

CHAPTER 2

ALTERNATIVES

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The BLM has prepared this Proposed RMP/Final EIS to provide direction for managing BLM lands and federal mineral estate under the jurisdictions of the CRVFO. This chapter details Alternatives A through D which were considered in the Final EIS analysis. The alternatives in this chapter have been developed to meet the RMP's purpose and need as well as program goals and objectives (with the exception of the no action alternative). (See the discussion below.) The alternatives established the framework for evaluating the potential impacts of the proposed decisions in Chapter 4.

Roan Plateau. *Land Use Planning.* The BLM has prepared this Proposed RMP/Final EIS to provide direction for managing BLM lands and federal mineral estate under the jurisdictions of the CRVFO. The Roan Plateau portion of the CRVFO planning area was not included in this Proposed RMP/Final EIS. The decision not to include the Roan Plateau portion reflected the fact that the RMP amendment under which it is being managed was completed in 2008, and already included many of the newer management actions addressed for other portions of the CRVFO under Alternatives B through D of this RMP revision. In addition, the Roan Plateau RMP amendment has been under litigation since the Record of Decision (ROD) was approved in 2008. In June 2012, the US District Court remanded the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment ROD, and ruled that BLM was deficient in analyzing air quality impacts and in failing to analyze an alternative that would have required the natural gas under the top of the Plateau be accessed from areas below the plateau through directional drilling. That court decision is currently under appeal by the interveners and plaintiffs.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System stream suitability analysis for eligible Roan Plateau stream segments (East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex) was included in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS and is also contained in this document (including Appendix C - Final Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Report). Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to the Roan Plateau planning area supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. The draft suitability analysis for eligible Roan Plateau stream segments will be converted to a final suitability determination when the BLM State Director signs a ROD for the Roan Plateau plan. At that time, BLM will render a suitability

determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area supplemental EIS.

White River National Forest. *National Wild and Scenic Rivers.* Consistent with BLM Manual 6400 – Wild and Scenic Rivers, the CRVFO invited the White River National Forest (WRNF) to participate in the CRVFO RMP revision process for the analysis of Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) because (1) Deep Creek was jointly analyzed by the BLM and the WRNF for eligibility in 1995, and (2) four of the eligible Forest Service river segments (see Appendix C) being studied for suitability are directly upstream or downstream of river segments that BLM is analyzing. The WRNF will use this Final EIS to make determinations on river segments on the WRNF. Those suitability determinations will be documented in a separate ROD.

Fluid Mineral Leasing and Development. While BLM is responsible for decisions related to leasing and developing federal mineral estate underlying lands administered by most other federal agencies, leasing and development of federal minerals involving surface lands administered by the USFS are subject to leasing decisions made in the appropriate USFS plan. In its plans, the USFS analyzes impacts from oil and gas leasing and development on National Forest System lands and describes where the USFS will or will not consent to leasing. The BLM is responsible for decisions related to drilling, completing, producing, and plugging and abandoning federal wells underlying National Forest lands. These implementation-level decisions are made through separate, site-specific planning and are not addressed in this plan.

2.2 COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES

Combined with the figures in Appendix A and other appendices, Sections 2.2.1 through 2.2.4 and Table 2-1 highlight the meaningful differences among alternatives. The EIS alternative development process is described in Section 2.3, and the alternatives are described in detail in Section 2.7.

2.2.1 Alternative A (No Action Alternative)

The no action alternative, Alternative A, is a continuation of the present management direction and current prevailing conditions and is based on existing planning decisions and amendments. This alternative meets the requirements of NEPA (40 CFR, Part 1502.14) that a no action alternative be considered; “no action” means that current management practices, based on existing RMPs and other management decision documents, would continue. Goals and objectives for BLM land resources and resource uses would be based on the existing RMP, subsequent RMP amendments, and activity- or implementation-level plans. The emphasis would be on maintaining the land management direction for physical, biological, cultural, and historic resource values, along with recreational, social, and economic land uses. Direction contained in laws, regulations, and BLM policies that supersede provisions of the existing RMPs and amendments would be implemented.

2.2.2 Alternative B (Proposed RMP)

Alternative B (Proposed RMP) in the Final EIS used the Alternative B (Preferred Alternative) from the Draft RMP/Draft EIS as its foundation. It carries the same theme as Alternative B found in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS but includes elements of the other alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. Alternative B seeks to allocate limited public land resources among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resources. Goals and objectives would focus on environmental, economic, and social outcomes achieved by strategically addressing demands across the landscape. Management direction would be broad to accommodate a variety of values and uses. Decisions under this alternative would seek to provide an overall balance between the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and cultural values, while allowing resource use and development in existing or reasonable locations.

2.2.3 Alternative C

Alternative C emphasizes improving, rehabilitating, and restoring resources, and sustaining the ecological integrity of habitats for all priority plant, wildlife, and fish species, particularly the habitats needed for the protection, recovery, and enhancement of federally listed, proposed, or candidate threatened and endangered plant and animal species. Goals and objectives focus on environmental and social outcomes achieved by sustaining relatively unmodified physical landscapes and natural and cultural resource values for current and future generations. In some areas, commodity production or resource uses would be excluded to protect sensitive resources.

2.2.4 Alternative D

Under Alternative D an appropriate mix of uses on BLM lands and federal mineral estate would be allowed based on making the most of resources that target social and economic outcomes, while protecting land health. Management direction would recognize and expand existing uses, and accommodate new uses to the greatest extent possible. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, communication sites, and livestock grazing) would emphasize maximizing resource production in an environmentally responsible manner, while maintaining the basic protection needed to sustain resources. Constraints on commodity production would be the least restrictive, while still complying with applicable laws, regulations, and BLM policies.

**Table 2-1
Comparative Summary by Alternative**

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
VRM	BLM Surface Acres /Federal Mineral Estate		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
VRM Class I			22,700/ 100	35,600/ 0	35,800/ 0	35,200/ 100
VRM Class II			227,800/ 83,600	268,900/ 92,100	256,900/ 77,600	217,900/ 86,500
VRM Class III			112,900/ 48,400	84,200/ 48,600	96,200/ 48,100	113,100/ 48,600
VRM Class IV			141,800/ 64,400	116,500/ 69,000	116,300/ 59,000	139,000/ 64,400
VRM Class V			0	0	0	0
Wildland Fire Management	BLM Surface Acres	See maps in Appendix A	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Wildland fire allowed for resource benefit			278,300	192,200	192,200	192,200
Wildland fire not allowed for resource benefit			227,100	312,300	312,300	312,300

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Lands Proposed for Protection of Wilderness Characteristics Outside of WSAs	BLM Surface Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Castle Peak Addition Unit	3,900		N/A	● ¹	● ¹	N/A
Deep Creek Unit	4,300 (B) 4,400 (C)		N/A	● ¹	● ¹	N/A
Flat Tops Addition Unit	3,500		N/A	● ¹	● ¹	N/A
Grand Hogback Unit	11,400		N/A		● ¹	N/A
Pisgah Mountain Unit	14,500		N/A	● ¹	● ¹	N/A
Thompson Creek Unit	8,200		N/A	● ¹	● ¹	N/A
Total			0	34,400	45,900	0

Forestry	BLM Surface Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Acres Commercial Forest/Intensive Management			41,700	28,000	28,400	32,200
Apply Limited Management			N/A	352,800	341,800	396,400
Acres Closed to Commercial Timber Harvest			27,700	123,300	135,000	76,600
PSQ (million board feet)			1.8	0.9	0.9	1.4

Livestock Grazing			Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Acres open to livestock grazing	Acres		488,300	441,600	427,800	442,200
Acres closed to livestock grazing	Acres		16,900	63,600	77,400	63,000
Available AUMs	AUMs		39,200	35,500	35,500	36,500

Recreation and Visitor Services						
Special Recreation Management Areas	BLM Surface Acres	Targeted Activities	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Bocco Mountain (northeast of Eagle)	1,400	Motorcycle Riding	●			●
Bull Gulch (north of Gypsum)	8,300	Hiking	●			
Deep Creek (west of Gypsum)	2,400	Hiking	●			
Fisher (north of Carbondale)	2,800	Day-Use Hiking, Mountain Biking				●
Gypsum Hills (north of Gypsum)	16,900	OHVs	●			
Hack Lake (northwest of Gypsum)	3,300 (A)	Hiking, Horseback Riding, Hunting, Camping	●			

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Hardscrabble/East Eagle (east and west of Eagle; south of Interstate 70)	21,900 (B) 17,000 (D)	Zones for Day-Use, Mountain Biking, OHVs		•		•
King Mountain (far northeastern part of CRVFO)	13,000	Hunting, Horseback Riding, Wildlife Viewing, Camping		•		
Red Hill (north of Carbondale)	3,100	Day-Use Hiking, Mountain Biking	•	•	•	•
The Crown (west of Basalt)	9,100	Proposed RMP – Zones for Day-Use Mountain Biking, OHVs Alternative D – Mountain Biking, Camping		•		•
Thompson Creek (southwest of Carbondale)	4,300 (A) 9,500 (D)	Alternative A – Dispersed Recreation Alternative D – Zones for Day-Use Hiking, Rock Climbing, Mountain Biking	•			•
Upper Colorado River	20,700 (A,C,D) 15,700 (B)	Zones for Fishing/Floatboating and Floatboating/Tubing	•	•	•	•
	Total SRMA		60,400	62,800	23,800	63,600
Extensive Recreation Management Areas	BLM Surface Acres	Targeted Activities	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Glenwood Springs (previously not a designation)	444,500	Various Dispersed Activities	•			
Bocco Mountain (northeast of Eagle)	1,400	Motorcycle Riding		•		
Eagle River (Edwards to Dotsero)	3,300 (C,D) 2,600 (B)	River-Related Day-Use including Floatboating, Fishing		•	•	•
Fisher Creek (southeast of Glenwood Springs)	2,800	Nonmotorized Day-Use including Mountain Biking, Hiking, Hunting			•	
Gypsum Hills (north of Gypsum)	18,900	OHVs		•		
Hack Lake (northwest of Gypsum)	3,700	Nonmotorized Activities including Backcountry Hiking, Camping, Horseback Riding, Hunting			•	•
Hardscrabble-East Eagle (east and west of Eagle; south of Interstate 70)	17,000	Motorsports, Mountain Biking, Hiking,			•	
King Mountain (near Toponas)	13,000	Alternative C – Backcountry Camping, Horseback Riding, Hunting Alternative D – Backcountry Camping, Mountain Biking, Horseback Riding, Hunting			•	•
New Castle (north of New Castle)	9,900 (C,D) 5,400 (B)	Nonmotorized Day-Use including Mountain Biking and River-Related Activities		•	•	•

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Silt Mesa (northwest of Silt)	3,100	Proposed RMP and Alternative D – Day-Use Motorsports, Mountain Biking, Hiking, Horseback Riding Alternative C – Nonmotorized Day-Use including Hiking, Mountain Biking, Horseback Riding		•	•	•
Thompson Creek (southwest of Carbondale)	9,500	Proposed RMP – Nonmotorized Day-Use including Mountain Biking, Hiking, Sport Climbing, Horseback Riding, Hunting Alternative C – Primitive Recreation including Mountain Biking, Hiking, Traditional Climbing, Horseback Riding		•	•	
The Crown (west of Basalt)	9,100	Motorsports, Mountain Biking, Hiking, Hunting, Scenic Driving			•	
	Total ERMA		NA	40,900	71,400	33,000
Firearm Use Restrictions	BLM Surface Acres	Hunting is authorized in accordance with CPW regulations.	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
The discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting is prohibited.			200	1,100	3,500	500

Trails and Travel Management						
Area Travel Designations	BLM Surface Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Open to cross-country travel			295,900	0	0	0
Limited to existing routes			38,000	0	0	0
Limited to existing routes May 1 to November 30			4,300	0	0	0
Limited to designated routes			123,000	464,000	461,300	464,800
OHV use limited seasonally			73,600	130,900	148,200	87,400
Closed to OHV use year-round			44,000	41,200	43,900	40,400

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Route Designations	Miles	Alternative A includes routes in open, existing, and designated areas.	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Total routes without public access		These routes (generally full-size vehicle) are designated as administrative routes in the Proposed RMP and Alternative C.	320	320	320	320
Routes designated for full-sized vehicles			770	510	430	525
Routes designated for ATVs			90	75	55	70
Routes designated for motorcycle			90	90	30	90
Total miles of designated motorized routes			950	675	515	685
Routes designated for mechanized			185	180	150	290
Routes designated for foot/horse			170	405	470	305
Routes designated for foot			2	2	2	2
Total miles of designated nonmotorized routes			357	587	622	597
Total routes designated for decommission/obliteration			0	50	205	30
Total miles of designated routes (all types)			1,632	1,632	1,632	1,632
Total miles of routes with seasonal route limitations to reduce big game movement to private lands during the fall big game hunting season.		Alternative A - October 1 to November 30/Proposed RMP and Alternatives C and D - August 20 to November 30 on Stagecoach Trail (#8535) and Domantle Road (#8513) Proposed RMP and Alternative C - October 1 to November 30 in Dry Rifle Creek and West Rifle Creek areas	8	18	18	8
Total miles of routes with seasonal route limitations to enhance opportunities for snowmobiling		November 20 to May 23 on Transfer Trail (#8149/8149F) north of Glenwood Springs	6	6	6	6

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Lands and Realty	Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Right-of-way avoidance areas	BLM surface		101,300	219,800	196,800	105,100
	Federal mineral estate ²		0	63,000	29,400	29,400
	Total		101,300	282,800	226,200	134,500
Right-of-way exclusion areas	BLM surface		20,800	39,400	39,900	39,100
	Federal mineral estate ²		0	0	0	0
	Total		20,800	39,400	39,900	39,100
Retention areas, subject to land tenure criteria	BLM surface		494,400	497,200	432,700	319,100
	Federal mineral estate ²			130,400	117,000	120,500
	Total		494,400	627,600	549,700	439,600
Areas identified for sale		11,100	0	0	0	

Stipulations for Surface Disturbing Activities	Acres	Refer to Appendix B for specific stipulations	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
NSO stipulations ⁴	BLM surface		202,700	297,600	308,400	213,200
	Federal mineral estate ²		36,700	58,100	48,300	32,100
	Total		239,400	355,700	356,700	245,300
CSU stipulations ⁴	BLM surface		325,100	460,000	451,300	358,400
	Federal mineral estate ²		98,200	156,800	164,200	128,600
	Total		423,300	616,800	615,500	487,000
Timing limitation stipulations ⁴	BLM surface		275,700	250,000	248,100	248,100
	Federal mineral estate ²		76,100	88,900	86,700	86,700
	Total		351,800	338,900	334,800	334,800

Fluid Minerals	Acres	Includes federal mineral estate ²	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Federal mineral estate open to fluid minerals leasing			672,500	603,100	521,500	648,400
Federal mineral estate closed to fluid minerals leasing			28,700	98,100	179,700	52,800

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Areas of High Potential for the Occurrence of Oil and Gas	Acres	Includes federal mineral estate ²	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas on BLM surface lands and federal mineral estate			147,500	147,500	147,500	147,500
Leased acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas on BLM surface lands and federal mineral estate			129,900	129,900	129,900	129,900
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas closed to fluid minerals leasing		Proposed RMP - unleased portions of Garfield Creek State Wildlife Area/ Alternative C - unleased portions of Garfield Creek State Wildlife Area and the Grand Hogback Unit managed to protect wilderness characteristics	0	2,500	6,000	0
Remaining acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas available to fluid minerals leasing			17,600	15,100	11,600	17,600
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas open to fluid minerals leasing with NSO stipulations ⁴			52,100	45,900	51,400	33,700
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas open to fluid minerals leasing with CSU stipulations ⁴			68,500	126,700	131,400	114,800
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas open to fluid minerals leasing with TL stipulations ⁴			97,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Acres of high potential for the occurrence of oil and gas open to fluid minerals leasing with standard stipulations ⁴			18,800	7,800	8,700	15,500

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Locatable Minerals	Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Open to locatable mineral exploration or development		All BLM lands are open to mineral entry and development (locatable minerals) under the General Mining Law of 1872 unless already withdrawn or proposed for administrative withdrawal or designated as wilderness.				
Recommended for withdrawal from locatable mineral exploration or development	BLM surface	See Lands and Realty section	34,500	162,900	175,000	132,700
	Federal mineral estate ²		0	18,300	4,400	0
	Total		34,500	181,200	179,400	132,700

Salable Minerals/ Mineral Materials and Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals	Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
BLM surface open to salable/mineral materials disposal and non-energy solid mineral leasing			470,700	342,700	323,100	477,400
BLM surface closed to salables/mineral materials disposal and non-energy solid mineral leasing			34,500	162,500	182,100	27,700

ACECs	BLM Surface Acres	ACEC Values	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Abrams Creek	190	Genetically pure population of naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout			•	
Blue Hill	3,700	Heritage values and natural hazards	•	•	•	•
Bull Gulch	10,400	Scenic (unique geologic forms and sharp contrasting colors), botanical	•	•	•	•
Colorado River Seeps	470	Significant plant communities: <i>Betula occidentalis</i> /Mesic grass; <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> / <i>Leymus cinereus</i>			•	
Deep Creek	2,400 (A, C) 4,300 (B)	Scenic, geologic (caves)	•	•	•	
Dotsero Crater	100	Geologic (volcanic crater)			•	
Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zone	6,100	Natural hazard, steep slopes, mud and debris flow protection	•	•	•	•
Grand Hogback	4,300 (B) 14,000 (C)	Scenic, geologic, heritage		•	•	
Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat	24,600	Sage-grouse (BLM sensitive species)			•	

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Hardscrabble-East Eagle	4,200	Highest known concentrations of Harrington's penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>)		•	•	
Lower Colorado River	130	Riparian, wildlife	•			
Lyons Gulch	400 (B) 500 (C)	Sensitive plant: Harrington's penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>)		•	•	
McCoy Fan Delta	1,500 (B) 220 (C)	Geologic (marine deposits)		•	•	
Mount Logan Foothills	4,000	Colorado hookless cactus (<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>), DeBeque phacelia (<i>Phacelia submutica</i>), Naturita milkvetch (<i>Astragalus naturitensis</i>)		•	•	
Sheep Creek Uplands	3,900 (B) 4,500 (C)	Harrington's penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>) core population		•	•	
The Crown Ridge	1,000	Sensitive plant: Harrington's penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>)			•	
Thompson Creek	4,300 (A) 3,600 (B) 3,400 (C)	Scenic, geologic, historic, ecological	•	•	•	
	Total		27,000	46,400	79,800	20,200

WSAs	BLM Surface Acres		Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Bull Gulch	15,200	Manage under BLM – <i>Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas</i> until a determination is made by Congress	•	•	•	•
Castle Peak	12,200		•	•	•	•
Eagle Mountain	320		•	•	•	•
Hack Lake	4		•	•	•	•
	Total		27,700	27,700	27,700	27,700

WSR - Segments Suitable for Inclusion in the NWSRS						
BLM segments	Total Miles / Miles on BLM	Classification	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Abrams Creek	3.4 / 3.4	Recreational			•	
Battlement Creek	2.9 / 1.7	Recreational			•	
Colorado River – Segment 6	45.4 / 27.3	Recreational		3	•	
Colorado River – Segment 7	15.7 / 3.4	Recreational		3	•	
Deep Creek – Segment 2	3.6 / 3.6	Wild		•	•	
Deep Creek – Segment 3	0.9 / 0.9	Recreational		•	•	
Eagle River	25.7 / 5.5	Recreational			•	
Egeria Creek	8.3 / 7.8	Recreational			•	
Hack Creek	2.4 / 1.6	Scenic			•	

Resource or Resource Use	Unit of Measure	Notes	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Mitchell Creek	0.9 / 0.9	Recreational			●	
No Name Creek	0.1 / 0.1	Recreational			●	
Rock Creek	4.8 / 3.2	Recreational			●	
Thompson Creek	4.8 / 4.8	Wild			●	
	Total Miles / Miles on BLM			4.5/4.5	118.9/64.2	
BLM segments within the Roan Plateau Planning Area		Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to a supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. At that time, BLM will render a suitability determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area supplemental EIS.				
USFS segments	Total Miles / Miles on USFS	Classification	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
Colorado River Segment 1	3.4 / 3.0	Recreational		3	●	
Colorado River Segment 2	3.1 / 2.5	Recreational		3	●	
Deep Creek Segment 1	0.2 / 0.2	Scenic		●	●	
Deep Creek Segment 2a	10.6 / 10.6	Wild		●	●	
	Total Miles / Miles on USFS			10.8/10.8	17.3/16.3	

¹ Land units managed to protect wilderness characteristics outside of WSAs that would be protected with specific management prescriptions (Appendix F).

