn@blm.gov]  
**From:** Ashcroft, Tyler  
**Sent:** 2017-06-15T15:04:07-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: existing management  
**Received:** 2017-06-15T15:04:15-04:00  
2008 Monticello RMP Designations in BENM- with text descriptions.docx

My additions- text descriptions. Also located here.  
R:\UT 934\NLCS\National Monuments and NCAs\Bears Ears\Briefings , issue papers, memos,  
etc\DOI Monuments Data Request

On Thu, Jun 15, 2017 at 12:17 PM, Ginn, Allison <aginn@blm.gov> wrote:

Just in case you didn't get this...

Regards,

Allison Ginn  
National Conservation Lands Program Lead  
BLM Utah State Office  
801-539-4053

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Jarnecke, Pamela <pjarnecke@blm.gov>  
**Date:** Thu, Jun 15, 2017 at 12:16 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: existing management  
**To:** Aaron Curtis <acurtis@blm.gov>, Allison Ginn <aginn@blm.gov>

I was remiss in not sending this to you earlier. I was given one hour to put this together for the monument review so it isn't stellar but wanted you to have the complete package of docs that WO400 has at their disposal.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Jarnecke, Pamela <pjarnecke@blm.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 4:08 PM  
**Subject:** existing management  
**To:** Abbie Jossie <ajossie@blm.gov>

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Pam Jarnecke  
Branch Chief - Planning and Environmental Coordination  
Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office  
(801) 539-4066

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Pam Jarnecke  
Branch Chief - Planning and Environmental Coordination  
Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office  
(801) 539-4066

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Tyler Ashcroft  
Project Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
(801)-539-4068