² Federal mineral estate includes mineral estate underlying BLM lands, privately owned lands, state-owned lands, and BOR and DOE lands. As such, federal mineral estate acres are greater than BLM surface acres.

³ Rely upon the *Upper Colorado River Stakeholder Group Management Plan*, in concert with BLM/USFS land management authorities, to protect the free-flowing condition, ORVs, classification, and water quality of Colorado River segments. If monitoring indicates that the *Upper Colorado River Stakeholder Group Management Plan* is not adequately protecting flow-dependent and water-dependent ORVs, the BLM/USFS would initiate a process to evaluate suitability factors and make a suitability determination. The eligibility determination for the two segments will remain in place until a suitability determination is made.

⁴ Stipulations identified during the RMP planning process can be applied only to new leases or to existing leases that expire and are later reissued.

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	NSO	no surface occupancy or surface-disturbing activities
Alt	alternative	NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
ATV	all-terrain vehicle	OHV	off-highway vehicle
AUM	animal-unit month	ORV	outstandingly remarkable value (WSRs)
BLM	US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management	PSQ	probable sale quantity
BOR	US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation	ROW	right-of-way
CPW	Colorado Parks and Wildlife	SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
CRVFO	Colorado River Valley Field Office	TL	timing limitation
CSU	controlled surface use	USFS	US Department, of Agriculture, Forest Service
DOE	US Department of Energy	VRM	visual resource management
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area	WSA	Wilderness Study Area
n/a	not applicable	WSR	Wild and Scenic River

2.3 ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Alternative development is the heart of the EIS process. Land use planning regulations and NEPA require the BLM to develop a reasonable range of alternatives during the planning process. Alternatives must be within the established planning criteria (Title 43 CFR, Section 1610). The basic goal of developing alternatives is to prepare varying possible management scenarios that accomplish the following:

- Address the identified major planning issues.
- Resolve conflicts among resources and resource uses.
- Meet the purpose of and need for the RMP.

Developing alternatives helps the BLM and the public understand the various ways of addressing conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources, and provides the decision maker (BLM Colorado State Director) with a reasonable range of alternatives with which to make an informed decision. The components of the alternatives and the general direction of each alternative are discussed below.

2.3.1 Developing Alternatives for the CRVFO

The CRVFO implemented the first five steps of BLM's planning process (Section 1.4 Planning Process) in developing alternatives, as follows: scoping, planning criteria development, issue identification, data collection, and current management assessment. The issue identification and current management assessment processes began in 2006, with an extensive review by the BLM's interdisciplinary team of current land management decisions and direction from the Glenwood Springs RMP (BLM 1984a) and subsequent amendments (BLM 1988, 1991a, 1991b, 1995, 1997a, 1997c, 1999a, 1999b, 2001a, 2004a, 2007b, 2008b). From this review, the BLM identified preliminary planning issues that could be addressed in a new RMP.

As discussed in Section 1.5 Scoping and Planning Issues, preliminary planning issues were distributed during the scoping process for public comment, along with a request for identifying additional issues. Based on scoping and public participation efforts, the CRVFO identified the 12 planning issues detailed in Section 1.5, Scoping and Planning Issues. Planning issues are concerns or controversies about existing and potential land and resource allowable uses, levels of resource use, production, and related management practices. Planning issues are well defined or topically discrete, and entail alternatives from which to choose. This definition suggests that there are different ways to resolve the competition or demand.

To better define the scope of the EIS analysis, the planning issues were broken down into two groups. The first group was composed of those key planning issues requiring varied approaches in alternatives development to address unresolved conflicts and questions. The second group was composed of other planning issues that would have a smaller degree of impact on the development of alternatives.

Key Issues

Key issues were those that were specifically determined to have the greatest potential impact on the direction of the RMP alternatives. These key issues reflected the resources or resource uses that were the most formative or determinative (having the power or quality of deciding) and thus were the main factors used to develop alternatives. The five key issues creating variation in the alternatives were as follows:

- Recreation demand and uses
- Special designations

- Energy development including air quality
- Wildlife including special status species
- Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species

Recreation demand and uses. As the human environment in the central Rocky Mountains has changed over the past 30-plus years since the current CRVFO RMP (BLM 1984a) was developed, so have the recreation demands and expectations on Colorado BLM lands. Public use and enjoyment of BLM lands have been affected by intense competition among increasing numbers of people for a finite amount of land and resources. Recreation visitation and use are expected to increase, especially in areas near growing communities. The public continues to demand a diverse range of recreation opportunities in a variety of natural resource recreation settings. Some members of the public want new or improved facilities for, and improved signage and information about, recreation opportunities, while others do not. Some members of the public want more structured recreation management for specific activities, while others want the BLM to manage for dispersed recreation activities. With changing regional and local economies, rapid population growth, shifting demographics, and the expansion of residential areas, recreation is the center of both conflict and opportunity.

The BLM revised *H-1601-1 -BLM Land Use Planning Handbook* (BLM 2005a), - Appendix C Guidance for Recreation and Visitor Services (R&VS) through Instruction Memorandum No. 2011-004 in October 2010 and BLM *Manual M-8320, Planning for Recreation and Visitor Services*, issued in March 2011. The existing recreation decisions were based on now outdated guidance. The revised recreation and visitor services (R&VS) guidance requires:

1. Designation of Recreation Management Areas (RMAs).
2. Establishment of R&VS objectives for each RMA.
3. Identification of land use plan (LUP)-level supporting management actions and allowable uses for each RMA.

The CRVFO needed to review existing RMAs for conformance with the revised planning decision guidance (BLM Instruction Memorandum No. 2011-004) and propose new RMAs that recognized R&VS as a primary resource management consideration requiring specific management to protect the recreation opportunities.

Special designations. Special designations protect resources and recreational opportunities but can constrain other land uses. These specially designated lands may not allow for, or may have reduced levels of, resource use and development. Many members of the public may want more BLM land allocated to special designations, while others may oppose such allocation or may desire a reduction in current designations. Special designations and identifications addressed in this planning process include: ACECs, RMAs, WSAs, and stream segments suitable for inclusion in NWSRS.

Energy development including air quality. The CRVFO includes areas of oil and gas development on BLM lands, lands administered by the USFS, and both privately owned and state-owned lands with underlying federal mineral estate. The CRVFO has exceeded the amount of oil and gas development projected in the RFD scenario from the *1999 Oil and Gas Leasing and Development Amendment EIS* (BLM 1999b). The number of applications for permits to drill (APDs) received by the CRVFO increased

dramatically from 28 in fiscal year 2000 to 397 in 2007, due to high natural gas prices, advances in directional drilling and completion technologies, and a decision by the State of Colorado to allow 10-acre bottomhole spacing instead of the previous 20-acre spacing for oil and gas wells. Since 2007, numbers of APDs received by CRVFO have fluctuated, from 200 in 2009 during the general economic downturn, 327 in 2010, and, 224 in 2012. These fluctuations have been related to a variety of factors, including natural gas prices and decisions by operators to shift their emphasis to new developments in other regions. During the period from fiscal years 2000 through 2012, more than 1,200 federal wells were drilled in the CRVFO. This has included projects on new or previously undeveloped federal leases as well as infill drilling on developed leases. Compared with earlier drilling technologies, directional drilling allows more bottomhole targets to be reached from a single well pad, whether new or existing. In the case of existing pads, new wells are often added with no or limited additional surface disturbance. Currently, some well pads are being planned with more than 40 wells accessing 400 acres of federal mineral estate. Directional drilling has greatly reduced the environmental impacts on a per-well basis, as have greater use of shared infrastructure and pipelines instead of trucks to transport liquids. In addition, technology advancements on newer types of drilling equipment have contributed to reduced emissions from drilling operations.

Wildlife including special status species. While the USFWS and CPW are directly responsible for managing fish and wildlife populations, the BLM is directly responsible for managing fish and wildlife habitat on its lands, which supports the health and well-being of fish and wildlife whose habitats are on BLM lands. In addition, the BLM is mandated to ensure that special status species are protected, by virtue of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, by policy in the 6840 Manual, and by the BLM *Land Use Planning Handbook* (H-1601-1; BLM 2005a). This goal is furthered through a memorandum of agreement with the USFWS and the USFS.

Many of the management decisions related to fish and wildlife in the existing CRVFO RMP (BLM 1984a) could be categorized as decisions to collect additional data, cooperate with other agencies, protect existing habitat for specific species or populations, or improve habitats for particular species (BLM 1984a). Although some wildlife protection or mitigation measures have been effective in preventing impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat, growing issues were further examined. Examples of these issues included: (1) the quantity and quality of species habitats on BLM lands; (2) special designations for the benefit of wildlife; (3) management action and allowable use decisions necessary to protect or enhance aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat; (4) fragmentation; and land uses such as oil and gas development, residential growth, and increasing recreation uses.

Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species. Sagebrush shrublands are diverse and important habitats that support a variety of unique flora and fauna, including the greater sage-grouse. Sagebrush shrublands are also among the most important wintering and foraging areas for big game, especially mule deer. Many of the lower elevation communities of Wyoming big sagebrush, which comprise the bulk of mule deer winter range in the region, are old with moderate to severe over-browsing. In contrast, mountain big sagebrush and subalpine sagebrush communities in the CRVFO area are in generally good condition, with good diversity and cover of herbaceous species. However, throughout the region, all sagebrush habitats continue to be threatened by increased human uses and resource development. These threats, which have reduced, degraded, or fragmented sagebrush habitats, include (1) conversion of the sagebrush steppe to agriculture; (2) invasion by non-native plant species; (3) energy extraction; (4) rural residential expansion; and (5) recreation. The bulk of these influences have occurred at lower elevations that contain a higher proportion

of private land and are especially critical areas for sage-grouse and wintering big game. The RMP revisions addressed issues associated with sagebrush habitat fragmentation and big game winter range.

Other Issues

Seven of the twelve planning issues identified through planning and public participation were determined to have less impact on the direction of the RMP alternatives. These issues were important to respondents during scoping, although they were not as formative or determinative for developing alternatives. These seven issues were considered in the environmental consequences analysis of the alternatives (Chapter 4) and have had an impact on the management and use of BLM lands. The seven other issues creating public concerns addressed in this Proposed RMP/Final EIS were as follows:

- Vegetation
- Travel management and transportation
- Lands and realty
- Wildland urban interface
- Rangeland health/upland management
- Water/riparian
- Cultural resources

Vegetation (including special status species). Regardless of the alternative, the desired outcomes for vegetation communities are to achieve a healthy diverse cover of perennial vegetation appropriate for the ecological site. Healthy vegetation will stabilize the soil, increase infiltration of precipitation, slow surface runoff, prevent erosion, provide clean water to adjacent streams, provide habitat for wildlife, sustain special status species, and enhance the visual quality of BLM lands.

Rangelands (including sagebrush steppe, oakbrush and mixed mountain shrublands) provide valuable cover, forage, and breeding sites for a variety of wildlife and are the foundation for many resource uses. Some have expressed concern that resource uses may be affecting the natural function and condition of these communities. In addition, many rangelands, particularly at the lower and middle elevations, are threatened by the invasion and expansion of non-native annual cheatgrass and other invasive and noxious weeds.

Forests, specifically lodgepole pine communities in the region, are experiencing an outbreak of mountain pine beetle. Aspen woodlands have also experienced mortality and decadence due to drought and disease factors. Older trees are usually more susceptible to insect infestations and disease. The Proposed RMP offers management direction and alternative approaches to address vegetation health. Under all alternatives, *BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management* (BLM 1997a) apply to vegetation resources.

Travel management and transportation. Travel and transportation are an integral part of virtually every activity that occurs on BLM lands. The Proposed RMP comprehensively addresses all modes of travel and access. Because travel and transportation management supports and facilitates other BLM land uses, the direction for trails and travel management is provided by other resources and program management objectives. In accordance with Colorado BLM guidance in Instruction Memorandum 2007-020 (BLM 2007e),

areas open to cross-country travel or designated as “open to existing routes” were changed to areas that are “limited to designated routes.”

Lands and realty. The BLM lands and realty program is responsible for processing land use authorizations and land tenure adjustments on the public lands. Use authorizations include (1) ROWs for roads, pipelines, transmission lines and communication sites; (2) film permits; (3) long-term leases; and (4) Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) leases. Land tenure adjustments include land exchanges and land acquisitions to support resource management and public recreation. Regardless of the alternative, lands and realty actions should support the goals and objectives set for natural resources and resource uses. As such, lands and realty actions are subject to the constraints to achieve the desired outcomes of other resource and resource use programs.

Wildland urban interface (WUI). CRVFO land management issues are more complex due to the interspersed nature of BLM lands and non-BLM lands. The zone where unoccupied BLM lands transition into developed private lands is called the WUI. The CRVFO is faced with the challenge of sustaining BLM resources and meeting public demands for resource use in the WUI zones. This topic is inherent in all alternatives.

The communities adjacent to WUI zones are also at the highest risk of danger from wildland fires. Wildland fire management must give priority to public/firefighter safety and to protection of private property while integrating RMP objectives across landscapes, agencies, and government boundaries.

Rangeland health/upland management. On February 3, 1997, the Secretary of the Interior approved the *BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management* (BLM 1997a). In accordance with the *BLM Land Use Planning Handbook* (H-1601-1; BLM 2005a), Standards for Public Land Health are expressed as goals in RMPs. The Proposed RMP planning criteria included these standards and guidelines, and laid out a strategy for ensuring compliance with proper grazing practices. Regardless of the alternative, the proposed decisions were designed to achieve the standards for BLM land health. In areas where land health standards were not being achieved, then-current uses and decisions were reviewed and modified as necessary to ensure significant progress toward achieving a healthy ecosystem. Grazing is managed to maintain or improve the health of the BLM lands by incorporating terms to enhance resource conditions into permitted operations.

Water/riparian. Regardless of the alternative, water quality of all water bodies, including groundwater (where applicable) on or influenced by BLM lands, is managed to achieve or exceed the water quality standards established by the State of Colorado. Water quality standards for surface water and groundwater include the designation of beneficial uses, numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and antidegradation requirements set forth under state law (5 Colorado Code of Regulations (CCR) 1002-8), as required by Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act.

Cultural resources. Regardless of the alternative, significant cultural properties are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Archaeological Resource and Protection Act (ARPA). The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) requires that any proposed undertaking that may impact cultural resources take into account the potential effects on historic properties. This requirement leads to completion of field and record search inventories and field assessments. Decisions are made in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

(ACHP), and Native American tribes, as applicable. Section 110 of the NHPA guides the long-term preservation of historic properties under federal management.

2.4 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED FOR DETAILED ANALYSIS

Draft RMP/Draft EIS. Following the close of the public scoping period in June 2007, the BLM began developing alternatives by assembling an interdisciplinary team of BLM resource specialists. Between September 2007 and June 2008, the BLM interdisciplinary team developed management goals, objectives, allowable uses and management actions to meet the goals and objectives of each alternative. The BLM also coordinated with cooperating agencies beginning in April 2007 and continuing throughout the planning process. Four management alternatives had been developed for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS to fulfill the purpose and need (Section 1.2, Purpose of and Need for the RMP), to meet the multiple use mandates of the FLPMA; (43 USC 1716), and to address the 12 planning issues. Alternatives A (no action alternative), B, C, and D offered a range of management options to resolve the issues identified in the *Community Assessment Report* (BLM 2007d), the scoping process, and other outreach activities. These outreach activities included (1) inputs from cooperating agencies, the Northwest Resource Advisory Council subgroups, visitor studies, focus groups, informal interviews, and reports (such as the NWSRS eligibility study [BLM 2007f] and NWSRS suitability study [Appendix C]) for all rivers in the decision area; (2) the ACEC evaluation summarized in Appendix E (BLM 2007g); and (3) a VRM update study (Otak 2007).

Each alternative was designed to respond to the key issues differently, providing a range of possible management approaches that the BLM could implement. That difference of each alternative was created by varying possible goals, objectives, allowable use, and management action decisions, and to a lesser degree, by varying implementation decisions such as travel route designations. Each alternative stood alone as a potential RMP. Resource program goals were met in varying degrees across alternatives. Resources or resource uses not tied to key planning issues or mandated by laws and regulations often contained fewer differences across alternatives. The general direction of each alternative was summarized in Chapter 2 of the Draft RMP/Draft EIS.

Proposed RMP/Final EIS. Based on substantive comments from other governmental agencies and the public on the Draft RMP/Draft EIS, the BLM prepared a Final EIS, which includes identification of a Proposed RMP. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative B) in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS was revised as the result of evaluating comments received on the Draft RMP/Draft EIS, and is now identified as the Proposed RMP (Alternative B). The Final EIS also incorporates the other alternatives (Alternatives A, C, and D) analyzed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS, with editorial changes, technical changes, and factual corrections made as appropriate. The BLM also added supplemental information to the affected environment section (Chapter 3), and improved the analysis of alternatives (Chapter 4) based on external and internal comments.

A complete description of each alternative is presented in Table 2-2, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, at the end of this chapter. Table 2-1 summarizes these alternatives. Section 2.6 discusses the selection of the Proposed RMP.