## 2008 Monticello RMP Designations within Bears Ears National Monument

ACECs	Purpose of Designation (R&I value(s))	Special Management
Valley of the Gods	Scenic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managed as VRM* Class I.</li> <li>• Unavailable for mineral leasing.</li> <li>• Closed to the disposal of mineral materials.</li> <li>• Available for mineral entry with an approved plan of operations.</li> <li>• Available for vegetation treatments when consistent with VRM Class 1.</li> <li>• Unavailable for private and/or commercial use of woodland products.</li> <li>• The BLM will pursue acquisition of state in holdings in this ACEC.</li> <li>• OHV use limited to designated roads and trails</li> <li>• ROW exclusion area.</li> <li>• No campfires allowed.</li> </ul>
Lavender Mesa (mesa top only)	Relict Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managed to provide a baseline for rangeland studies through research and experiments.</li> <li>• Excluded from land treatments or other improvements, except for test plots and facilities necessary for study of the plant communities, and restoration/reclamation activities.</li> <li>• Managed as NSO for oil and gas leasing.</li> <li>• Closed to disposal of mineral materials</li> <li>• Available for locatable mineral entry with an approved plan of operations, subject to stipulations protecting vegetation on the mesa top.</li> <li>• No campfires allowed.</li> <li>• Managed to limit recreation use if vegetation communities are being adversely impacted.</li> <li>• Geophysical exploration allowed if it does not adversely impact vegetation communities.</li> <li>• Managed as VRM Class II.</li> <li>• Helicopter access allowed for scientific study and heliportable equipment.</li> <li>• ROW avoidance area.</li> <li>• Retained in public ownership.</li> <li>• Excluded from private or commercial use of woodland products, including limited on site collection of dead wood for campfires.</li> <li>• Unavailable for livestock grazing, including grazing by saddle stock and pack animals allowed for access.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excluded from wildlife habitat improvements.</li> <li>• Excluded from watershed control structures.</li> <li>• Appropriate management response to wildland fire in accordance with the Moab District Fire Plan.</li> <li>• Closed to OHV use.</li> <li>• Managed to limit recreation use if cultural resources or scenic values are being damaged.</li> </ul>
Shay Canyon	Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OHV and mechanized travel limited to designated routes.</li> <li>• No surface disturbance for vegetation, watershed, or wildlife treatments/improvements.</li> <li>• NSO for oil and gas.</li> <li>• Open to geophysical exploration as long as it is consistent with the objectives of the ACEC.</li> <li>• Grazing restricted to trailing only.</li> <li>• With the exception of side canyons, hiking limited to designated trails.</li> <li>• Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations to avoid impacts to cultural and paleontological resources.</li> <li>• Closed to disposal of mineral materials.</li> <li>• Campfires not allowed.</li> <li>• Unavailable for private or commercial use of woodland products including on site collection of dead wood for campfires.</li> <li>• Recreation use may be limited if cultural and paleontological resources are impacted.</li> <li>• Managed as VRM Class II.</li> <li>• Closed to camping.</li> <li>• ROW avoidance area.</li> <li>• A Cultural CRMP consistent with the goals and objectives of this RMP will be written for Shay Canyon ACEC and will not require a plan amendment to the RMP.</li> </ul>
San Juan River	Scenic, Cultural, Wildlife, and Natural systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle access, including OHVs/mechanized, limited to designated routes.</li> <li>• Unavailable for private and/or commercial use of woodland products except for limited on site collection of dead wood for campfires; woodland use within the floodplain will be</li> <li>• Limited to collection of driftwood for campfires.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available for livestock use October 1–May 31. Grazing must incorporate rest rotation and/or deferred management systems. Riparian areas must meet or exceed PFC to the extent affected by grazing.</li> <li>• Available for watershed, range, wildlife habitat improvements and vegetation treatments.</li> <li>• West Montezuma Creek to Private land managed as VRM Class II.</li> <li>• West of accreted land at Town of Bluff to River mile 9 managed as VRM Class III.</li> <li>• River mile 9 to river mile 23 (above Mexican Hat formation) managed as VRM Class I.</li> <li>• River mile 23.8 to river mile 28 managed as VRM Class III.</li> <li>• Available for oil and gas leasing subject to NSO.</li> <li>• Unavailable for mineral material disposal.</li> <li>• Recommended for withdrawal from locatable mineral entry.</li> <li>• Managed to limit recreation use if wildlife values are being adversely impacted.</li> <li>• Camping closed in areas as necessary to protect cultural, wildlife, and natural processes.</li> <li>• Designated access trails to cultural sites as necessary to protect cultural resources.</li> <li>• No camping in cultural sites.</li> <li>• Ropes and other climbing aids not allowed for access to ruins, cultural sites, and nesting raptors.</li> <li>• All areas intersected by the San Juan River SRMA are ROW avoidance areas.</li> <li>• Recreation management prescriptions identified under the San Juan River SRMA in the Recreation Section of this Chapter will also be followed and is consistent with the management outlined above.</li> </ul>
Indian Creek	Scenic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage as VRM Class I.</li> <li>• Available for mineral leasing subject to No Surface Occupancy (NSO).</li> <li>• Unavailable for disposal of mineral materials.</li> <li>• Available for geophysical work if VRM Class I can be met.</li> <li>• Unavailable for private and/or commercial use of woodland products, except for limited on site collection of dead wood for campfires.</li> <li>• Available for livestock use.</li> <li>• Closed to OHV use.</li> <li>• All revegetation must be with native species naturally occurring in the vicinity.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managed to limit recreation use if scenic values are being damaged.</li> <li>• Retained in public ownership.</li> <li>• ROW avoidance area.</li> </ul>
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SRMAs	Purpose of Designation	Special Management
Beef Basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor experiences while protecting natural and cultural resource values.</li> <li>• Provides a popular, remote, backcountry driving experience with primitive camping and cultural site exploration opportunities. Management focus for the SRMA is heritage tourism, traditional cultural values, and scientific research of prehistoric cultural landscapes.</li> <li>• Provide a semi primitive recreational experience for visitors to enjoy the world renowned cultural resources and scenic values. Use visitor information and interpretation as a primary tool to protect sensitive resources, discourage vandalism, and encourage visitor appreciation of public lands.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available for private and/or commercial use of woodland products (including on site collection of dead wood for campfires).</li> <li>• Open to disposal of mineral materials under special conditions.</li> <li>• Available for oil and gas leasing subject to timing limitations.</li> <li>• Livestock use will continue but may be limited if cultural resources are impacted.</li> <li>• Available for range, wildlife habitat, watershed improvements, vegetation treatments and other surface disturbing land treatments if consistent with management plan objectives.</li> <li>• OHV use limited to designated routes.</li> <li>• A car campground will be developed in Ruin Park for primitive camping.</li> <li>• Primitive car camping areas will be designated in Middle Park, House Park, and along Beef Basin Loop Road, as well as other areas as necessary to control impacts to cultural resources.</li> <li>• Until primitive camping areas are designated in this area, dispersed vehicle camping will be allowed in previously disturbed areas within 150 feet of designated routes.</li> <li>• Campfires are allowed and are restricted to fire rings where fire rings are available. In dispersed camping areas, where fire rings are not available, campfires are subject to "Leave</li> <li>• No Trace" standards.</li> <li>• Dispersed campsites that impact archaeological sites will be closed.</li> <li>• Cultural site visitation limited to designated trails.</li> <li>• Groups larger than 20 people total are required to camp in designated areas. Human waste must be packed out.</li> <li>• Manage as VRM Class III.</li> </ul>
Cedar Mesa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where livestock grazing is permitted mitigation activities may be implemented if cultural resources are determined to be at risk.</li> </ul>

	<p>experiences while protecting natural and cultural resource values through integrated management between the BLM and NPS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a safe, natural well designed accessible recreational experience for all visitors to enjoy the world renowned cultural resources and scenic values. Use visitor information and interpretation as a primary tool to protect sensitive resources, discourage vandalism, and encourage visitor appreciation of public lands.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available for watershed, range, and wildlife improvements and vegetation treatments.</li> <li>• Campfires allowed on mesa tops only; fire pan required.</li> <li>• Available for private and/or commercial use of woodland products including on site collection of dead wood for campfires. Access to available areas will be limited to designated roads and trails, dependent on cultural Class III surveys and occur outside WSAs and canyon bottoms. Traditional cultural use by Native Americans of woodland products is allowed as long as other resource values are not adversely affected. Open to dispersed camping except in areas where cultural resources are at risk.</li> <li>• Managed as VRM Class II, III and IV outside of WSAs and Valley of the Gods ACEC, which are managed as VRM Class I.</li> </ul>
<p>Dark Canyon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor experiences, while protecting natural and cultural resource values through integrated management between the BLM, USFS and NPS.</li> <li>• Provide a primitive, roadless, and undeveloped recreational experience in an essentially unmodified natural environment. Continue to provide a scenic backcountry experience of expansive views from within one of the deepest canyon systems in the region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group size is limited to 18 people for private and commercial.</li> <li>• Three commercial trips are allowed per week.</li> <li>• Up to twenty total private users allowed per day. This number may be altered depending upon future visitor impacts.</li> <li>• If and where necessary, camping will be restricted to designated sites only.</li> <li>• Campfires are allowed on mesa tops. Cook stoves only in canyons.</li> <li>• Unavailable for private and/or commercial collection of woodland product use, except for the on site collection of dead wood for campfires on mesa tops.</li> <li>• If human waste becomes a problem, carrying out waste may be implemented in canyon.</li> <li>• Pets are allowed on leash and under physical control.</li> <li>• Closed to OHV use.</li> </ul>
<p>Indian Creek</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide vide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor experiences while protecting natural and cultural resource values through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camping is prohibited in the Indian Creek riparian corridor from Newspaper Rock to approximately 1 mile downstream of the Dugout Ranch.</li> <li>• Camp sites will be removed from the Newspaper Rock area and rehabilitated.</li> <li>• A picnic area will be constructed adjacent to the Newspaper Rock parking</li> </ul>