The appendices provide supplemental information not included in Tables 2-1 or 2-2. For example, Appendix A contains related maps, and Appendix B describes in detail stipulations included in the Proposed RMP for oil and gas leasing and other surface-disturbing activities.

2.4.1 Alternative A (No Action Alternative)

Alternative A would continue the present management situation. Goals and objectives for BLM land resources and resource uses would be based on the existing CRVFO RMP, RMP amendments, and activity- or implementation-level plans. The emphasis would be on maintaining the existing land management direction for physical, biological, cultural, and historic resource values, along with recreational, social, and economic land uses. The BLM would implement the direction contained in laws, regulations, and BLM policies superseding provisions of the existing RMP and its amendments.

The appropriate development scenarios would stay the same for such allowable uses as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, timber harvest, utility corridors, and livestock grazing. There would be no change in goals, objectives, allowable uses, or management actions that are allowed, restricted, or prohibited on BLM lands and mineral estate. The BLM would not establish additional criteria or change present criteria to guide the identification of site-specific use levels for implementation activities.

Key components of Alternative A are as follows:

Recreation demand and uses. Recreation administration would be directed by decisions in the existing RMP, amendments, and recreation area management plans. Recreation management would generally emphasize the continued availability of outdoor recreation opportunities, interpretation, and visitor safety. The existing eight SRMAs (Bocco Mountain, Bull Gulch, Deep Creek, Gypsum Hills, Hack Lake, Red Hill, Thompson Creek, and the Upper Colorado River) would be carried forward unchanged. The remaining BLM lands would be managed custodially, as the Glenwood Springs ERMA. Application of NSO stipulations would offer some protection for nonmotorized recreation opportunities at King Mountain, Siloam Springs, Castle Peak, Bull Gulch (the portion of the WSA not within the SRMA), Sunlight Peak, Fisher Creek, and Pisgah Mountain.

Energy development including air quality. Under Alternative A, a total of 672,500 acres including federal mineral estate would be identified as open to oil and gas leasing and development. These areas would be subject to a variety of existing NSO, CSU, and timing limitation (TL) stipulations, as well as conditions of approval (COAs) to ensure that oil and gas activities would be conducted in an environmentally acceptable manner.

Wildlife including special status species. The condition and trends of all aquatic habitats within perennial streams or lakes would continue to be maintained and, where needed, improved at levels conducive to a healthy aquatic community. BLM land habitat would be managed to support optimum terrestrial wildlife population levels, as determined cooperatively with the CPW Strategic Plan and the USFWS, commensurate with public land health standards. Special status species and their habitats would be managed to provide for their continued presence in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Current stipulations (e.g., seasonal protections) would be maintained to protect sensitive species habitat, such as greater sage-grouse.

Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species. Implementing measures to protect occupied and suitable habitat for sagebrush-dependent species would continue. Habitat treatments to enhance sagebrush habitat for sagebrush-dependent species would be implemented.

Special designations. Four existing WSAs (27,700 acres) and six ACECs (27,000 acres) would continue to be managed, and protective management would be implemented on 26 stream segments eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS.

2.4.2 Alternative B (Proposed RMP)

Alternative B (Proposed RMP) used the Alternative B (Preferred Alternative) from the Draft RMP/Draft EIS as its foundation. It carries the same theme as Alternative B found in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS but includes elements of the other alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. The Proposed RMP seeks to allocate limited public land resources among competing human interests, land uses, and the conservation of natural and cultural resources. Goals and objectives would focus on environmental, economic, and social outcomes achieved by strategically addressing demands across the landscape. Management direction would generally be broad to accommodate a variety of values and uses.

Key components of the Proposed RMP are as follows:

Recreation demand and uses. The Proposed RMP would emphasize a variety of recreation opportunities and the protection of a variety of recreation setting characteristics. Current recreational uses would be recognized and accommodated where possible when considering land uses. The Proposed RMP would include the designation of five SRMAs (Hardscrabble-East Eagle, King Mountain, Red Hill, The Crown, and the Upper Colorado River) where recreation opportunities are recognized as a primary management consideration due to their unique value, importance, and/or distinctiveness. The Proposed RMP would also include the designation of six ERMAs (Bocco Mountain, Eagle River, Gypsum Hills, New Castle, Silt Mesa, and Thompson Creek) where the principal recreation activities, current recreation demand, and existing recreation facilities would receive specific management consideration commensurate with the management of other resources.

Energy development including air quality. The Proposed RMP would identify 603,100 acres including federal mineral estate as open to oil and gas exploration and development. Oil and gas activities on BLM lands or associated with federal mineral estate would be managed using a variety of NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations (Appendix B) and COAs to ensure that exploration and development are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Most of the area within the favorable geologic Piceance Basin (high potential area) is leased, and would not be constrained by stipulations proposed under any action alternative (the Proposed RMP and Alternatives C and D). Restrictions on new oil and gas leasing and development under this alternative would be constrained by proposed stipulations. Special designations were minimized in the natural gas high occurrence potential area to avoid conflicts with valid existing rights associated with existing oil and gas leases.

Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. The CRVFO would manage the following land units, totaling 34,400 acres, for the protection of wilderness characteristics: Castle Peak Addition (3,900 acres), Deep Creek (4,300 acres), Flat Tops Addition (3,500 acres), Pisgah Mountain (14,500 acres), and Thompson Creek (8,200 acres). All units outside WSAs would be managed for those characteristics, using the management settings and prescriptions presented in Appendix F.

Wildlife including special status species. Fish and wildlife species would be strategically managed with an emphasis on protecting priority habitat, streamflows, and riparian areas. Special status species requiring specific management consideration to promote their conservation and reduce the likelihood and need for future listing under the ESA would be a priority. Stipulations to constrain surface-disturbing activities and other actions would protect the quantity and quality of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitats. Big game and other wildlife species would be protected through seasonal public travel restrictions (e.g., winter travel restrictions) and stipulations on land uses.

Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species. The Proposed RMP would emphasize identifying and protecting sagebrush habitat for sagebrush-dependent species. It would also allow for implementation of habitat treatments to enhance sagebrush habitat.

Special designations. The Proposed RMP would maintain the four existing WSAs (27,700 acres) and designate eleven ACECs (46,400 acres). The Proposed RMP would determine Deep Creek Segment 2 (wild) and Deep Creek Segment 3 (recreational) on BLM lands as suitable for inclusion into the NWSRS. The Proposed RMP would also determine USFS Deep Creek Segment 1 (scenic) and Deep Creek Segment 2 (wild) as suitable for inclusion into the NWSRS. The BLM would defer a suitability determination on Colorado River segments and would rely upon the *Upper Colorado River Stakeholder Group Management Plan* (Appendix Q), in concert with BLM/USFS land management authorities, to protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs), and tentative classifications for the Colorado River Segment 6 (recreational) and Colorado River Segment 7 (recreational). Colorado River Segments 6 and 7 will remain in eligible status and a suitability determination would be deferred. Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to a supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. At that time, BLM will render a suitability determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area supplemental EIS.

2.4.3 Alternative C

Alternative C emphasizes protecting resource values and sustaining or restoring the ecological integrity of habitats for all priority plant, wildlife, and fish species, particularly the habitats needed for conserving and recovering listed, proposed, or candidate threatened or endangered plant and animal species. Goals and objectives would focus on environmental and social outcomes achieved by sustaining relatively unmodified physical landscapes and natural and cultural resource values for current and future generations.

The appropriate mix of uses on BLM lands and mineral estate would be based on minimizing site specific types and levels of human disturbances to natural and cultural resources. Management direction would generally be ecologically based; existing uses would be recognized but would likely be limited to ensure the protection of natural and cultural values, including intangible Native American landscape values encompassing plant communities, wildlife, viewsheds, air, and water. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, and livestock grazing) would be contingent on meeting the essential conditions of natural and heritage resources.

Key components of Alternative C are as follows:

Recreation demand and uses. Recreation opportunities would be emphasized under Alternative C in concert with sustaining the biological integrity of habitats for plants, wildlife, and fish species. Recreation might be limited in ecologically sensitive areas. Recreation and visitor services management would be recognized as the primary land use in the Red Hill SRMA and the Upper Colorado River SRMA. In turn, Alternative C would include the designation of nine ERMAs (Eagle River, Fisher Creek, Hardscrabble/East Eagle, New Castle, Silt Mesa, Thompson Creek, Hack Lake, King Mountain, and The Crown), the most among the four alternatives analyzed. At these ERMAs, the principal recreation activities, current recreation demand, and existing recreation facilities would be given specific management consideration commensurate with the management of other resources.

Energy development including air quality. Alternative C would identify 521,500 acres, including federal mineral estate, as open to oil and gas exploration and development. Oil and gas activities on BLM lands or associated with federal mineral estate would be managed using a variety of NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations (Appendix B) and COAs to ensure that exploration and development are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Most of the area within the favorable geologic Piceance Basin (high potential area) is leased, and would not be constrained by stipulations proposed under any action alternative. Alternative C would have the most constraints on how and where new oil and gas leasing and development would occur.

Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. All BLM land units (45,900 acres) inventoried to have wilderness characteristics outside WSAs would be managed to protect those characteristics, using the management settings and prescriptions presented in Appendix F. These areas include the following: Castle Peak Addition (3,900 acres), Deep Creek (4,400 acres), Flat Tops Addition (3,500 acres), Grand Hogback (11,400 acres), Pisgah Mountain (14,500 acres), and Thompson Creek (8,200 acres).

Wildlife including special status species. Fish and wildlife species, including special status species, would be managed with an emphasis on proactively identifying, protecting, and improving habitats, such as sensitive and crucial wildlife habitat. Management would also protect and improve priority habitat, winter range (quantity and quality), and core wildlife areas. Parts of core wildlife areas would be closed or major (NSO) constraints would be applied to fluid minerals leasing. Protection of tributary watersheds, fish-bearing streams, streamflows, riparian areas, and habitat connections and migration corridors would be maximized. Development would be limited in, and seasonal restrictions would be applied to, winter range.

Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species. The BLM would proactively identify, protect, and improve wildlife habitat, including treatments for the benefit of sagebrush-dependent species, particularly in areas identified as historical habitats. Alternative C would include establishing reference areas to use as control groups for evaluating management activities in sagebrush habitat.

Special designations. Alternative C would maintain the four existing WSAs (27,700 acres) and designate 16 ACECs (79,800 acres). All 26 eligible stream segments would be found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau discussed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS are being deferred to the supplemental EIS for the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment.

2.4.4 Alternative D

Under Alternative D an appropriate mix of uses on BLM lands and mineral estate would be emphasized based on the availability of resources that support social and economic outcomes, while protecting land health. Management direction would recognize and expand existing uses, and would accommodate new uses to the greatest extent possible. The appropriate development scenarios for allowable uses (such as mineral leasing, locatable mineral development, recreation, communication sites, and livestock grazing) would emphasize maximizing resource production in an environmentally responsible manner, while maintaining the basic protection needed to sustain resources.

Key components of Alternative D are as follows:

Recreational demand and uses. Alternative D would emphasize managing BLM lands in a manner that would accommodate recreation uses in combination with other BLM land uses. Alternative D would include the designation of seven SRMAs (Bocco Mountain, Fisher Creek, Hardscrabble/East Eagle, Red Hill, The Crown, Thompson Creek, and the Upper Colorado River) where recreation opportunities would be recognized as a primary management consideration due to their unique value, importance and/or distinctiveness. Alternative D would also designate five ERMAs (Eagle River, Hack Lake, King Mountain, New Castle, and Silt Mesa) where the principal recreation activities, current recreation demand, and existing recreation facilities would receive specific management consideration commensurate with the management of other resources.

Energy development including air quality. Alternative D would identify 648,400 acres including split mineral estate, as open to oil and gas exploration and development. Oil and gas activities on BLM lands or associated with federal mineral estate would be managed using a variety NSO, CSU, and TL stipulations (Appendix B) and COAs to ensure that exploration and development are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

Most of the area within the favorable geologic Piceance Basin (high potential area) is leased, and would not be constrained by stipulations proposed under any action alternative. Compared with the other action alternatives, fewer restrictions would be placed on new oil and gas leasing and development, and the most lands would be open to leasing.

Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. The CRVFO would not manage any BLM lands inventoried to have wilderness characteristics to protect their wilderness character.

Wildlife including special status species. Alternative D would continue to manage fish and wildlife (including special status species) with an emphasis on protecting crucial habitat, including protecting streamflows and riparian areas.

Sagebrush habitat and sagebrush-dependent species. Fewer restrictions would be placed on uses in sagebrush habitat than under the Proposed RMP and Alternative C.

Special designations. Alternative D would maintain the four existing WSAs (27,700 acres) and designate three ACECs (20,200 acres). No segments eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS would be found suitable for congressional designation. Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau discussed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS are being deferred to the supplemental EIS for the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment.

2.4.5 Components of Alternatives

Decisions in RMPs guide future land management actions and subsequent site-specific implementation decisions. The RMP decisions fall into two categories: (1) desired outcomes (goals and objectives), and (2) allowable uses and management actions anticipated to achieve desired outcomes. Goals are broad statements of desired outcomes that are usually not quantifiable, while objectives identify specific desired outcomes for resources and may be quantifiable, measurable, or establish timeframes for achievement. The goals may be the same or similar across all alternatives, but objectives usually vary across alternatives,

especially when addressing key issues. Unless otherwise specified, objective timeframes are achieved or maintained through the life of the plan.

After establishing desired outcomes, the BLM identifies allowable uses (land use allocations) and management actions for different alternatives that are anticipated to achieve the goals and objectives. Allowable use decisions specify what is allowable, restricted, or prohibited on the BLM lands and federal mineral estate. These allocations identify surface lands and/or subsurface mineral interests where uses are allowed, including any restrictions that may be needed to meet goals and objectives. LUPs also identify lands where specific uses are excluded to protect resource values. Management actions include proactive measures, as well as measures or criteria that would be applied to guide day-to-day activities occurring on public land. Management actions also establish administrative designations such as ACECs, recommend proposed withdrawals and land tenure zones, and recommend or make findings of suitability for congressional designations (such as components of the NWSRS).

Implementation decisions generally constitute site-specific, on-the-ground actions. Where implementation decisions are made as part of the land use planning process, they are still subject to the appeals process or other administrative review, as prescribed by the specific resource program regulations, after the BLM resolves the protests to LUP decisions and makes a decision to adopt or amend the RMP. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS clearly distinguishes between LUPs and implementation decisions in Table 2-2, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, at the end of this chapter.

2.4.6 Management Common to All Alternatives

Some of the allowable uses and management actions in this Draft RMP/Draft EIS are carried forward from the existing RMP (Alternative A) because there is no impending concern associated with them or they do not need to change. These decisions are common to all four alternatives because a range of alternative decisions is not necessary for every resource or resource use. Other decisions are common only to the action alternatives (Proposed RMP, and Alternatives C and D). Each alternative emphasizes a slightly different mix of resources and resource uses, but many similarities exist.

All alternatives contain the following common elements:

- Comply with state and federal laws, regulations, policies, and standards, including the multiple use mandates of FLPMA.
- Conduct implementation decisions (day-to-day management, monitoring, and administrative functions) that stem directly from regulations, policy, and law, which are considered in conformance with the RMP alternatives and are not specifically addressed in the alternatives.
- Provide for human safety and property protection from wildfire.
- In limited travel areas, designate specific routes for motorized, mechanized, and nonmotorized/non-mechanized use.
- Incorporate *Colorado Standards for Public Land Health* (BLM 1997a) as goals in the alternatives.
- Authorize livestock grazing in a manner consistent with *Colorado Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management* (BLM 1997a).
- Sustain habitat in sufficient quantities and quality for viable plant, fish, and wildlife populations.

- Include protective measures that minimize air and water pollutants.
- Adhere to the CDPHE's *Air Quality Control Commission Regulations* (CDPHE 2008a), as required by law, to ensure that the Clean Air Act is not violated. Special requirements to alleviate air quality impacts are included on a case-by-case basis in use authorizations (including lease stipulations) within the scope of BLM's authority.
- Facilitate orderly, economic, and environmentally sound energy development. Develop natural gas resources in the CRVFO's Lower Colorado River area (Figure 3-1, Appendix A) under existing lease terms and conditions (e.g., NSO, TL).
- Continue to manage WSAs in compliance with the BLM's interim management policy (*BLM Handbook 8550-1, Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review* [BLM 1995]).
- Offer a diversity of recreation opportunities that foster outdoor lifestyles and that add to people's quality of life.
- Conserve key scenic vistas that communities and visitors value.
- Provide some sustainable forest and woodland products, while maintaining landscape diversity and ecosystem integrity.
- Apply conditions of approval, best management practices (BMPs), and other site specific mitigation (e.g., recreation guidelines) to all resource uses.
- Apply conditions of approval, BMPs, and other site specific mitigation to minimize erosion, encourage rapid reclamation, retain soils using stormwater mitigation practices, maintain soil stability, and support resources.
- Collaborate with adjacent landowners, federal and state agencies, tribes, communities, other agencies, and other individuals and organizations as needed to attain and monitor water quality standards and to provide source water protection.
- Participate in partnerships and communicate with other agencies and interested parties, such as Habitat Partnership Program, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, CPW, USFWS, and the USFS.
- Modify oil and gas surface operations to change or add specific reasonable mitigation measures when supported by scientific analysis and consistent with lease rights. All mitigation/conservation measures not already required as stipulations would be analyzed in a site-specific NEPA document, and be incorporated, as appropriate, into conditions of approval of the permit, plan of development, and/or other use authorization.

In addition to these common elements, Table 2-2, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D (at the end of this chapter) includes allowable uses and management actions common to all four alternatives. These are shown as one common cell across a row of the table.

Adaptive Management

The systematic process of adaptive management (planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation) would be used to determine the success of management actions in achieving objectives, as described in the alternatives, and would be conducted within the framework of the RMP. Adaptive management would be guided by *Adaptive Management, the US Department of the Interior Technical Guide* (Williams et al. 2007). RMP

revisions are based on current scientific knowledge and best available data. To be successful, the implementation of the RMPs must have the flexibility to adapt and respond to new information. Under the concept of adaptive management, new information or changing conditions would be evaluated, and a decision would be made as to whether to make implementation adjustments or changes. The adaptive management approach enables resource managers to determine how well implementation decisions achieve the objectives, and to develop steps needed to modify or cease implementation to increase success or improve results.

2.5 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED ANALYSIS

The BLM planning regulations at 43 CFR 1610.4-7 require federal agencies to analyze all “reasonable” alternatives that substantially meet the purpose and need for the proposed action. For alternatives considered but eliminated from detailed analysis, regulations require a brief explanation as to why they were eliminated (40 CFR 1502.14).

The alternatives described below were eliminated from detailed study because they did not meet the purpose of and need for the RMP (Section 1.2), or because they were outside the technical, legal, or policy constraints of developing an RMP for BLM land resources and resource uses.

2.5.1 Implement Exclusive Use or Protection

Some alternatives and general management options were not considered, specifically those that proposed exclusive use or maximum development, production, or protection of one resource at the expense of other resources or resource uses. FLPMA mandates the BLM to manage its lands for multiple uses and sustained yield. This mandate eliminated such alternatives as closing all BLM lands to oil and gas leasing, or managing all lands for particular natural resource value to the exclusion of other resource use considerations. In addition, resource conditions did not warrant planning area-wide prohibition of any particular use. Alternatives eliminating traditional uses, where resource conditions did not justify such measures, were not reasonable. Each alternative considered allowed for some level of support, protection, or use of all resources in the planning area. In some instances, the alternatives analyzed in detail did include various considerations for eliminating or maximizing individual resource values or uses in specific areas where conflicts existed.

2.5.2 Designate Entire Decision Area as either Open or Closed to Off-Highway Vehicle Use

Considered but dismissed were suggestions to designate all areas on BLM lands as entirely open for yearlong OHV use, without regard to current travel restrictions, or to close areas entirely to OHV use. Management of BLM lands not only requires implementing restrictions to address travel concerns and recreation demands, but it also requires protecting resource values. In addition, the BLM concluded that the then-current level of open, closed, or limited OHV areas would be used as a baseline for comparing alternatives.

Having an alternative entirely open to OHV use, or entirely closed to OHV use, would be inconsistent with the National OHV Strategy (BLM 2001b) incorporated here by reference. The National OHV Strategy recognizes that OHV use is an acceptable use of public land wherever it is compatible with established resource management objectives. While allowing this acceptable use of BLM-administered lands, it is also the responsibility of the BLM to ensure that these lands are preserved and conserved for future generations.

As established by the FLPMA, the BLM is required to manage the public lands on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield, while protecting natural values.

2.5.3 Place Moratorium on Land Exchanges

Placing a moratorium on land exchanges was considered but dismissed. Through FLPMA, Congress determined that land exchanges are an effective land management tool to consolidate land ownership, as long as individual exchanges are determined to be in the public interest and are done within regulatory constraints.

2.5.4 Designate Additional Wilderness Study Areas

Designation of additional WSAs was not considered in the alternatives because the BLM's authority for establishing WSAs ended in 1993. The BLM has the ability to determine if wilderness characteristics are present outside existing WSAs. Appendix D - Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Assessment for the Colorado River Valley Field Office, includes results of the BLM's inventory of these non-WSA lands for wilderness character. Values associated with solitude, primitive recreation, and naturalness are considered with all other resources and resource uses. Areas where wilderness character was not found were not brought forward for analysis. Plan alternatives may have included allocations and actions that protect these values.

2.5.5 Revoke Withdrawals of Oil Shale Resources on BLM Lands

Decisions related to oil shale leasing are tied to the *Oil Shale and Tar Sands RMP Amendments to Address Land Use Allocations in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (BLM 2012i), incorporated here by reference. Because any future leasing of oil shale or tar sands in the planning area would be pursuant to the Oil Shale and Tar Sands ROD, it would require a new NEPA analysis separate from this RMP process. Consequently, the decisions in the Oil Shale and Tar Sands ROD, and future leasing of those resources, were not considered in the alternatives analyzed in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS.

2.5.6 Close Entire Decision Area to Livestock Grazing

The BLM considered public scoping comments that discussed banning or eliminating livestock grazing on BLM lands. However, closing the planning area to livestock grazing was not analyzed in detail because no documented resource conflicts or land health issues warranted closing the entire planning area to livestock grazing.

For example, between 1999 and 2011, land health was assessed across the CRVFO using the Colorado Standards for Public Land Health (Appendix J). Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health, and relate to all uses of BLM lands. The cumulative evaluation for Land Health Standard 3 (i.e., "Healthy, productive plant and animal communities of native and other desirable species are maintained at viable population levels commensurate with the species and habitat's potential.") showed that 92.3 percent of the planning area is meeting Land Health Standard 3. The most common problems were: (1) the presence of invasive species, such as cheatgrass; pinyon-juniper encroachment into sagebrush communities; (2) unbalanced functional group composition (e.g., too few perennial grasses and forbs and too many shrubs); (3) low plant diversity; and (4) too much bare ground. Only 1.4 percent of the planning area was determined to not be meeting Land Health Standard 3 with livestock grazing noted as a significant contributing factor. Once livestock grazing is identified as a significant factor for not achieving or moving toward achieving Land Health Standards, then implementation-level decisions are made in coordination with the permittees and interested public. Actions taken can include changing the season or length of grazing use, implementing vegetation treatments, or developing additional water sources.

Overall, 202 allotments totaling 349,893 acres are meeting all standards or making significant progress toward meeting the standards. Thirty-five allotments are not meeting all standards or making significant progress toward meeting the standards due to causes other than livestock grazing. Only four allotments totaling 25,877 acres (5.3%) are not meeting all standards or making significant progress toward meeting the standards, with livestock grazing found as a significant contributing factor.

In addition, closing the CRVFO to livestock grazing was inconsistent with planning criteria which: (1) established the parameters for the alternatives, and (2) provided guidance by program. No comments were received on the preliminary planning criteria during the scoping period, from March 2 to May 2, 2007.

Livestock grazing within alternatives varied due to considerations such as: the theme of each alternative, other proposed decisions in each alternative, scoping comments, analysis of the management situation, current resource conditions, desired future conditions, and existing resource competition and/or conflict. In lieu of closing the entire decision area to livestock grazing, and to fulfill the BLM's NEPA obligation for development of a reasonable range of alternatives, the EIS included reduced grazing levels as part of its alternatives analysis. The acres available for livestock grazing ranged from a high of 488,300 acres to a low of 427,800 acres. The corresponding AUMs of available livestock forage ranged from a high of 39,200 AUMs to a low of 35,500 AUMs.

2.6 RATIONALE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED RMP

The Final EIS presents four different alternatives, which took into consideration comments received from other governmental agencies, public organizations, the state, tribal entities, interested non-governmental organizations, and individuals. As part of the RMP process, the alternatives evaluated in the Final EIS represented the range of possible decisions that would address issues and offer a distinct choice among potential management strategies.

The CEQ regulations for implementing NEPA require the BLM to identify the agency's preferred alternative in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS and to identify its Proposed RMP in the Final EIS. The Proposed RMP for the CRVFO was crafted from decisions proposed in the four alternatives in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. In developing the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, the CRVFO took the actions described below.

- Worked within the range of the alternatives presented in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS.
- Considered public comments on the Draft RMP/Draft EIS.
- Conducted BLM District, BLM State Office, and BLM Washington Office staff reviews.
- Conducted regional and Washington Office solicitor reviews.
- Continued working with the Northwest RAC and cooperating agencies.

The Field Manager for the CRVFO, in collaboration with the District Manager of the Northwest District, recommended Alternative B of this Final EIS as the Proposed RMP for the CRVFO. The Proposed RMP represents the alternative the BLM has determined best addresses the planning issues within the parameters of the planning criteria, achieves the purpose and need for revising the RMP, promotes balanced multiple use of BLM lands and federal mineral estate within the CRVFO, and represents what was supported by the cooperating agencies and the BLM Colorado Northwest RAC.

2.7 MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE FOR ALTERNATIVES A, B, C, AND D

General

Table 2-2, Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D, describes all decisions proposed for each of four alternatives, including goals, objectives, management actions, allowable uses, and implementation decisions. The Final EIS clearly distinguishes between LUP-level and any implementation-level decisions included in the alternatives. LUP-level decisions establish desired outcomes and actions needed to achieve them. Decisions are reached using the planning process in 43 CFR 1600. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. They are not appealable to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA). Implementation-level decisions take action to implement land use plan decisions and are generally appealable to IBLA under 43 CFR 4.410.

In general, key planning issues have the most variation among the alternatives. There are no decisions in Table 2-2 for the Roan Plateau portion of the CRVFO because an RMP amendment was recently completed in 2008.

Supporting Information to Table 2-2, Description of Alternatives A, B, C, and D

- Appendix A contains maps that correspond with Table 2-2 of Chapter 2 and other sections of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS (e.g., baseline data in Chapter 3, analysis in Chapter 4).
- Appendix B contains supplemental information on stipulations (i.e., NSO, CSU, and TL) and lease notices (LNs). Table B-1 displays a summary of stipulations found in Table 2-2 applicable to fluid minerals development, surface-disturbing activities, and surface use and occupancy. Tables B-2 through B-9 provide a description of stipulations (including exceptions, modifications, and waivers) and lease notices.
- Appendix F contains management and setting prescriptions that were proposed under the Proposed RMP and Alternative C for lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics.
- Appendix G contains a list of BMPs that are applicable to all land uses across all alternatives.
- Appendix H contains management and setting prescriptions for caves that were proposed under all alternatives.
- Appendix I contains a livestock grazing allotment summary that supplements the livestock grazing section.
- Appendix J contains BLM's *Colorado Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management*. These Land Health Standards were incorporated as goals in the RMP across all alternatives.
- Appendix K contains a detailed management framework for RMAs proposed across alternatives. It provides RMA-specific information on outcome objectives, recreation setting characteristics supporting management action and allowable use decisions, implementation-level decisions, and BMPs to guide implementation-level management.
- Appendix L describes the management actions and strategies the BLM will utilize for protecting air resources from BLM authorized activities that have the potential to adversely impact air quality within the state of Colorado.

- Appendix N contains a list of CRVFO system roads and their maintenance levels.
- Appendix O contains supplemental information on travel management, the travel management planning process and route designations.
- Appendix Q contains the *Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group Management Plan* (2012), which represents a diverse range of interests who have worked together since 2008 to develop a plan to protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classifications identified in the BLM and USFS Eligibility Reports for Segments 4 through 7 of the Upper Colorado River.
- Appendix S provides an overview of the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation protocols for the CRVFO.

How to Read Table 2-2

- Actions that are applicable to more than one adjacent alternative are indicated by combining adjacent cells. Non-adjacent cells can contain the same action. Refer to the Diagram 2-1 for information on how to read Table 2-2.
- Actions that are applicable to all alternatives are shown in one cell across a row. These particular actions will be implemented regardless of which alternative is ultimately selected.
- The appropriate decisions indicate estimated BLM surface acres and federal mineral estate acres that would be affected by the decision (e.g., 76,200 acres /9,900 acres federal mineral estate) if data was available.

**Diagram 2-1
How to Read Table 2-2**

Alternative A: No Action	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Theme: Current Management	Theme: Mixed Emphasis	Theme: Conservation	Theme: Resource Use
Resources			
Air			
GOAL: No similar goal under current RMP (BLM 1984a).	GOAL: Within the scope of BLM's authority, ensure that air quality and air quality-related values are adequately protected in conjunction with activities or resource uses authorized by the BLM.		
Objective: Limit air quality degradation in the resource area by ensuring that BLM land-use activities are in compliance with Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.	Objective: Control or reduce air pollutants associated with oil and gas activities to help protect human health, conform with the Colorado Regional Haze State Implementation Plan to improve visibility, reduce atmospheric deposition, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.		
Action: No similar action under current RMP (BLM 1984a).	Action: Cooperate with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in identifying monitoring needs, as well as in facilitating installation and operation of monitoring equipment on BLM land or in conjunction with BLM-authorized activities.		
Action: Require oil and gas operators to implement twice-daily watering of construction areas and resource access roads used to support construction and drilling operations. Require fugitive dust control plans.	Action: Reduce emissions of fugitive dust by requiring that oil and gas operators implement watering (minimum twice daily during dry conditions) or application of other dust-suppressant agents at construction areas, including access roads used during construction. The authorized officer may direct the operator to change the level and type of dust abatement if the measures being used are insufficient to prevent visible plumes of fugitive dust or deposition of excessive dust on nearby surfaces in conjunction with vehicular traffic, equipment operations, or wind events. Require fugitive dust control plans in conjunction with oil and gas Master Development Plans (MDPs).		
Action: No similar action under current RMP (BLM 1984a).	Action: Require that oil and gas operators use gravel (in combination with watering or other dust suppressant as needed), chip-seal, asphalt, or other road-surfacing material to minimize fugitive dust emissions from BLM-authorized access roads ("local" and "resource" roads) during long-term production and maintenance operations.		
Action: Drill rig and frac pump engines would meet Colorado and EPA requirements.	Action: Within one year of the Record of Decision, require that all new and existing drill rig and frac pump engines used on BLM lands or to access federal minerals meet US Environmental Protection Agency Tier 4 Nonroad Diesel Engine Emission Standards or meet equivalent emission standards, regardless of when the engines begin operation.	Action: Within one year of the Record of Decision, require that all new and existing drill rig and frac pump engines used on BLM lands or to access federal minerals meet US Environmental Protection Agency	

**Table 2-2
Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D**

The following is a hyperlinked table of contents for Table 2-2, Descriptions of Alternatives A, B, C, and D:

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN	LANDS PROPOSED FOR THE PROTECTION OF WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS	VEGETATION – GENERAL
AIR	LIVESTOCK GRAZING	VEGETATION – FOREST AND WOODLANDS
CAVE AND KARST RESOURCES	LOCATABLE MINERALS, MINERAL MATERIALS, AND NON-ENERGY LEASABLE MINERALS (SOLID MINERALS)	VEGETATION – RIPARIAN
COAL	PALEONTOLOGY	VEGETATION – WEEDS
COMPREHENSIVE TRAILS AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT	RECREATION AND VISITOR SERVICES	VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CULTURAL RESOURCES	SOILS	WATER
FISH AND WILDLIFE	SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES – PLANTS	WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
FLUID MINERALS	SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES – TERRESTRIAL WILDLIFE	WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT
FORESTRY	SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES – FISH AND WILDLIFE	WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS
HEALTH AND SAFETY	SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES – FISHERIES AND OTHER AQUATIC WILDLIFE	
LANDS AND REALTY	TRANSPORTATION AND FACILITIES	

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Theme: Current Management	Theme: Mixed Emphasis	Theme: Conservation	Theme: Resource Use
I. Resources			
Air			
No similar goal.	<p>Goal: Within the scope of BLM’s authority, ensure that air quality and air quality-related values are adequately protected in conjunction with activities or resource uses authorized by the BLM. Protect air resources in accordance with the methodology and provisions outlined in the Comprehensive Air Resource Protection Protocol (CARPP).</p>	<p>Goal: Within the scope of BLM’s authority, ensure that air quality and air quality-related values are adequately protected in conjunction with activities or resource uses authorized by the BLM.</p>	
<p>Objective: Limit air quality degradation in the resource area by ensuring that BLM land-use activities are in compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.</p>	<p>Objective: Control or reduce air pollutants associated with construction and industrial activities to help protect human health, conform with the Colorado Regional Haze State Implementation Plan to improve visibility, reduce atmospheric deposition, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>Objective: Control or reduce air pollutants associated with oil and gas activities to help protect human health, conform with the Colorado Regional Haze State Implementation Plan to improve visibility, reduce atmospheric deposition, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Require oil and gas operators to implement twice-daily watering of construction areas and resource access roads used to support construction and drilling operations. Require fugitive dust control plans.</p>	<p>Management Action: During construction, reduce emissions of fugitive dust by requiring operators implement watering (minimum twice daily during dry conditions) or application of other dust-suppressant agents at construction areas, including access roads used during construction. The authorized officer may direct the operator to change the level and type of dust abatement if the measures being used are insufficient to prevent visible plumes of fugitive dust or deposition of excessive dust on nearby surfaces in conjunction with vehicular traffic, equipment operations, or wind events. Require fugitive dust control plans in conjunction with oil and gas Master Development Plans (MDPs).</p>	<p>Management Action: During construction, reduce emissions of fugitive dust by requiring that oil and gas operators implement watering (minimum twice daily during dry conditions) or application of other dust-suppressant agents at construction areas, including access roads used during construction. The authorized officer may direct the operator to change the level and type of dust abatement if the measures being used are insufficient to prevent visible plumes of fugitive dust or deposition of excessive dust on nearby surfaces in conjunction with vehicular traffic, equipment operations, or wind events. Require fugitive dust control plans in conjunction with oil and gas MDPs.</p>	

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Require that industrial operators use gravel (in combination with watering or other dust suppressant), chip-seal, asphalt, or other road-surfacing material to minimize fugitive dust emissions from BLM-authorized access roads (“local” and “resource” roads) during long-term production and maintenance operations.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Drill rig and frac pump engines would meet Colorado and EPA requirements.</p>	<p>Management Action: Based on annual review required by the CARPP and on the rate of development, require phased-in use of improved drilling and completion engines that meet or exceed Tier 4 non-road diesel emission standards (40 CFR 1039).</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that all new drill rig and frac pump engines used on BLM lands or to access federal minerals use natural gas and that all existing drill rig and frac pump engines are converted to natural gas within 2 years following issuance of the Record of Decision.</p>	<p>Management Action: Within one year of the Record of Decision, require that all new and existing drill rig and frac pump engines used on BLM lands or to access federal minerals use natural gas or meet or exceed EPA Tier 2 Non-road Diesel Engine Emission Standards.</p> <p>By 2015, require that all new and existing drill rig and frac pump engines used on BLM lands or to access federal minerals use natural gas.</p>
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Require that oil and gas operators use reduced-emission completion technologies (i.e. “green” completions) as defined in COGCC Rule 805 and the New Source Performance Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production at 40 CFR Part 63 subpart OOOO for all wells on BLM lands and wells that access federal minerals. An exemption may be granted on a case-by-case basis if the installation of necessary infrastructure is impracticable.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that oil and gas operators use green completions involving recovery and cleanup of natural gas at all federal wells and all private wells drilled from BLM land. An exemption may be granted on a case-by-case basis if the installation of necessary infrastructure is impracticable.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Allow flaring and venting in accordance with Notice to Lessees (NTL-4A).</p>	<p>Management Action: Require flaring of natural gas during well completions that are exempted from green completion technology. Prohibit venting of natural gas except during emergency situations.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require flaring of natural gas during well completions that are exempted from green completion technology on the basis of impracticability. Prohibit venting of natural gas except during emergency situations.</p>	