	<p>integrated management between the BLM, NPS, State of Utah, and the Nature Conservancy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide for premier rock climbing experiences, outstanding OHV opportunities, scenic vistas, cultural site interpretation at Newspaper Rock, destination camping areas, and a gateway to Canyonlands National Park.</li> </ul>	<p>area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camping along the Bridger Jack Mesa Bench is limited to designated sites.</li> <li>• A new campground called Shay Mountain Vista Campground will be constructed.</li> <li>• The area is unavailable for private and/or commercial use of woodland products, including on site collection of dead wood for campfires. Campers must bring in their own wood for campfires.</li> <li>• Campfires are restricted to fire rings where fire rings are available. In dispersed camping areas, where fire rings are not available, campfires are subject to "Leave No Trace" standards. No campfires are allowed in the Lavender Mesa ACEC.</li> <li>• Rock climbing routes in conflict with cultural sites will be closed.</li> <li>• Camping fees will be charged if deemed necessary to provide needed facilities and services.</li> <li>• Parking areas will be developed.</li> <li>• Additional camping stipulations and regulations could be implemented if monitoring data shows this is necessary.</li> <li>• If new climbing routes are established, the BLM may designate a footpath to access the base of the climb to protect wildlife/raptors.</li> </ul>
<p>San Juan River</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding river related recreational opportunities and visitor experiences while protecting natural and cultural resource values with integrated management between the BLM, NPS, and the Navajo Nation.</li> <li>• Allow for boating and rafting activities regulated through permit issuance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the commercial group size limit is 33 people (25 passengers plus 8 guides)</li> <li>• The number of commercial daily is two per day (one launch of 25 passengers and one launch of 10 passengers)</li> <li>• Permits will be issued to commercial companies on a five year designated basis. They will also be issued to private users through an annual lottery system.</li> <li>• River trips on the San Juan River require a special use permit.</li> <li>• Unavailable for woodland product use, except for limited on site collection of dead wood for campfires. Woodland use within the floodplain is limited to collection of driftwood for campfires.</li> <li>• Cottonwood and willow harvest is allowed for Native American ceremonial uses only by permit. Restrictions on this permitted harvest will be implemented as necessary to achieve or maintain Proper Functioning Condition (PFC), and to maintain or improve threatened and endangered species/special status species (TES/SSS) habitat.</li> <li>• Backpackers in Slickhorn Canyon and Grand Gulch are not allowed to camp within 1 mile of the river.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bench above Sand Island Campground (256 acres) is closed to camping.</li> <li>• Campfires allowed only in fire pans.</li> <li>• The San Juan River is managed as an SRMA (9,859 acres) (Map 9). The boundary remains as in the previous RMP with the exception of State Section 16 or the Holliday Pit Quarry on Lime Ridge.</li> <li>• The SRMA boundary east of existing oil and gas leasing category NSO is below the bench, thereby allowing access to high quality gravel.</li> </ul>
<p>Tank Bench</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor experiences while protecting natural and cultural resource values.</li> <li>• Tank Bench SRMA provides easy access to a spectacular complex of cultural sites. Provide a safe, natural, well designed accessible recreational experience for all visitors to enjoy the world renowned cultural resources and scenic values. Use visitor information and interpretation as a primary tool to protect sensitive resources, discourage vandalism, and encourage visitor appreciation of public lands.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispersed hiking allowed; not limited to designated trails.</li> <li>• Area will remain open to domestic pets and pack animals but use may be limited if damage is occurring to cultural resources.</li> <li>• Commercial group size limited to 12 people.</li> <li>• Closed to OHV use.</li> <li>• Livestock use will continue but it may be limited if cultural resources are impacted.</li> <li>• Available for range, wildlife habitat, watershed improvements, vegetation treatments, and other surface disturbing land treatments if consistent with management plan objectives.</li> <li>• Campfires allowed.</li> <li>• Closed to private and/or commercial use of woodland products (including on site collection of dead wood for campfires) with the exception of traditional Native American cultural uses, as long as they do not adversely impact other resource values.</li> <li>• Open to disposal of mineral materials and geophysical work.</li> <li>• Available for oil and gas leasing, subject to standard lease terms.</li> <li>• Manage as VRM Class III and IV.</li> </ul>
<p>White Canyon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outstanding recreational opportunities and visitor experiences, while protecting natural and cultural resource values through integrated management between the BLM and NPS (including the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Natural Bridges National Monument).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A backcountry allocated permit system will be established as necessary to protect resources.</li> <li>• If human waste becomes a problem, carrying out waste may be implemented in the canyon.</li> <li>• Campfires are not allowed in the canyons. Cook stoves only in canyons.</li> <li>• Manage as VRM Class I and II.</li> <li>• OHV use closed and limited to designated routes</li> <li>• Unavailable and CSU (site specific) for oil and gas leasing.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a spectacular canyoneering recreational experience in a popular, world renowned and easily accessible slot canyon; including backcountry hiking and backpacking, remote camping, cultural site visitation and exploration.</li> </ul>	
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WSAs	Special Management
Bridger Jack Mesa	Common to all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage as VRM Class I</li> <li>• Closed to OHV use (with the exception of 0.8 miles of a way in Fish Creek WSA to access Moon House ruin)</li> </ul>
Butler Wash	
Cheese Box Canyon	
Dark Canyon ISA Complex	
Fish Creek Canyon	
Grand Gulch ISA	
Indian Creek	
Mancos Mesa	
Mule Canyon	
Road Canyon	
South Needles	

There are no Wilderness areas or National Historic Trails within the Monument boundary. There are Three Wild & Scenic River segments that are managed for consideration of inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River system – Colorado River, San Juan River, and Dark Canyon.