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C		Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Require that all glycol dehydrators, condensate tanks, and other volatile organic compound emission sources meet applicable Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Air Quality Control Commission and US Environmental Protection Agency emission standards.</p>	<p>Management Action: Reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds associated with federal oil and gas wells by requiring that operators install and maintain measures to achieve at least 90 percent control on glycol dehydrators and storage vessel and tank vents or otherwise as needed to comply with CDPHE Regulation Number 7, 5 CCR 1001-9, COGCC Rule 805, and the New Source Performance Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production at 40 CFR Part 63 subpart OOOO and NESHAPs for Oil and Natural Gas Production at 40 CFR Part 63 subparts HH and HHH.</p>	<p>Management Action: Reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds associated with federal oil and gas wells by requiring that operators install and maintain measures to achieve at least 90 percent control on glycol dehydrator vents and at least 95 percent control on condensate or condensate/produced water tanks.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Require that at least 60 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines to transfer condensate to consolidated facilities for dehydration, temporary storage in tanks, and transfer to trucks for haulage.</p> <p>Require that at least 60 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines instead of trucks to convey produced water to consolidated facilities for treatment or transfer to trucks for haulage.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that federal oil and gas developments use pipelines to transfer liquids to consolidated facilities, where feasible, to reduce truck haulage of liquids by 80% compared with no use of pipeline.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that at least 90 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines to transfer condensate to consolidated facilities for dehydration, temporary storage in tanks, and transfer to trucks for haulage.</p> <p>Require that at least 90 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines instead of trucks to convey produced water to consolidated facilities for treatment or for transfer to trucks for haulage.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that at least 80 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines to transfer condensate to consolidated facilities for dehydration, temporary storage in tanks, and transfer to trucks for haulage.</p> <p>Require that at least 80 percent of new federal oil and gas pads use pipelines instead of trucks to convey produced water to consolidated facilities for treatment or for transfer to trucks for haulage.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Require that engines at field compression facilities meet applicable Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Air Quality Control Commission regulations and EPA emission standards.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that natural-gas-fired reciprocating internal combustion engines at BLM-authorized field compression facilities comply with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Air Quality Control Commission Regulation No. 7, 5 CCR 1001-9 Section XVII.E.2 Emission Standards for New and Relocated engines, and Section XVII.E.3 for existing engines.</p>	<p>Management Action: Require that all new and existing natural-gas-fired reciprocating internal combustion engines at BLM-authorized field compression facilities meet Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Air Quality Control Commission Regulation No. 7, Emission Standards for New and Relocated engines, regardless of when the engines begin operation.</p> <p>Require compliance with applicable US Environmental Protection Agency emission standards for all internal combustion engines.</p>		

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	Require compliance with applicable New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for all internal combustion engines.		
No similar management action.	Management Action: Powering centralized compression facilities with electricity may be required in the future based on: implementation of the CARPP (Appendix L), future availability of adequate electricity, and advances in compression technology.	Management Action: Require that 100 percent of new compressors at BLM-authorized centralized compression facilities are powered by electricity, including renewable energy sources.	Management Action: Require that at least 50 percent of new compressors at BLM-authorized centralized compression facilities are powered by electricity, including renewable energy sources.
No similar implementation decision.	Implementation Decision: Manage air resources in accordance with CARPP. Implement this adaptive management strategy for protecting air resources to include the management actions above, monitoring air quality and tracking emissions for comparison against the most recent regional air quality model results to provide protection of air resources.	No similar implementation decision.	
Soils			
<p>Goal: Ensure that upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate, landform, and geologic processes. Adequate soil infiltration and permeability allows for the accumulation of soil moisture necessary for optimal plant growth and vigor, minimizes surface runoff (Land Health Standard 1), and minimizes soil erosion.</p>			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Ensure that surface disturbances do not cause accelerated erosion (e.g., rills, soil pedestals, and actively eroding gullies) on a watershed scale (e.g., 6th hydrologic unit code scale).</p>		
<p>Management Action: Take measures to protect soils in debris-flow hazard zones and erosion hazard areas.</p>	<p>Management Actions: For major construction projects (e.g., communication sites, roads, well pads, mining facilities) in areas having soils with severe or very severe erosion hazard, fragile or saline soils based on the NRCS soil survey or onsite inspection, require professional geotechnical engineering and reclamation plans for meeting the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore site productivity • Adequately control surface runoff 	<p>Management Actions: Require professional geotechnical engineering and reclamation plans meeting the following conditions in areas having soils with severe or very severe erosion hazard based on the NRCS soil survey or onsite inspection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore site productivity • Adequately control surface runoff • Protect offsite areas from accelerated erosion such as rilling, gully, piping, and mass wasting • Conduct no surface-disturbing activities during periods when soil is saturated. • Prohibit construction when soils are frozen. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect offsite areas from accelerated erosion such as rilling, gullyng, piping, and mass wasting • Conduct no surface-disturbing activities during periods when soil is saturated • Prohibit construction when soils are frozen. 		
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-14: <i>Debris Flow Hazard Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC (5,900 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-1: <i>Debris Flow Hazard Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC to maintain soil stability and productivity and to minimize impacts of soil erosion (5,900 acres).</p>		<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-1: <i>Debris Flow Hazard Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC (5,900 acres).</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-15: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent for Oil and Gas Facilities</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on slopes greater than 50 percent. This NSO does not apply to pipelines (76,200 acres/9,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-2: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on slopes greater than 50 percent to maintain soil productivity and provide necessary protection to prevent excessive soil erosion on steep slopes (76,200 acres/9,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>		<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-2: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on slopes greater than 50 percent to maintain site stability (76,200 acres/9,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-CSU-4: <i>Erosive Soils and Slopes Greater than 30 Percent</i>. Require special design, construction, operation, and reclamation measures to limit the amount of surface disturbance, to reduce erosion potential, to maintain site stability and productivity, and to ensure successful reclamation in identified areas of highly erosive soils and of slopes greater than 30 percent. Highly erosive soils are soils in the “severe” and “very severe” erosion classes based on NRCS Erosion</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-1: <i>Slopes Greater than 30 Percent or Fragile/Saline Soils</i>. Apply CSU constraint on areas: 1) with slopes steeper than 30 percent or 2) areas with fragile and saline soils regardless of slope based on the NRCS soil description and surveys. The purpose is to: reduce erosion potential, to maintain soil stability and productivity of sensitive areas; ensure successful reclamation; and minimize contributions of salinity, selenium and sediments likely to affect downstream water quality, fisheries and other downstream aquatic habitats (338,100 acres/119,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>		<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-1: <i>Slopes Greater than 30 Percent and/or Soils with Very Severe Erosion Hazard or Fragile and Saline Soils</i>. Apply CSU restrictions on areas steeper than 30 percent and/or areas of very severe erosion hazard regardless of slope, based on the NRCS soil survey to reduce erosion potential, maintain site stability and productivity, and insure successful reclamation in identified areas of highly erosive soils and on slopes greater than 30 percent (338,100 acres/119,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Condition mapping. Areas identified in the RMP as Erosion Hazard Areas and Water Quality Management Areas are also included in this stipulation. Implementation may include relocation of operations beyond 200 meters (656 feet) (147,000 acres/25,600 acres federal mineral estate).</p>			
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Ensure that on a landscape scale (as defined by Land Health Standard 1), canopy cover and ground cover are appropriate for the soil type as based on current guidelines (e.g., NRCS reference sheets, soil surveys).</p>		
<p>Management Action: Conduct site-specific monitoring (e.g., vegetation transect analysis) in areas identified as not meeting Land Health Standard 1. Where failure is due to unauthorized or undesirable levels of authorized land uses, take corrective actions (e.g., rehabilitation, management changes, and reclamation).</p>	<p>Management Action: Conduct site-specific monitoring (e.g., vegetation transect analysis) in areas identified as not meeting or marginally meeting Land Health Standard 1. Where failure is due to unauthorized or undesirable levels of authorized land uses, take corrective actions (e.g., rehabilitation, management changes, and reclamation).</p>	<p>Management Action: Conduct site-specific monitoring (e.g., vegetation transect analysis) in areas identified as not meeting Land Health Standard 1. Where failure is due to unauthorized or undesirable levels of authorized land uses, take corrective actions (e.g., rehabilitation, management changes, and reclamation).</p>	
<p>Water</p>			
<p>Goal: The water quality of all water bodies, including groundwater where applicable, located on or influenced by BLM lands will be managed to achieve or exceed the water quality standards established by the State of Colorado. Water quality standards for surface water and groundwater include the designated beneficial uses, numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and antidegradation requirements set forth under State law as found in 5 CFR 1002-8, as required by Section 303c of the Clean Water Act.</p>			
<p>Objective: Maintain or improve existing water quality throughout the resource area.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect water quality and watershed functions to ensure that streams on BLM lands are in geomorphic balance (e.g., stream channel size, sinuosity, and substrate are appropriate for its landscape position and geology) with the water and sediment being supplied by the watershed (e.g., no accelerated erosion, deposition, or head-cutting).</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-13: <i>Domestic Watershed Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect municipal watersheds providing domestic water for the communities of Rifle and New Castle (4,300 acres/500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-3: <i>Municipal Watersheds and Public Water Supplies</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 1,000 horizontal feet of either side of a classified surface water supply stream segment (measured from the average high water mark) for a distance of 5 miles upstream of a public water supply intake with the classification “Water Supply” by the State of</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-4: <i>Designated Municipal Watershed Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within municipal watersheds providing domestic water (11,400 acres/4,200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>Colorado used as a public (municipal) water supply. The stipulation is for the purpose of protecting municipal watersheds, water quality, human health, aquatic habitat and for protecting a watershed that serves a “public water system” (11,400 acres/4,200 acres Federal mineral estate).</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: See Stipulation GS-NSO-13: <i>Domestic Watershed Areas</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-2: <i>Municipal Watersheds and Public Water Supplies</i>. Apply CSU constraints on lands located greater than 1,000 horizontal feet but less than 2,640 horizontal feet of a classified surface water supply stream segment (as measured from the average high water mark of a water body) for a distance of 5 miles upstream of a public water supply intake with the classification “Water Supply” by the State of Colorado. The stipulation is for the purpose of protecting public water supplies, water quality, aquatic habitat, and human health. In addition, to protect fragile or unstable soils and minimize risk of mass wasting and sedimentation (16,400 acres/4,900 acres Federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-4: <i>Designated Municipal Watershed Areas</i>.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-3: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.5 mile of either side of the high water mark (bank-full stage) of six major rivers: Colorado, Roaring Fork, Crystal, Frying Pan, Eagle, and Piney; to protect these riverine and adjacent areas that provide (a) special status fish and wildlife species habitat, (b) important riparian values, (c) water quality/ filtering values, (d) waterfowl and shorebird production values, (e) valuable amphibian habitat, and (f) high scenic and recreation values (40,200 acres/ 5,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.5 mile of either side of the high water mark (bank-full stage) of six major rivers: Colorado, Roaring Fork, Crystal, Frying Pan, Eagle, and Piney. The purpose of the stipulation is to protect these riverine and adjacent areas that provide (a) special status fish and wildlife species habitat, (b) important riparian values, (c) water quality/ filtering values, (d) waterfowl and shorebird production values, (e) valuable amphibian habitat, and (f) high scenic and recreation values. Included in this area are public lands near the Eagle and Colorado Rivers designated as SRMAs in which BLM provides facilities to enhance recreation</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-3: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.5 mile of either side of the high water mark (bank-full stage) of six major rivers: Colorado, Roaring Fork, Crystal, Frying Pan, Eagle, and Piney (40,200 acres/5,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	<p>opportunities and maintain the recreational setting (40,200 acres/5,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p> <p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial Streams, Water bodies, Riparian Areas, and Aquatic Dependent Species</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a buffer distance of 328 horizontal feet from the outer edge of the riparian/wetland zones. To: 1) Maintain the proper functioning condition, including the vegetative, hydrologic and geomorphic functionality of the perennial water body; 2) Protect water quality, riparian/wetland vegetation and aquatic habitats; 3) Provide a clean, reliable source of water for downstream users; and 4) Benefit fisheries, amphibians, waterfowl, migratory birds, and their habitat, and other aquatic or riparian dependent species (35,900 acres/ 13,400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-5: <i>Streamside Management Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 50 feet from the ordinary high water mark of any hydrologic feature (i.e., ephemeral, intermittent, perennial channels, wetland, lake, fen, spring) as determined on a case-by-case basis by GIS and/or field tools. Distance is horizontal and independent of slope and topographic characteristics (28,500 acres/9,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	No similar allowable use.
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-3: <i>Intermittent and Ephemeral Streams</i>. Apply CSU constraint within 100 feet from the edge of intermittent or ephemeral stream drainages as defined by the US Geological Survey (USGS) National Hydrography Dataset (GIS) or field evaluation to maintain and protect water quality, stream stability, aquatic health, seasonal use and downstream fisheries, and sediment processes downstream (44,900 acres/4,300 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-2: <i>Hydrologic Features</i>. Apply CSU restrictions within 100 feet from the edge of a hydrologic feature as determined on a case-by-case basis by GIS and/or field tools. Hydrologic features include ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial streams and stream channels; wetlands; lakes; fens; and springs (51,500 acres/ 17,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	No similar allowable use.
No similar implementation action.	<p>Implementation Action: In areas not meeting Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) requirements, conduct site-specific monitoring to determine causal factors. Where failure to achieve PFC is due to authorized uses (e.g. grazing, development, or recreation permits) take corrective actions to make significant progress to achieve PFC (e.g. management changes, rehabilitation and reclamation).</p>		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Vegetation – General)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Objective: Increase water yield throughout the resource area through forest management practices and vegetation manipulation for livestock and big game forage.</p>	<p>Objective: Provide sufficient water quantity on BLM lands for multiple use management and functioning, healthy riparian, wetland, aquatic, and upland systems.</p>		
<p>Management Action: File for water rights and water use permits to protect all water uses on BLM lands, as allowed by State water law. Uses for which BLM will apply for water rights will include, but are not limited to, livestock, wildlife watering, wildlife habitat, recreation, and fire suppression. In addition, BLM will make recommendations to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for protection or enlargement of in-streamflows on appropriate stream segments that cross BLM lands.</p>	<p>Management Action: Secure and maintain instream flow water rights and file for water use permits to protect all water uses on BLM lands, as allowed by State water law. Uses for which the BLM will apply for water rights will include, but are not limited to, livestock, wildlife watering, wildlife habitat, recreation, and fire suppression. In addition, the BLM will make recommendations to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for protection or enlargement of in-streamflows on appropriate stream segments that cross BLM lands.</p>	<p>Management Action: File for water rights and water use permits to protect all water uses on BLM lands, as allowed by State water law. Uses for which the BLM will apply for water rights will include, but are not limited to, livestock, wildlife watering, wildlife habitat, recreation, and fire suppression. In addition, the BLM will make recommendations to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for protection or enlargement of in-streamflows on appropriate stream segments that cross BLM lands.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Use tools such as land and water acquisitions, realty actions, and cooperative agreements to achieve water management objectives. These include improving streamflows, maintaining minimum pools in reservoirs, and providing public access to water bodies.</p>		
<p>Vegetation – General</p>			
<p>Goal: Maintain healthy, productive plant communities of native and other desirable species at viable population levels commensurate with the potentials for the species and habitats potentials. Ensure that plants and animals at both the community and population level are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations and ecological processes (Land Health Standard 3).</p>			
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Manage for a healthy diversity of native plant communities in a variety of successional stages consistent with the ecological site’s potential and the natural range of variability.</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Use planned and unplanned fire and other vegetative treatments, as appropriate, to restore natural disturbance regimes and accomplish biodiversity objectives in accordance with ecological site descriptions, land health assess-</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Vegetation – General)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Objective: No similar objective.</p>	<p>ments, ecological site inventories, and forest stand inventories.</p> <p>Objective: Provide the public with opportunities to acquire “forest products” including timber, fuelwood, posts, poles, house logs, Christmas trees, biomass, ferns, wildings/ transplants, floral products, seeds and mushrooms; while protecting other resources. BLM authority to sell forest products is set forth in 43 CFR Part 5400 and BLM Manual Section 5420. Authority for nonsale disposal (“free use”) of forest products is set forth in 43 CFR Part 5500 and BLM Manual Section 5500.</p>	<p>Objective: No similar objective.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Provide forest products where consistent with other resource values and uses. Close the following areas to wilding permits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Occupied habitat for special status plant species. 	<p>No similar management action.</p>	
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Manage salt desert shrub, upper and lower elevation sagebrush, mixed mountain shrublands, forests and woodlands, and riparian communities to emphasize native vegetation, biological diversity, wildlife habitat, and watershed health.</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-CSU-3: <i>BLM Sensitive Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-CSU-8: <i>BLM Sensitive Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Species and Significant Natural Plant Communities</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-7: <i>Significant Plant Communities</i>. For plant communities that meet the BLM’s criteria for significant plant communities, special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required. For plant communities, habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species or communities.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Protect areas of relict or remnant vegetation with minimal evidence of human disturbance or invasive species as significant natural plant communities (SNPC) for their scientific and ecological values. This includes rare plant communities, communities with little evidence of disturbance or alteration and communities with old-growth characteristics.</p>	<p>Management Action: Retain stands with old-growth characteristics such as, but not limited to, large trees, down and standing dead trees, and multiple canopy layers.</p>	
<p>Implementation Decision: Areas receiving moderate to high soil disturbance during treatment or an understory ground cover less than 10 percent will be seeded with a mixture of grass, forb, and browse species. Livestock grazing will be prohibited on all seeded areas for two growing seasons.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: When deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer, defer or exclude livestock grazing use on disturbed areas (e.g., a fire event, reclamation of disturbed lands, seedings, surface-disturbing vegetation treatment), for two growing seasons or until site-specific analysis and/or monitoring data indicate that vegetation cover, species composition, and litter accumulation are adequate to support and protect watershed values, meet vegetation objectives, and sustain grazing use.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: When and where deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer, defer or exclude livestock grazing use for two growing seasons on disturbed areas (e.g., a fire event, reclamation of disturbed lands, seedings, surface-disturbing vegetation treatment), or until site-specific analysis and/or monitoring data indicate that vegetation cover, species composition, and litter accumulation are adequate to support and protect watershed values, meet vegetation objectives, and sustain grazing use.</p>	
Rangelands - Salt Desert Shrub Communities			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Maintain or restore salt desert shrub communities to protect biological soil crusts, reduce or eliminate invasive plants, improve native species diversity and cover appropriate to the ecological site description. Preserve undisturbed patches of salt desert shrub communities with little to no cheatgrass, halogeton, or other exotic species.</p>	<p>Objective: Manage salt-desert shrub communities to improve vigor and composition of shrubs, diversity and cover of native understory species, and cover by microbotic crust.</p>	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Suppress all fires in salt-desert shrub communities.</p>	No similar management action.	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: As advances in cheatgrass-control methods are made, prioritize vegetation treatments and fencing, seeding, and use restrictions, as necessary, to treat cheatgrass and to restore native perennials in lower-elevation, degraded areas</p>	<p>Management Action: Use vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, and chemical treatments), fencing, seeding, prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits, and use restrictions to accomplish salt-desert shrub management objectives. Prioritize treatments to target cheatgrass infestations.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	(excluding OHV open areas). Emphasize areas that provide habitat for special status species.		
Rangelands - Sagebrush Communities			
No similar objective.	Objective: Maintain or restore the integrity of the sagebrush biome to provide the amount, continuity and quality of habitat necessary to support viable populations of sagebrush-obligate species.	Objective: Manage sagebrush steppe where needed to transition from homogeneous stands of old sagebrush to create a more diverse age class structure across the landscape and to improve diversity and cover of understory species.	
No similar management action.	Management Actions: Prioritize management to protect or restore the following habitat types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • greater sage-grouse habitat • critical/severe big game winter range and winter concentration areas • habitat for other special status species • areas not meeting land health standards. 	No similar management action.	
Vegetation – Forest and Woodlands			
Objective: Provide intensive management on forestlands growing commercial species (lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, or Douglas-fir) on productive growing sites (producing 20 cubic feet of wood fiber per acre per year) on lands not withdrawn for other resource needs. Provide limited management on woodlands or non-commercial species (pinyon, juniper, ponderosa pine, subalpine fir, or aspen) or on sites producing less than 20 cubic feet of wood fiber per acre per year.	Objective: Manage forests and woodlands to achieve a healthy mix of seral stages, including old growth, within the natural range of variability and improve resilience to insect and disease infestation.	Objective: Manage lodgepole pine and aspen on an even-aged basis to transition from homogeneous stands of over-mature aspen and lodgepole pine to create a more diverse age class structure across the landscape. Manage other species (e.g., pinyon, juniper, Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, subalpine fir, limber pine) on an uneven-aged basis to mimic natural stand conditions and natural regeneration processes.	
No similar management action.	Management Action: Identify areas with old-growth conditions and apply special design criteria to land use activities to protect old-growth structure and composition .The desired characteristics of old-growth stands are older, large trees for the species and site; signs of decadence (broken or deformed tops or boles and some root decay);	Management Action: Maintain or contribute toward the restoration or development of old-growth structure and composition (primarily stands of spruce/fir, pinyon, juniper, and Douglas-fir) in areas where forest treatments under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act are proposed. Retain stands with old-growth characteristics such as, but not limited to, large trees, down and standing dead trees, and multiple canopy layers.	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	multiple layers of canopy; standing and down dead trees; a variation in tree age, size, and spacing; and gaps or patchiness in the canopy and understory.		
Vegetation – Riparian			
<p>Objective: Ensure that riparian systems associated with both running and standing water function properly and have the ability to recover from major disturbances such as fire, severe grazing, or 100-year floods. Ensure that riparian vegetation captures sediment and provides forage, habitat, and biodiversity; water quality is improved or maintained; and stable soils store and release water slowly (Land Health Standard 2).</p>			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-2: <i>Riparian and Wetland Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within riparian vegetation (3,000 acres/700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial Streams, Water Bodies, Fisheries, and Riparian Areas</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-6: <i>Riparian and Wetland Zones</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within riparian/wetland vegetation to maintain the proper function of riparian zones. (3,000 acres/700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-CSU-2: <i>Riparian/Wetland Vegetation Zones (500 feet of Outer Edge)</i>. Within 500 feet of the outer edge of the riparian or wetland vegetation, surface-disturbing activities may require special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations beyond 200 meters (656 feet). The actual required measures will be based on the purpose, nature, and extent of the disturbance, the affected wetland/riparian area and values, and the feasibility of relocating the project (32,900 acres/15,400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-4: <i>Riparian/Wetland Vegetation Zones</i>. Apply CSU constraint from 328 to 500 horizontal feet from the outer edge of the riparian/ wetland zones to: maintain proper functioning condition (including the vegetative, hydrologic and geomorphic functionality of the riparian and wetland zones); protect water quality, fish habitat; aquatic habitat; provide a clean, reliable source of water for downstream users; and indirectly benefit migratory birds, wildlife habitat, amphibians, and other species (21,300 acres/8,400 acres federal mineral estate).</p> <p>Surface-disturbing activities may require special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations beyond 200 meters (656 feet). The actual required measures will be based on the purpose, nature, and extent of the disturbance, the affected wetland/riparian area and values, and the feasibility of relocating the project.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-3: <i>Riparian/ Wetland Vegetation Zones (within Riparian/Wetland Area and within 500 feet of Outer Edge)</i>. Within the riparian/wetland area and within 500 feet of riparian/ wetland vegetation, surface-disturbing activities may require special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations beyond 200 meters (656 feet). The actual required measures would be based on the purpose, nature, and extent of the disturbance, the affected wetland/riparian area and values, and the feasibility of relocating the project (45,700 acres/14,200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Vegetation – Weeds			
<p>Objective: Prevent the establishment of, treat existing, and reduce/slow the spread of noxious and invasive weeds across landscape and ownership boundaries.</p>			
<p>Management Action: Hold project proponents, including livestock operators, ROW holders, and other permittees deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer, responsible for monitoring and controlling invasive and noxious weeds that result from any new facilities, improvements or other surface disturbances authorized on BLM land (e.g., roads, communication sites, pipelines, stock ponds, fences).</p>			
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-1 (Alternative A)/CRVFO-LN-1 (Proposed RMP)/CRV-LN-1 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Annual Reports of Weed Control and Reclamation Progress</i>. All lessees in the CRVFO are required to report to the Authorized Officer annually on the ongoing progress of reclamation and the status of weeds and weed control at locations developed on the lease.</p>			
<p>Management Actions: Focus on areas of new infestations and, where possible, extirpate existing populations within priority treatment areas, which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disturbed areas (e.g., oil and gas and other mine development, burned areas, new road construction) • ACECs • Special status species habitat • Riparian areas • Springs/seeps • Developed recreation sites, campgrounds, and campsites • Roads and trails • Wildland-urban interface • Big game winter range. 			
Fish and Wildlife			
<p>Goal: Maintain healthy, productive plant and animal communities of native and other desirable species at viable population levels commensurate with the species' and habitats' potential. Ensure that plants and animals at both the community and population level are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations and ecological processes (Land Health Standard 3).</p>			
Common to all Fish and Wildlife			
<p>Objective: No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Recognizing the diversity of species found on public lands, the CRVFO would focus on maintaining healthy and productive habitat or improving habitat the following priority species (as recognized for at least one factor such as density, diversity, size, public interest, remnant character, or age).</p> <p><i>Fisheries and Other Aquatic Wildlife Species:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado River Basin native fishes, 	<p>Objective: <i>Aquatic Wildlife:</i> In addition to providing for a wide variety of aquatic species, maintain and improve the portion on BLM lands of the priority habitat requirements for the following highly valued species (priority as recognized for at least one factor such as density, diversity, size, public interest, remnant character, or age):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coldwater sport fishes, including 	<p>Objective: <i>Aquatic Wildlife:</i> In addition to providing for a wide variety of aquatic species, maintain the portion on BLM lands of the priority habitat requirements for the following highly valued species (priority as recognized for at least one factor such as density, diversity, size, public interest, remnant character, or age):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coldwater sport fishes, including

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>including mottled sculpin, Paiute sculpin, and speckled dace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coldwater sport fishes, including rainbow, brown, brook, and nonnative cutthroat trout species (any species of cutthroat trout other than Colorado River or greenback cutthroat, which are addressed in the Special Status Species section [e.g., Yellowstone and Snake River cutthroat trout]), and mountain whitefish. <p><i>Fisheries and Other Aquatic Wildlife Habitats:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, springs, seeps, wetlands, wet meadows, bogs, and fens), riparian areas, intermittent streams and ponds, and ephemeral/seasonal waters. <p><i>Terrestrial Species and Habitats:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big game species, migratory birds including birds of conservation concern, cavity-nesting species, raptors, waterfowl and shorebirds. <p>Note: For priority special status species and habitats see special status species section. Bats are covered under special status species.</p>	<p>rainbow, brown, brook, and nonnative cutthroat trout species (any species of cutthroat trout other than Colorado River or greenback cutthroat, which are addressed in the Special Status Species section [e.g., Yellowstone and Snake River cutthroat trout])</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado River Basin native fishes, excluding special status species and including mountain whitefish, mountain sucker, speckled dace, mottled sculpin, and Paiute sculpin. <p><i>Terrestrial Wildlife:</i> In addition to providing habitat for a wide variety of species; maintain and improve the share on BLM lands of habitat requirements for the following priority species (as recognized for at least one factor such as density, diversity, size, public interest, remnant character, or age):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big game ungulates Migratory birds, including birds of conservation concern. 	<p>rainbow, brown, brook, and nonnative cutthroat trout species (any species of cutthroat trout other than Colorado River or greenback cutthroat, which are addressed in the Special Status Species section [e.g., Yellowstone and Snake River cutthroat trout]).</p> <p><i>Terrestrial Wildlife:</i> In addition to providing habitat for a wide variety of species; maintain and improve the share on BLM lands of habitat requirements for the following priority species (as recognized for at least one factor such as density, diversity, size, public interest, remnant character, or age):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big game ungulates Migratory birds, including birds of conservation concern Cavity-nesting species Raptors Waterfowl and shorebirds.
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-2: <i>Biological Inventories</i>. In areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest, such as raptor nests, elk calving areas, or significant natural plant communities, require a biological inventory before approval of operations.</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-2: <i>Biological Inventories</i>. In areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest, such as raptor nests, elk calving areas, or significant natural plant communities, a biological inventory would be required prior to approval of operations. The inventory would be used to prepare mitigating measures to reduce the impacts of surface disturbance on the affected species or their habitats. These mitigating measures may include, but are not limited to, relocation of roads, well</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRV-LN-4: <i>Biological Inventories</i>. In areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest, such as raptor nests, elk calving areas, or significant natural plant communities, require a biological inventory before approval of operations.</p>	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Fisheries and Aquatic Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	pads, pipelines, and other facilities, and fencing operations or habitat.		
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-6 (Alternative A) /CRVFO-LN-3 (Proposed RMP)/ CRV-LN-2 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Working in High-Value Wildlife Habitat</i>. Require the operator to establish a set of reasonable operating procedures for employees and contractors working in high-value wildlife habitats. These areas include, but are not limited to, water bodies, special status-species habitat, severe big game winter range, moose priority habitat, and migration corridors. Such procedures would be designed to inform employees and contractors of ways to minimize the effect of their presence on wildlife and wildlife habitats. Procedures might address items such as: disinfecting equipment when working in water, working in bear country, controlling dogs, and understanding and abiding by hunting and firearms regulations.</p>			
<p>Fisheries and Other Aquatic Wildlife</p>			
<p>Common to All Fisheries and Other Aquatic Wildlife</p>			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial Streams, Water bodies, Fisheries, and Riparian Areas</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-16: <i>Perennial Waters</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of perennial waters. On perennial waters where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from the stream edge, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone (13,700 acres/8,900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-6: <i>Trout-Bearing Streams</i>. Apply CSU restrictions within 100 meters (328 feet) of all trout-bearing streams, except those containing conservation or core conservation populations of Colorado River cutthroat trout or occupied habitat of greenback cutthroat trout (refer to NSO in Special Status Species section). On streams where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from the stream edge, prohibit surface use within the riparian zone (11,000 acres/ 5,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-5: <i>Rifle Falls and Glenwood Springs Fish Hatcheries</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 2-mile radius of the hatcheries to protect the quality and quantity of surface water and underground aquifers supplying the Rifle Falls and Glenwood Springs State Fish Hatcheries (9,100 acres/2,600 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-6: <i>Fish Hatcheries</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the watershed upstream of fish hatcheries on BLM surface and subsurface mineral lands and 1,500 feet below the surface to protect the quality and quantity of surface water and underground aquifers supplying the hatcheries. Existing hatcheries include Rifle Falls and Glenwood Springs State Fish Hatcheries (4,500 acres/3,300 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-17: <i>Fish Hatcheries</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the watershed upstream of fish hatcheries to protect the quality and quantity of surface water and underground aquifers supplying the hatcheries. This stipulation applies to activities with the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of surface water and groundwater sources for the hatcheries. Existing hatcheries include Rifle Falls and Glenwood Springs State Fish Hatcheries (9,100 acres/2,600 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Salmonid and Native Non-Salmonid Fishes			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-1: <i>Salmonid and Native, Non-Salmonid Fishes</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during species-specific spawning periods to reduce impacts to breeding adults, eggs, and emerging larval fish, avoid stream channel disturbances (165 miles/65 miles federal mineral estate):</p> <p>Non-Special Status Species: Rainbow trout: March 1 - June 15 Brown trout: October 1 – May 1 Brook trout: August 15 – May 1</p> <p>Special Status Species: Cutthroat trout: May 1 – September 1 Bluehead sucker: May 1 – July 15 Flannelmouth sucker: April 1 – July 1 Roundtail chub: May 15 – July 15 Mountain sucker: May 1 – July 15</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-7: <i>Coldwater Sport and Native Fish (brown, brook, rainbow, and non-native cutthroat trout, mountain whitefish, mottled sculpin)</i>. Prohibit in-channel stream work in all occupied trout streams during appropriate spring and fall spawning periods of March 1 to August 1 for rainbow and cutthroat trout and October 1 to November 30 for brown and brook trout to protect redds (egg masses) and emerging fry (190 miles/60 miles federal mineral estate).</p>	
Terrestrial Wildlife			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-7: <i>Priority Wildlife Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on priority wildlife habitat areas to protect vegetation cover and forage on state wildlife areas and BLM lands with high and overlying wildlife values (58,500 acres). Priority wildlife habitat areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State wildlife areas (12,900 acres) • Arbaney-Kittle (2,400 acres) • Cottonwood-Eby Creeks (9,600 acres) • Dry Rifle Creek (2,400 acres) • Fisher Creek (4,900 acres) • Horse Mountain (5,200 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Main-West Elk Ridge (1,100 acres) • North of New Castle (6,000 acres) 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-8: <i>Core Wildlife Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on core wildlife areas (57,600 acres). Core wildlife areas include areas of high habitat value for multiple species including sage-grouse, elk, mule deer, and bighorn sheep. Core wildlife areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cottonwood-Eby Creek (7,500 acres) • Dry Rifle Creek (2,200 acres) • East Eagle (5,900 acres) • Fisher Creek (2,800 acres) • Hernage-Abrams Creeks (4,300 acres) 	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thompson Creek-Holgate Mesa (3,400 acres) • West Elk Ridge (2,300 acres) • West Rifle Creek (1,100 acres) • Williams Hill (1,500 acres) • Wolcott (2,000 acres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Mountain (1,900 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Main-West Elk Ridge (1,100 acres) • New Castle North (1,100 acres) • Old Man’s Gulch (1,300 acres) • Tenderfoot Mesa (3,000 acres) • The Crown (5,200 acres) • Thompson Creek-Holgate Mesa (3,400 acres) • West Elk Ridge (2,300 acres) • West Rifle Creek (1,100 acres) • Williams Hill (1,500 acres) • Winter Ridge- Deer Pen (7,200 acres) • Wolcott (2,000 acres). 	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Wildlife habitat improvement projects (e.g., chemical, mechanical, prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefit, biological, and seeding) will be prioritized to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the amount of available, palatable, and nutritious forage by setting back succession and creating a diverse age structure of plants in the mountain shrub community; • reduce the encroachment by pinyon-juniper trees and other woody species into the mountain shrub/sagebrush community; • reduce the canopy cover in mature uniform-aged brush and mature pinyon-juniper and other forest stands; • stimulate sprouting and regrowth in decadent aspen patches; or • increase the diversity and abundance of grasses and forbs in the understory of transition and winter range habitats for the critical period of late fall through early spring. 	<p>Management Actions: Wildlife habitat improvement projects (e.g., chemical, mechanical, prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefit, biological, and seeding) will be prioritized to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the amount of available, palatable, and nutritious forage by setting back succession and creating a diverse age structure of plants in the mountain shrub community; • reduce the encroachment by pinyon-juniper trees and other woody species into the mountain shrub/sagebrush community; • reduce the canopy cover in mature uniform-aged brush and mature pinyon-juniper and other forest stands; • stimulate sprouting and regrowth in decadent aspen patches; or • increase the diversity and abundance of grasses and forbs in the understory of transition and winter range habitats for the critical period of late fall through early spring; or • create optimum winter range and summer/transition habitat conditions for big game, targeting a ratio of 60 percent foraging habitat to 40 percent escape/hiding/thermal/birthing cover. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Big Game			
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Minimize big game stress and disturbance on mule deer critical winter range, elk winter concentration areas, moose winter range, bighorn sheep winter ranges, big game migration corridors, and big game production areas.</p>	<p>Objective: Minimize big game stress and disturbance from surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on winter ranges, winter concentration areas, severe winter ranges, migration corridors, and birthing areas.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-1: <i>Big Game Winter Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from December 1 to April 30 to protect big game (mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, and bighorn sheep) winter range, including crucial winter habitat and other definable winter range as mapped by the CPW (257,200 acres/ 43,200 acres federal mineral estate). This may apply to sundry notices that require an environmental analysis.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-2: <i>Big Game Winter Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from December 1 to April 15 to protect: mule deer critical winter range; elk winter concentration areas; moose winter range; Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep winter, severe winter and winter concentration areas; and pronghorn winter concentration area. The purpose of the timing limitation is to reduce behavioral disruption of big game during the winter season (205,200 acres/55,200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-1: <i>Big Game Winter Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from December 1 to April 30 to protect big game (mule deer, elk, moose, pronghorn, and bighorn sheep) winter range, including crucial winter habitat and other definable winter range as mapped by the CPW (205,200 acres/55,200 acres federal mineral estate). This may apply to sundry notices that require an environmental analysis.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-2: <i>Big Game Birthing Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities as follows (10,300 acres/ 18,100 acres federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elk Calving – April 16 to June 30. • Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep Lambing – May 1 to July 15 • Pronghorn Fawning – May 1 to July 15 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-3: <i>Big Game Production Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during the following time period(s) to reduce behavioral disruption during parturition and early young rearing period in mapped big game production areas (14,500 acres/15,500 acres federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elk production (Calving) - May 15 through June 30 • Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep production (lambing) areas - April 15 to June 30 • Pronghorn production (fawning) - April 15 to June 30 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-2: <i>Big Game Birthing Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities (14,500 acres/15,500 acres federal mineral estate) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elk production (Calving) – April 16 to June 30 • Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep production (lambing) areas – May 1 to July 15 • Pronghorn production (fawning) – May 1 to July 15 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-11: <i>Nine Wildlife Seclusion Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within seclusion areas that provide high wildlife value: Starkey Gulch, Riley Gulch, Crawford Gulch, Paradise Creek, Coal Ridge, Lower Garfield, Jackson Gulch, Bald Mountain, and Battlement Mesa (10,700 acres/ 17,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>		
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: At the request of CPW, with concurrence by the BLM authorized officer, the CRVFO would close specific areas to human activity and dogs during severe winter weather conditions as defined by a combination of factors including snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures (long periods of cold temperatures), and concentrations of animals.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Protect wintering big game species by closing the following areas to motorized travel from December 1 to April 30 (74,700 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boiler–East Elk Creek (3,500 acres) • Cottonwood Creek (13,800 acres) • Haff Pasture portion of Fisher Creek (1,000 acres) • Flatiron Mesa (800 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Red Canyon-Hells Pocket-Bocco Mountain (6,500 acres) • Red Hill SRMA (northside closed to mechanized travel) (2,600 acres) • The Crown (9,200 acres) • Winter Ridge-Black Mountain Pisgah Mountain-Windy Point - Boore Flat-Domantle (33,500 acres). <p>Under severe winter conditions, the limitation period may be extended if</p>	<p>Management Action: Protect wintering big game and other wildlife species by closing the following areas to motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 (131,600 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basalt Mountain (south portion) (1,300 acres) • Boiler-East Elk Creek-New Castle (4,400 acres) • Cottonwood Creek (specific routes would be cooperatively managed with CPW to allow motorized vehicle access for late season hunting) (13,800 acres) • Dry Rifle Creek (2,200 acres) • East Eagle (6,000 acres) • Fisher Creek–Cattle Creek (2,800 acres) • Flatiron Mesa (800 acres) • Hardscrabble (24,600 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Red Canyon-Hells Pocket-Bocco Mountain–East Castle Peak (14,500 acres) • Red Hill SRMA (northside) (2,600 acres) • The Crown (9,200 acres) • Thompson Creek/Holgate Mesa (9,500 	<p>Management Action: Protect wintering big game species by closing the following areas to motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 (147,400 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basalt Mountain (1,500 acres) • Boiler-East Elk Creek-New Castle (4,400 acres) • Cottonwood Creek (13,800 acres) • Dry Rifle Creek (2,200 acres) • East Eagle (6,000 acres) • Fisher Creek-Cattle Creek (2,800 acres) • Flatiron Mesa (800 acres) • Hardscrabble (24,600 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Old Man’s Gulch-Red Hill (Gypsum) (13,000 acres) • Red Canyon-Hells Pocket-Bocco Mountain-East Castle Peak (14,500 acres) • Red Hill SRMA (northside) (2,600 acres) • The Crown (9,200 acres) 	<p>Management Action: Protect wintering big game species by closing the following areas to motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 (87,300 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boiler-East Elk Creek-New Castle (4,400 acres) • Cottonwood Creek (13,800 acres) • Dry Rifle Creek (2,200 acres) • Haff Pasture portion of Fisher Creek (1,000 acres) • Flatiron Mesa (800 acres) • Light Hill (3,800 acres) • Red Canyon-Hells Pocket-Bocco Mountain (6,500 acres) • Red Hill SRMA (northside) (2,600 acres) • The Crown (9,200 acres) • Thompson Creek/Holgate Mesa (9,500 acres) • Winter Ridge-Black Mountain Pisgah Mountain-Windy Point - Boore Flat-Domantle (33,500 acres).