**\*VRM Classifications**

Class I Authorized actions may not modify existing landscape or attract the attention of casual viewers.

Class II Authorized actions may not modify existing landscape or attract the attention of casual viewers.

Class III Authorized actions may alter the existing landscape but not to the extent that they attract or focus attention of the casual viewer.

Class IV Authorized actions may involve major modification of the landscape’s existing character. Authorized actions may create significant landscape alterations and would be obvious to casual viewers.

## Special Designation Written Descriptions

ACECs	Acres	Description
Valley of the Gods	22,863	Valley of the Gods provides significant vistas to those who travel the roads surrounding the area. Panoramic views can be seen from the highways bordering the area and from the Valley of the Gods Loop (graded gravel and clay, 17 miles) Road. The eroded, wind sculpted spires and buttes, and long rock fins resemble animals or "gods."
Lavender Mesa	649	The vegetative community present on the top of Lavender Mesa is unique because it has developed without the influence of grazing animals and most other mammals. The area is ecologically relevant because it presents an isolated, relict plant community that remains unaltered by human or animal intervention. The vegetative community is important as a baseline for comparative studies of pinyon juniper woodland and sagebrush grass communities in other parts of the Colorado Plateau.
Shay Canyon	119	Cultural resources in this area represent the interface between two prehistoric cultural groups: Anasazi and Fremont. This interface is represented in the unique motifs in the rock art. The area provides an opportunity for cultural scientific research, and paleontology study. Dinosaur tracks in the bottom of the Shay Canyon streambed are a unique visual reminder of the area's distant geologic and natural past. This area is heavily traveled area by visitors to the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park as Route 211 is the only way into and out of the park.
San Juan River	4,321	<p>The scenery along the San Juan River includes tilted formations as the river crosses Comb Ridge, steep vertical cliffs hundreds of feet high with walls of interbedded sandstone and limestone, and the 1,200 foot high walls of the Goosenecks. The Goosenecks are one of the best examples of entrenched meanders in the U.S. Riparian areas with various hues of green border the watercourse and contrast with red sandstone, presenting a diverse and varied scenic viewing area. Hanging gardens occur in ledges of Navajo Sandstone.</p> <p>The rock art along the San Juan River is unsurpassed, recognized as "Type Sites" for their specific rock art motifs. Cultural sites are present along the river banks and within the tributaries of the San Juan River.</p> <p>The San Juan River has a unique endemic fish population and designated habitat for the endangered Colorado pikeminnow and the razorback sucker, as well as the state sensitive flannelmouth sucker. Bighorn sheep inhabit the rocky precipices of the lower river. The river corridor is used by migrating Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (a T&amp;E species), and Yellow billed Cuckoo (a candidate species). The San Juan River supports riparian habitat for several other species of wildlife, including amphibians, neo tropical birds, and waterfowl.</p>
Indian Creek	3,908	The Indian Creek ACEC is noted for its incised, meandering canyons that wind through dark red mudstones, forming many rounded spires, and "hoo doos" (boulders atop eroded rock that look like mushrooms). These various formations continue uninterrupted into Canyonlands NP, which contains some of the most unique landforms in the world. Visitors from around the world come to view this area from overlooks across BLM land and NPS Canyonlands NP.

SRMAs	Acres	Description
Beef Basin	20,302	Beef Basin is popular with those seeking a backcountry driving experience, primitive camping, and an opportunity to see ruins. Management focus for the SRMA is heritage tourism, traditional cultural values, and scientific research of prehistoric cultural landscapes.
Cedar Mesa	407,098	The Cedar Mesa offers visitors the chance to experience very unique remote canyon systems, containing a very high density of world renowned cultural sites. The major attractions within Cedar Mesa are its cultural resources including: lithic scatters, petroglyph and pictograph panels, pit houses and pit structures, Pueblo kivas, granaries, and cliff dwellings. Due to increasing demand, a backcountry permit allocation system was adopted in 1999 for Cedar Mesa hikers.
Dark Canyon	30,820	Dark Canyon offers visitors the chance to experience one of the deepest canyon systems in the region, which begins in the sub alpine ecological zone and ends in the desert zone on the banks of the Colorado River. The area provides a primitive, roadless, and undeveloped recreational experience in an essentially unmodified natural environment.
Indian Creek	89,271	Indian Creek offers visitors the chance to experience a very unique remote landscape, which contains a world renowned sandstone crack climbing area, a high number of cultural sites, a popular OHV access area, rare paleontological formations, and camping opportunities.
San Juan River	9,859	The San Juan River offers visitors the chance to experience a very unique remote canyon river system, which passes through world renowned geological formations and riverside cultural sites. Boating use on the San Juan River is very popular. This intensive use necessitated the initiation of a lottery system for obtaining permits to control the number of visitors on the river.
Tank Bench	2,646	Tank Bench SRMA provides easy access to a spectacular complex of cultural sites. The SRMA provides a safe, natural, well designed accessible recreational experience for all visitors to enjoy world renowned cultural resources and scenic values.
White Canyon	2,828	White Canyon offers visitors the chance to experience unique slot canyons and the backcountry surrounding Natural Bridges National Monument.

WSAs	Acres	Description
Bridger Jack Mesa	5,290	The WSA is a north south trending tableland bounded by spectacular orange red cliffs. The view from the mesa is the major asset of the WSA because it enhances the recreational experience. Vegetation is predominantly pinyon juniper woodland with small interspersed sagebrush parks. The WSA may contain several archaeological sites.
Butler Wash	24,190	The WSA is in the Canyonlands Section of the Colorado Plateau Physiographic Province. The terrain consists of northward draining shallow canyons of varying widths and low, parklike mesas, with scattered buttes, knobs, and spires. The WSA has outstanding scenic quality. Red and buff sandstone spires, knobs, and buttes contrast with

		the green vegetation and the blue sky. In the southeast, the heads of Salt Creek (most of which is in Canyonlands National Park) cut a myriad of shapes in the colorful sandstone. Other special features include historic evidence of early century cowboy use, and an array of wildlife including cougars, mule deer, and peregrine falcon.
Cheese Box Canyon	15,410	This WSA is in the Canyonlands Section of the Colorado Plateau Physiographic Province. The WSA is a small mesa capped by the Cheesebox and cut by four meandering, steep walled canyons which drain southwesterly into White Canyon. The surface of the mesa slopes gently southwest, and is almost featureless except for a few low buttes. About half of the WSA is barren of vegetation. The remainder is pinyon juniper woodland and scattered stands of Ponderosa pine. Douglas fir is found on north facing slopes at the higher elevations with scattered areas of desert shrub and grasses. Visitors can find evidence of late 19th and early 20th century cowboys. Peregrine falcon and bald eagle may make occasional use of the WSA. Desert bighorn sheep inhabit the upper ends of Cheesebox Canyon, as well as Found Mesa and Fry Point.
Dark Canyon ISA Complex	68,030	This WSA is a complex of fragments of the Dark Canyon Plateau and seven deep, meandering canyons that drain into Cataract Canyon of the Colorado River, northwest of the WSA. The majority of the area was declared a primitive area by the BLM in December of 1970 to protect its outstanding natural beauty and unsoiled condition. An unusual feature in the Canyonlands country is the 10 miles of perennial stream that flow through the northern portion of the WSA in a series of plunge pools and waterfalls. Limestone ledges, with red chert nodule inclusions and cockleshell and crinoids stem fossils, make deep and narrow lower Dark Canyon, an especially scenic canyon due to their waterfall producing effect. Ancestral Puebloan occupation seems to have been somewhat sparse compared to canyons further south, such as Grand Gulch. Cliff dwellings, granaries, petroglyphs, and lithic scatters do exist within the area. These features enhance the primitive recreation values present and add to the feeling of timelessness in these rugged and remote canyons.
Fish Creek Canyon	46,440	The four main canyons of this WSA are up to 700 feet deep. The canyons meander somewhat and contain numerous rock fins, alcoves, pinnacles, step like pour offs on the canyon floors, and impressive natural arches. In addition to pinyon juniper woodland and sagebrush, desert shrubs are common. Ponderosa pine is found in the drainages of the northern part of the WSA. The WSA includes land extensively occupied by Ancestral Puebloan dwellers from about 200 A.D. to 1300 A.D. A stabilized archeological site, Comb Wash Overlook, has 4 tower bases, a wall on the mesa rim, and rock shelter dwellings below. The Hole in the Rock Trail, the route followed by the Mormon settlers in 1879 to 1880, forms most of this unit's southern boundary.
Grand Gulch ISA	105,520	More than 25 canyons are partly or entirely within the Grand Gulch WSA; all are characterized by sheer rock walls, over hangs, pour offs, knobs, alcoves, archeological ruins, and rock art. Opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, and archeological and natural study draw thousands of visitors to this area on an annual basis. Grand Gulch, the main canyon in the WSA, meanders about 53 miles and is as much as 400 to 600 feet deep in the middle segment. This portion of the WSA was designated as the Grand Gulch Primitive Area BLM in 1970.
Indian Creek	6,870	This WSA consists of several northward sloping canyons as much as 300 feet deep and narrow, twisting tributary canyons cut through the red rock. Four miles of perennial streams are within the WSA. About 75 percent (5,163 acres) of the WSA is bare rock. Sparse desert shrub covers the remainder of the WSA. Two pour offs in Indian Creek near the western border of the WSA are picturesque when water is flowing in the intermittent drainage. The two pour offs drop almost 150 feet. Desert bighorn sheep, which are a wildlife species associated with