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>requested by the CPW. Severity of the winter will be determined on the basis of snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures, and whether animals are concentrated on the winter range during the winter months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific routes in the Castle Peak area would be managed with CPW to allow motorized vehicle access for late season big game hunting. 	<p>acres)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Rifle Creek (1,100 acres) Williams Hill (1,500 acres) Winter Ridge-Black Mountain Pisgah Mountain-Windy Point-Boore Flat-Domantle (33,500 acres). <p>Under severe winter conditions, the winter closure may be extended if requested by the CPW. Severity of the winter conditions would be determined on the basis of snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures, and whether animals are concentrated on the winter range during the winter months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thompson Creek/Holgate Mesa (9,500 acres) Triangle Peak The Crown addition in Prince Creek and West Sopris Creek (1,700 acres) Vulcan (900 acres) West Rifle Creek (1,100 acres) Williams Hill (1,500 acres) Winter Ridge-Black Mountain Pisgah Mountain-Windy Point - Boore Flat-Domantle (33,500 acres). <p>Under severe winter conditions, the winter closure may be extended if requested by the CPW. Severity of the winter conditions would be determined on the basis of snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures, and whether animals are concentrated on the winter range during the winter months.</p>	<p>Under severe winter conditions, the winter closure may be extended if requested by the CPW. Severity of the winter would be determined on the basis of snow depth, snow crusting, daily mean temperatures, and whether animals are concentrated on the winter range during the winter months.</p>
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-5: <i>Working in Big Game Winter Range</i>. Require operators to implement specific measures to reduce or avoid the impacts of oil and gas operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat within high-value or crucial big game winter range.</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-4: <i>Working in Big Game Winter Range</i>. Within big game severe winter and winter concentration ranges, the operator is required to implement specific measures to reduce impacts of fluid minerals operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRV-LN-3: <i>Working in Big Game Winter Range</i>. Require operators to implement specific measures to reduce or avoid the impacts of oil and gas operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat within high-value or crucial big game winter range.</p>	
<p>Objective: Protect state wildlife areas from unnecessary surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities.</p>			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-4: <i>Garfield Creek, Basalt, and West Rifle Creek State Wildlife Areas</i>. Protect wildlife habitat values for which these areas were acquired by the state, including crucial big game and upland game winter</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-7: <i>Priority Wildlife Habitat</i>.</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-4: <i>State Wildlife Areas</i>. Apply CSU restrictions to surface-disturbing activities on all State-owned wildlife areas to protect wildlife habitat values for which these areas were acquired by the state,</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
habitat, concentration areas, and riparian values (12,400 acres federal mineral estate/not including coal only).			including crucial big game and upland game winter habitat, concentration areas, and riparian values (12,400 acres federal mineral estate).
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Close state wildlife areas to leasing for fluid minerals. Prohibit oil and gas leasing on federal mineral estate underlying State-owned wildlife areas (12,900 acres federal mineral estate). Note: Garfield Creek SWA - 9,900 acres of federal mineral estate open to fluid mineral leasing of which 7,400 acres currently leased and 2,500 acres currently unleased).		No similar allowable use.
No similar objective.	Objective: Reduce habitat fragmentation and restore habitat connectivity and conditions on: big game winter ranges, winter concentration areas, severe winter ranges, summer/transition ranges and movement corridors.	Objective: Reduce habitat fragmentation and restore habitat connectivity on big game winter ranges, winter concentration areas, severe winter ranges, and movement corridors.	
No similar management action.	Management Action: Protect big game habitat by retaining BLM lands within a) big game migration corridors, b) mule deer critical winter ranges, c) elk severe winter ranges, and d) priority wildlife habitat areas; and e) apply ROW avoidance areas to wildlife habitat treatments.	Management Action: Protect big game habitat by retaining BLM lands within a) big game migration corridors, b) mule deer critical winter ranges, c) elk severe winter ranges, and d) core wildlife areas; and 2) apply ROW avoidance areas to wildlife habitat treatments.	Management Action: Protect big game habitat by retaining BLM lands within a) big game migration corridors, b) mule deer critical winter ranges, and c) elk severe winter ranges; and 2) apply ROW avoidance areas to wildlife habitat treatments.
No similar objective.	Objective: Reduce big game movement from BLM land to private lands during the big game hunting season.	Objective: Help achieve CPW big game population objectives.	
Management Action: Close routes to motorized use to help keep big game on BLM lands and reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting season during the following dates (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of Castle Peak accessed by the Stagecoach Trail (#8535) and Domantle Road (#8513) - from October 1 to November 30 (8 miles). 	Management Action: To help keep big game on BLM lands and reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting season, prohibit motorized use on the following routes during the following dates (18 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of Castle Peak accessed by the Stagecoach Trail (#8535) and Domantle Road (#8513) - from August 20 to November 30 (8 miles) • All Dry Rifle Creek routes - from October 1 to November 30 (7 miles) 	Management Action: To help keep big game on BLM lands and reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting season, close the following routes to motorized use during the following dates (18 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of Castle Peak accessed by the Stagecoach Trail (#8535) and Domantle Road (#8513) - from August 20 to November 30 (8 miles) 	Management Action: Close routes to motorized use to help keep big game on BLM lands and reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting season during the following dates (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of Castle Peak accessed by the Stagecoach Trail (#8535) and Domantle Road (#8513) - from October 1 to November 30 (8 miles).

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All West Rifle Creek routes - from October 1 to November 30 (3 miles). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Dry Rifle Creek routes - from October 1 to November 30 (7 miles) All West Rifle Creek routes - from October 1 to November 30 (3 miles). 	
Migratory Birds			
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-4: <i>Migratory Bird Nesting Season</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities between May 15 and July 15 to protect use of nesting and fledgling habitat for birds of conservation concern (BCC). The application of the timing limitation would consider: the type of equipment to be used, the scale, and the duration of the project; species potentially present; habitat types present; breeding phenology; weather conditions; elevation; distance to known nests; and terrain.	Allowable Use: Apply conditions of approval to all activities that alter vegetation and to the broad use of pesticides in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season. The COA would apply to activities between May 15 and July 15. The COA would consider the scale, type, and duration of the project; species potentially present; weather conditions; elevation and habitat types present; and type of motorized equipment to be used. An exception may be granted if nesting surveys indicate no nesting BCC species within 10 meters of the area to be disturbed.	
Cavity-nesting Species			
No similar management action.	Management Action: Broadly manage all forest types to provide an average snag retention density of three snags per acre.		No similar management action.
Raptors			
Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-7: <i>Raptors</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.125-mile radius of a nest site of golden eagles, ospreys, accipiters, buteos, falcons (except kestrels), and owls (5,900 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate).	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-8: <i>Raptors (non-special status raptor species)</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a buffer zone centered on a nest site to maintain the integrity of nest sites and surrounding habitat (6,700 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate). Buffer widths for non-special status raptors are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.25 mile – golden eagle, osprey, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper’s hawk, Swainson’s hawk, red-tailed hawk, all owls; and 0.5 mile – prairie falcon, northern goshawk. 	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-12: <i>Raptors (general, not including special status raptor species)</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a buffer zone centered on a nest site (6,700 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate). Buffer widths for non-special status raptors are as follows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.25 mile – golden eagle, osprey, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper’s hawk, Swainson’s hawk, red-tailed hawk, all owls; and 0.5 mile – prairie falcon, northern goshawk. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses: Stipulation GS-TL-6: <i>Raptors</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from February 1 to August 15 within a 0.25-mile radius of a raptor nest site, including accipiters, falcons (except kestrels), buteos, and owls, to protect nesting and fledgling habitat during use.</p> <p>Stipulation GS-TL-8: <i>Osprey</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from April 1 to August 31 within a 0.5-mile radius of osprey nests to protect osprey nesting and fledgling habitat during use. (20,000 acres/2,600 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Uses: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-4: <i>Raptors (non-special status raptor species)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect nesting and fledgling habitat during use (20,700 acres/2,600 acres Federal mineral estate).</p> <p>The timing limitation is applied within a 0.25-mile radius on species-specific dates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red-tailed hawk - February 15 to July 15 • all owls - February 15 to July 15 • Swainson’s hawk - April 1 to July 15 • osprey - April 1 to August 31 • Cooper’s hawk, sharp-shinned hawk - April 15 to July 15. <p>The timing limitation is applied within a 0.5-mile radius on species-specific dates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • golden eagle - December 15 to July 15 • northern goshawk - March 1 to September 15 • prairie falcon - March 15 to July 15. 	<p>Allowable Uses: Stipulation CRV-TL-4: <i>Raptors (non-special status raptor species)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect use of nesting and fledgling habitat (20,700 acres/2,600 acres Federal mineral estate).</p> <p>The timing limitation is applied within a 0.25-mile radius on species-specific dates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red-tailed hawk - February 15 to July 15 • all owls - February 15 to July 15 • Swainson’s hawk - April 1 to July 15 • osprey - April 1 to August 31 • Cooper’s hawk, sharp-shinned hawk - April 15 to July 15. <p>The timing limitation is applied within a 0.5-mile radius on species-specific dates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • golden eagle - December 15 to July 15 • northern goshawk - March 1 to September 15 • prairie falcon - March 15 to July 15. 	
Waterfowl and Shorebirds			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i> and stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial Streams, Water bodies, Riparian Areas, and Aquatic Dependent Species</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-14: <i>Waterfowl and Shorebird Habitat and Heron Rookeries</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to protect waterfowl and shorebird habitat and rookeries within significant production areas as mapped by CPW (300 acres/400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-13: Waterfowl and Shorebird Nesting and Production Areas. Prohibit surface occupancy from April 15 to July 15 in a 0.25-mile radius around the nesting and production areas of the Fravert Watchable Wildlife Area, Consolidated Reservoir and the King Mountain Reservoirs-Grimes-Brooks, Nobel, and Upper and Lower King</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-6: Waterfowl and Shorebird Nesting and Production Areas. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from April 15 to July 15 in a 328 feet radius of: geese winter concentration areas, geese brood concentration areas, geese production areas, great blue heron historic nest areas and great blue heron nesting areas; to protect nesting waterfowl and shorebirds</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-6: Waterfowl and Shorebird Nesting and Production Areas. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from April 15 to July 15 in a 0.25-mile radius around the nesting and production areas of the Fravert Watchable Wildlife Area, Consolidated Reservoir and the King Mountain Reservoirs-Grimes-Brooks, Nobel, and Upper and Lower King Mountain to reduce the risk of nest abandonment (300 acres/400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Mountain to protect nesting ducks (300 acres/400 acres federal mineral estate).	(300 acres/400 acres federal mineral estate).		
Special Status Species			
<p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent the need for listing of proposed, candidate, and sensitive species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), protect special status species, and improve their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted (Land Health Standard 4). Take necessary actions to help to delist the five federally listed fish species found in the planning areas by following pertinent recovery plans and implementing actions and protections that assist in their recovery. 	<p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain or enhance special status species and their habitats to provide for their conservation and recovery as part of an ecologically healthy system, and support the goals contained in Standard 4 of the Colorado Standards for Public Land Health. Conserve and/or recover ESA-listed species and the ecosystems on which they depend so that ESA protections are no longer needed for these species. Initiate proactive conservation measures that reduce or eliminate threats to BLM sensitive species to minimize the likelihood of and need for listing of these species under the ESA. (BLM policy, 6840 Manual). 	<p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent the need for listing of proposed, candidate, and sensitive species under the ESA, protect special status species, and improve their habitats to a point where their special status recognition is no longer warranted (Land Health Standard 4). Take necessary actions to help to delist the five federally listed fish species found in the planning areas by following pertinent recovery plans and implementing actions and protections that assist in their recovery. 	
Special Status Species – Fish and Other Aquatic Wildlife			
<p>Objective: Protect occupied and suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species and protect occupied habitat for BLM sensitive species necessary for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed candidate and threatened or endangered species, and Support of BLM sensitive species and significant plant communities, consistent with BLM policy on <i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840). 	<p>Objective: Protect and improve occupied and suitable habitat for federally proposed, candidate, threatened, and endangered species and protect occupied habitat for BLM sensitive species necessary for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed, candidate, and threatened or endangered species, and Increased population numbers and distribution consistent with BLM policy on <i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840). 	<p>Objective: Protect occupied and suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species and protect occupied habitat for BLM sensitive species necessary for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed candidate and threatened or endangered species, and Support of BLM sensitive species and significant plant communities, consistent with BLM policy on <i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840). 	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species — Fish and Aquatic Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	Management Action: Protect BLM fish-bearing streams or stream segments by actively seeking minimum in-stream flow protection and, for lakes, minimum pool depths, where opportunities arise (see Water section).	Management Action: Protect BLM fish-bearing streams or stream segments by actively seeking minimum in-stream flow protection and, for lakes, minimum pool depths, where opportunities arise.	
Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-CSU-3: <i>BLM Sensitive Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.	Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial streams, Water bodies, Fisheries, and Riparian Areas</i> .	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-16: <i>Perennial Waters</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of perennial waters (13,700 acres/8,900 acres federal mineral estate). On perennial waters where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from the stream edge, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-31: <i>Conservation and Core Conservation Populations of Colorado River Cutthroat Trout</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of streams containing conservation and core conservation populations of Colorado River cutthroat trout (1,100 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate). Where the riparian corridor width is greater than 100 meters (328 feet) from stream edge, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the riparian zone.
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-TL-1: <i>Salmonid and Native, Non-Salmonid Fishes</i> .	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-18: <i>Occupied Cutthroat Trout Waters</i> . Prohibit in-channel work during the spring spawning period (April 1 to September 1) in all occupied Colorado River cutthroat trout and greenback cutthroat trout waters to protect redds (egg masses) and emerging fry (45 miles/ 20 miles federal mineral estate).	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-19: <i>Conservation and Core Conservation Populations of Cutthroat Trout Waters</i> . Prohibit in-channel work during the spring spawning period (April 1 to September 1) in all waters supporting conservation and core conservation populations of Colorado River cutthroat trout or occupied habitat of greenback cutthroat trout to protect redds (egg masses) and emerging fry (14 miles/ 9 miles federal mineral estate).