		wilderness, has been found within this WSA. Peregrine falcons, golden eagles, bald eagles, and Mexican spotted owls may occur in the WSA.
Mancos Mesa	51,440	This WSA is in the Canyonlands Section of the Colorado Plateau Physiographic Province. Mancos mesa is a rugged, westward sloping mesa bounded by canyons as much as 600 feet deep. Three winding canyons from 250 to 800 feet deep cut across the mesa. Wind blown sand covers large parts of the mesa and has accumulated in large deposits in portions of the canyons. Blackbrush is the most common vegetation. The Mancos Mesa WSA contains archaeological, geological, wildlife, and scenic values. The peregrine falcon and 8 animal species that are considered sensitive may occur in the WSA. Desert bighorn sheep, which is a wildlife species associated with wilderness is occasionally sighted in the WSA.
Mule Canyon	5,990	The principal features of the WSA are two similar canyons, the north and south forks of Mule Canyon, typified by alternating bands of red and white sandstone and the presence of a rich variety of cultural resources, including Anasazi dwellings. The predominant vegetation type is pinyon juniper woodland. Small acreages of sage brush and riparian vegetation are also present. Nearly half of the WSA is slickrock.
Road Canyon	52,420	This WSA is in the southeastern part of the Grand Gulch Plateau. Three canyons, including Road Canyon, cut through the unit. Steep canyon walls and knobs, pinnacles, arches, and alcoves characterize the WSA. Desert shrubs and pinyon juniper woodland are the predominant vegetative types. Scenic and geological special features include the deep canyons, sheer cliffs, and dramatic views from the canyon rims. A portion of Valley of the Gods within the WSA includes monolithic sandstone buttes that rise 400 to 500 feet above the valley floor. The Hole in the Rock Trail, a National Register site, used by Mormon pioneers forms the unit's northeast boundary. Peregrine falcons and bald eagles may inhabit or use the WSA.
South Needles	160	The terrain in this WSA consists of sloping slickrock that drains northeastward and low benches. Vegetation is predominantly pinyon juniper woodland. The unit is very scenic. Red and buff spires, knobs, and buttes contrast with green vegetation and blue sky. The highly eroded sandstone features, including numerous pinnacles and the Vanhemert Arch, provide for geologic study and viewing. A spring on the northern edge of the WSA flows about 0.5 cubic feet per second and supports a small riparian area of cottonwoods, oak, and reeds. Cougar which is a wildlife species associated with wilderness, may be found in the WSA in the pursuit of mule deer. Peregrine falcons and golden eagles, a species considered by the BLM to be sensitive, are found in the WSA. Six other sensitive animal species and one sensitive plant species may occur in the WSA.