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Endangered Big-River Fishes (Razorback Sucker, Colorado Pikeminnow, Humpback Chub, and Bonytail)			
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-NSO-12: <i>Threatened or Endangered Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulations CRVFO-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species</i> and CRVFO-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-32: <i>Endangered Big-River Fishes (Razorback Sucker, Colorado Pikeminnow, Humpback Chub, and Bonytail)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within Designated Critical Habitat. No exceptions would be granted except pursuant to consultation with the USFWS pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.</p>	
BLM Sensitive Big-River Fishes (Flannelmouth Sucker, Bluehead Sucker, and Roundtail Chub)			
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-CSU-3: <i>BLM Sensitive Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i> and stipulation CRVFO-NSO-5: <i>Perennial Streams, Water bodies, Riparian Areas, and Aquatic Dependent Species</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-33: <i>Sensitive Big-River Fishes (Flannelmouth Sucker, Bluehead Sucker, Roundtail Chub)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of all occupied or seasonally occupied tributary streams for flannelmouth sucker, bluehead sucker, and roundtail chub (3,700 acres/400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
BLM Sensitive Amphibians (Great Basin Spadefoot, Boreal Toad, Northern Leopard Frog, and Wood Frog)			
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-CSU-3: <i>BLM Sensitive Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-5: <i>Sensitive Amphibians (Great Basin Spadefoot, Boreal Toad, Northern Leopard Frog, Wood Frog)</i>. Apply CSU constraints within an 800-meter (0.5-mile) buffer around all identified breeding sites to protect identified breeding habitats of sensitive amphibian species (4,100 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-34: <i>Sensitive Amphibians (Great Basin Spadefoot, Boreal Toad, Northern Leopard Frog, Wood Frog)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 800 meters (0.5 mile) of identified breeding sites (4,100 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-15: <i>Sensitive Amphibians (Great Basin Spadefoot, Boreal Toad, Northern Leopard Frog, Wood Frog)</i>. Apply CSU restrictions within an 800-meter (0.5-mile) buffer around all identified breeding sites (4,100 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>
Special Status Species – Plants			
<p>Objective: Protect occupied and suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) and protect occupied habitat for sensitive species necessary for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed, candidate, threatened, and endangered species Support of BLM sensitive species and significant plant communities, consistent with BLM policy on 	<p>Objective: Promote maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species by protecting and improving occupied and suitable habitat. Protect core populations of Harrington’s penstemon and occupied habitat for all BLM sensitive species.</p>	<p>Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) and BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat.</p>	<p>Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate species threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat.</p> <p>Promote the maintenance of existing populations of BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied habitat.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Plants)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p><i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840).</p> <p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as core conservation populations for special status plant species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt Logan Foothills (Colorado hookless cactus, DeBeque phacelia, Parachute penstemon, Naturita milkvetch) (4,000 acres) • Hardscrabble-East Eagle (Harrington’s penstemon) (4,200 acres) • Lyons Gulch (Harrington’s penstemon) (400 acres) • Sheep Creek Uplands (Harrington’s penstemon) (3,900 acres). <p>Designate these areas as ACECs specifically to protect special status plants species and their habitats. Other ACECs may also protect habitat for special status plants but these populations are not considered core populations. (See Special Designations - ACECs for ACEC-specific management prescriptions).</p>	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs to protect special status plant species (see ACECs section):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt Logan Foothills (Colorado hookless cactus, DeBeque phacelia, Parachute penstemon, Naturita milkvetch) (4,000 acres) • Hardscrabble-East Eagle (Harrington’s penstemon) (4,200 acres) • Lyons Gulch (Harrington’s penstemon) (400 acres). • Sheep Creek Uplands (Harrington’s penstemon) (4,500 acres) • The Crown Ridge (Harrington’s penstemon) (1,100 acres). 	<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-NSO-12: <i>Threatened or Endangered Species</i> in Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-9: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Plant Species</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656-feet) of habitat areas for those plant species listed under ESA as threatened or endangered, and for federal proposed or candidate plant species to protect threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate plants, immediately adjacent suitable habitat and pollinator habitat, from direct and indirect impacts (1,100 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 200-meter (656-foot) buffer around current or historically occupied habitat to protect threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, or BLM sensitive plant species from direct and indirect impacts and loss of habitat (23,000 acres/2,600 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-18: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Plants Current and Historically Occupied Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 200-meter (656-foot) buffer around current and historically occupied habitat as necessary to protect federally listed, proposed and candidate plants from direct and indirect impacts and loss of habitat (900 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Plants)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-10: <i>BLM Sensitive Plants within ACECs</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656-feet) around occupied BLM sensitive plant habitat within ACECs to protect core populations of Harrington’s penstemon and occupied habitat of other BLM sensitive plant species within ACECs from direct and indirect impacts (2,200 acres).	Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat</i> .	No similar allowable use.
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-6: <i>BLM Sensitive Plants outside ACECs</i> . Apply CSU constraints to surface-disturbing activities within a 100-meter (328-feet) buffer around occupied habitat for sensitive plants outside ACECs to protect BLM sensitive plant populations and habitat outside of ACECs (6,400 acres/900 acres federal mineral estate).	No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-9: <i>BLM Sensitive Plant Species Occupied Habitat</i> . Apply CSU restrictions to surface-disturbing activities within a 100-meter (328-feet) buffer around occupied BLM sensitive species habitat (including Harrington’s penstemon).
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-11: <i>DeBeque Phacelia Suitable Habitat</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 30 meters (100 feet) of suitable habitat for DeBeque phacelia to 1) preserve habitat until a determination can be made whether or not the habitat is occupied and 2) protect suitable habitat for the threatened annual plant, DeBeque phacelia, which may not germinate every year.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-22: <i>DeBeque Phacelia</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within suitable habitat for DeBeque phacelia.	
Objective: Suitable habitat is available for recovery of special status species. (Indicator for Land Health Standard 4).	Objective: Restore historically occupied, degraded habitat for special status plants to suitable habitat where feasible. (e.g., Colorado hookless cactus habitat dominated by cheatgrass).	Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species and BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat.	Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate species threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat. Promote the maintenance of existing populations of BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied habitat.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Management Action: Prohibit collection of rare plants or plant parts, except as permitted by the Authorized Officer for scientific research.	Management Action: Prohibit collection of rare plants or plant parts, except as permitted by the Authorized Officer for scientific research when the action would not adversely affect the population.	Management Action: Prohibit collection of rare plants or plant parts, except as permitted by the Authorized Officer for scientific research.	Management Action: Prohibit collection of rare plants or plant parts, except as permitted by the Authorized Officer for scientific research.
No similar management action.	Management Action: Close or relocate selected travel routes to protect special status species and significant plant communities.	No similar management action.	
No similar management action.	Management Action: Require projects that remove topsoil in areas of suitable habitat for endangered or threatened species to set aside and replace the topsoil when groundwork is completed, to preserve the seedbank and associated mycorrhizal species and to discourage invasive plant species.		
Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife			
Objective: Protect occupied and suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) and protect occupied habitat for sensitive species necessary for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed, candidate, threatened, and endangered species Support of BLM sensitive species and significant plant communities, consistent with BLM policy on <i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840). 	Objective: Protect and improve the integrity of occupied and suitable habitat for federally proposed, candidate, threatened, and endangered species and protect occupied (and adjacent) habitat for BLM sensitive species necessary for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and recovery of proposed, candidate, and threatened or endangered species, and Increased population numbers and distribution consistent with BLM policy on <i>Special Status Species Management</i> (BLM Manual 6840). 	Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) and BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat.	Objective: Promote the maintenance and recovery of federally listed, proposed, and candidate species threatened or endangered species (including greater sage-grouse) by protecting occupied and adjacent habitat. Promote the maintenance of existing populations of BLM sensitive species by protecting occupied habitat.
American White Pelican			
Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-5: <i>American White Pelican</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 16 to September 30 (0 acres – currently no white pelican nesting and feeding habitat mapped within CRVFO).	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-7: <i>American White Pelican</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 16 to September 30 to protect white pelican nesting and feeding habitat during usage (0 acres).	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-16: <i>American White Pelican</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 16 to September 30 to protect white pelican nesting and feeding habitat during usage (0 acres).	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Bald Eagle			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-8: <i>Bald Eagle Roost or Nest Site</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of the roost or nest site (900 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-12: <i>Bald Eagle Roost or Nest Site</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of the roost or nest site to maintain the integrity of occupied (used within the last 5 years) winter roost sites and surrounding habitat (900 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-26: <i>Bald Eagle Roost or Nest Site</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of the roost or nest site (900 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-10: <i>Bald Eagle Nest Site</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around bald eagle nest sites from December 15 to June 15 to protect nesting habitat.</p> <p>Stipulation GS-TL-11: <i>Bald Eagle Winter Roost Site</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around bald eagle winter roost sites from November 16 to April 15 to avoid relocation to less suitable areas.</p> <p>Combined acres: (3,900 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-8: <i>Bald Eagle Nest Sites and Winter Roost Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around nest sites from November 15 to July 31 and around winter roost sites from November 15 to March 15 to: (a) protect nesting, nest-centered courtship, nest attentiveness and construction or repair, egg-laying, incubation, feeding of nestlings, and post-fledging use of the nest; and (b) prevent disruption of wintering bald eagles at winter roost sites (3,900 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-8: <i>Bald Eagle Nest Sites and Winter Roost Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around nest sites from October 15 to July 31 and around winter roost sites from November 15 to March 15 to: 1 to protect nesting, including nest-centered courtship, nest attentiveness and construction or repair, egg-laying, incubation, feeding of nestlings, and post-fledging use of the nest vicinity by juveniles (3,900 acres/800 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
Ferruginous Hawk			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-7: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.125-mile radius of a nest site to protect ferruginous hawk nesting and fledgling habitat during usage and to avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-13: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile radius of an occupied nest site or associated alternate nests to protect ferruginous hawk nesting and fledgling habitat during use and avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-29: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile radius of a nest site to protect ferruginous hawk nesting and fledgling habitat during use and avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-7: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from February 1 to August 15 within a 1-mile radius of a nest site to protect ferruginous hawk nesting and fledgling habitat during usage and to avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-9: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to avoid nest abandonment from February 1 to July 15 within a 0.5-mile radius of a nest site to protect reproductive activity at nest sites and avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-10: <i>Ferruginous Hawk Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from February 1 to July 15 within a 0.5-mile radius of a nest site to protect ferruginous hawk nesting and fledgling habitat during use and avoid nest abandonment (0 acres).</p>	
Peregrine Falcon			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-9: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of a cliff-nesting complex to protect peregrine falcon nest sites (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-14: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5 -mile radius of a cliff-nesting complex to maintain the integrity of nest sites and surrounding habitat (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-27: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5 -mile radius of a cliff-nesting complex (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-12: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around peregrine falcon cliff-nesting complexes from March 15 to July to prevent abandonment and desertion of established territories (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-10: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around peregrine falcon cliff-nesting complexes from March 15 to July 31 to protect reproductive activity at nest sites and avoid nest abandonment (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-14: <i>Peregrine Falcon Cliff-Nesting Complex</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile buffer around peregrine falcon cliff-nesting complexes from March 15 to July 31 (1,000 acres/200 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
Greater Sage-Grouse			
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-15: <i>Priority Habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse Population</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in greater sage-grouse priority habitat. to: 1) sustain the integrity of sagebrush biome within priority greater sage-grouse habitats, 2) to provide the amount, continuity, and quality of habitat that is</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-49. <i>Certain ACECs</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the Greater Sage-grouse Habitat ACEC to protect priority habitat for the greater sage-grouse, (a candidate species for listing under the ESA) (24,600 acres/ 17,300 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>necessary to maintain sustainable populations of greater sage-grouse, and 3) maintain the integrity of habitat surrounding leks (24,700 acres/17,400 acres federal mineral estate).</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-6: <i>Grouse Leks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of an active lek (courtship area). Grouse includes greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, and lesser and greater prairie chickens (1,700 acres/900 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-15: <i>Priority Habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse Population</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-23: <i>Greater Sage-grouse Leks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.6-mile radius of an active or historic (used within the last 10 years) lek (3,200 acres/1,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-7: <i>General Habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse Population</i>. Apply CSU constraint to mitigate possible adverse effects of land uses to sustain the integrity of the sagebrush biome within mapped general greater sage-grouse habitat (16,500 acres/10,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-13: <i>Sage-Grouse Habitat in the CRVFO</i>. Apply CSU constraint to protect sagebrush plant communities within sage-grouse habitat (30,800 acres/14,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-3: <i>Grouse Winter and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during certain timeframes in grouse crucial winter habitat and nesting to protect greater sage-grouse during certain seasons. (35,200 acres/16,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-11: <i>Greater Sage-grouse Winter Range and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in greater sage-grouse: 1) nesting habitat to prevent disruption of reproductive activity during the production period and 2) winter habitats that are crucial for population persistence (28,800 acres/19,800 acres federal mineral estate).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater sage-grouse winter range timing limitation dates are from December 1 to March 15 and defined by CPW mapped winter range. • Greater sage-grouse nesting habitat timing limitation dates: March 1 to June 30. Sage- 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-11: <i>Greater Sage-grouse Winter and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during certain timeframes in grouse crucial winter habitat and nesting habitat. Sage-grouse nesting habitat is described as sagebrush stands with sagebrush plants 30 to 100 centimeters (approximately 12 to 40 inches) in height and a mean canopy cover of 15 to 40 percent within a 4-mile radius of an active lek (35,200 acres/16,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sage-grouse crucial winter habitat: December 16 to March 15. • Sage-grouse nesting habitat: March 1 to June 30. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>grouse nesting habitat includes brooding and production habitat. It is described as sagebrush stands with sagebrush plants between 30 and 100 centimeters (approximately 12 and 40 inches) in height and a mean canopy cover between 15 and 40 percent within a 4-mile radius of an active lek.</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: Lease Notice LN-CO-30: <i>Nesting Grouse Species</i>. Relocate surface-disturbing activities proposed between March 1 and June 30, consistent with lease rights granted and Section 6 of standard lease terms, out of grouse nesting habitat to protect nesting grouse species (including greater sage-grouse and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-5: <i>Greater or Gunnison Sage-grouse Habitat and Columbia Sharp-tailed Grouse Nesting Habitat</i>. The lease may in part, or in total, contain important greater or Gunnison sage-grouse or Columbian sharp-tailed grouse habitats, as identified by the BLM, either currently or prospectively. The operator may be required to implement specific measures through a condition of approval to protect sage-grouse and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Lease Notice CRV-LN-5: <i>Nesting Grouse Species</i>. Relocate surface-disturbing activities proposed between March 1 and June 30, consistent with lease rights granted and Section 6 of standard lease terms, out of grouse nesting habitat to protect nesting grouse species (including greater sage-grouse and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse).</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>		<p>Management Action: Designate a Greater Sage-grouse Habitat ACEC to protect greater sage-grouse habitat (see ACECs section).</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Within priority habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse population:</p> <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM may close, construct, relocate, re-route, or re-designate by route type; routes to protect resource values and sustain a similar quality and quantity of routes as designated in the RMP • Close the east Castle Peak area to over-the-snow travel. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate priority habitat as a ROW 	<p>Management Actions: To protect priority habitat within the Greater Sage-grouse Habitat ACEC apply the following:</p> <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of new administrative routes • Close the Castle Peak portion of the Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat ACEC to over-the-snow travel. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance 	<p>No similar management action.</p>

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>avoidance area however amendments to existing ROWs, such as upgrading of existing facilities or granting of short (approx. 0.25 mile or less) or temporary ROWs for utility service or access roads may be permitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude new transmission lines from priority habitat unless lines can be co-located with existing lines • Within designated ROW corridors encumbered by existing ROW authorizations, new ROWs may be collocated within the designated corridors if the action may be completed within the existing disturbance • Minor new or amended distribution lines from existing transmission lines may be permitted away from sensitive areas (e.g. lek sites). <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow prescribed fire and unplanned natural fire managed for resource benefits and other vegetation treatments if they are determined to be beneficial to maintaining or enhancing greater sage-grouse priority habitat. 	<p>area, however amendments to existing ROWs, such as upgrading of existing facilities or granting of short (approx. 0.25 mile or less) or temporary ROWs for utility service or access roads may be permitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude new transmission lines from priority habitat unless lines can be co-located with existing lines • Other compatible ROWs may be allowed within existing ROWs • New or amended distribution lines from existing transmission lines may be allowed. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow prescribed fire and unplanned natural fire managed for resource benefits and other vegetation treatments if they are determined to be beneficial to maintaining or enhancing greater sage-grouse habitat. <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Visual Resources:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. 	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: To protect habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse population attach onsite or offsite mitigation measures (see Appendix G) as a condition of approval to minimize impacts to greater sage-grouse priority and general habitat.</p>	<p>Management Action: To protect priority habitat within the Greater Sage-grouse Habitat ACEC attach as COAs to project proposals additional onsite or offsite mitigation to minimize impacts to ACEC values.</p>	No similar management action.

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-6: <i>Grouse Leaks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of an active lek (courtship area). Grouse includes greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, and lesser and greater prairie chickens (0 acres - currently no Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks within the CRVFO).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-16: <i>Occupied Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Leaks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.4-mile radius of occupied leks (A lek that has been active during at least one strutting season within the prior 10 years) to protect occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-25: <i>Known Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Leaks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.4-mile radius of a known lek to protect occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-24: <i>Active Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Leaks</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.4-mile radius of an active lek (used within the previous 10 years) to protect occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse leks (0 acres).</p>
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-3: <i>Grouse Winter and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during certain timeframes in grouse crucial winter habitat and nesting to protect greater sage-grouse during certain seasons. (35,200 acres/16,700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-12: <i>Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Winter Range and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in Columbian sharp-tailed grouse winter range and nesting habitat to protect Columbian sharp-tailed grouse population persistence during certain seasons (10 acres/150 acres federal mineral estate).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbian sharp-tailed grouse winter range timing limitation dates: December 1 to March 15. Columbian sharp-tailed grouse winter range is defined by CPW mapped winter range. • Columbian sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat timing limitation dates: March 15 to July 30. Columbian sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat includes brooding and production habitat. It is described as native grassland, sagesteppe, mountain shrub, and non-native grass fields with up to 40% cover and dense vertical and horizontal concealment within 1.25 miles of an active lek. 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-12: <i>Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse Winter and Nesting Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during certain timeframes in grouse crucial winter habitat and nesting habitat (10 acres/150 acres federal mineral estate). Sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat is described as mountain shrub communities with a density of shrub plants from 1,700 to 32,000 shrubs per hectare and average shrub height of 30 centimeters (12 inches) within a 2-mile radius of an active lek.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbian sharp-tailed grouse crucial winter habitat: December 16 to March 15. • Columbian sharp-tailed grouse nesting habitat: March 1 to June 30 (10 acres/150 acres federal mineral estate). 	
<p>Allowable Use: See Lease Notice LN-CO-30: <i>Nesting Grouse Species</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-5: <i>Greater or Gunnison Sage-grouse Habitat and Columbia Sharp-tailed Grouse Nesting Habitat</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See Lease Notice CRV-LN-5: <i>Nesting Grouse Species</i>.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Greater Sandhill Crane			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-4: <i>Greater Sandhill Crane</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 1 to October 16 to protect greater sandhill crane nesting and staging habitat during usage (0 acres – currently no known greater sandhill crane nesting or staging habitat within the CRVFO).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-13: <i>Greater Sandhill Crane</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 1 to October 16 to protect greater sandhill crane nesting and staging habitat during usage (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-15: <i>Greater Sandhill Crane</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 1 to October 16 to protect greater sandhill crane nesting and staging habitat during usage (0 acres).</p>	
Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
See Appendix G - Best Management Practices and Conservation Measures.			
Mexican Spotted Owl			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-10: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of a roost or nest site (0 acres – No known Mexican Spotted Owl Roosts or Nest Sites within the CRVFO).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-17: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl Roosts and Nest Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile radius of a roost or nest site to maintain the integrity of the breeding and brood rearing complex (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-28: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl Roosts and Nest Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.5-mile radius of a roost or nest site to maintain the integrity of the breeding and brood rearing complex (0 acres).</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-TL-9: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl Nesting and Fledgling Habitat</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from February 1 through July 31 to protect Mexican spotted owl core habitat areas (i.e., nesting and fledgling habitat) during usage (0 acres – No known Mexican Spotted Owl Primary Activity Centers within the CRVFO).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-14: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl Primary Activity Centers</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities from March 1 through July 31 to maintain the integrity of the breeding and brood rearing complex (0 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-9: <i>Mexican Spotted Owl Primary Activity Centers</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities during seasons of critical use (0 acres).</p>	
Bats			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-18: <i>Special Status Bat Species Hibernation, Maternity and Fall Swarming Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of special status (i.e., endangered,</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-30: <i>Special Status Bat Species Roost Sites</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of Townsend's big-eared bat,</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	threatened, candidate or BLM sensitive) bat use areas to protect sites used for the purposes of maternity roosts, hibernation or fall swarming activities (500 acres/20 acres federal mineral estate).	fringed myotis, and special status bat roost sites (500 acres/20 acres federal mineral estate).	
No similar allowable use.			Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-14: <i>Special Status Bat Species Roost Sites</i> . Apply CSU restrictions within 0.25-mile of special status bat roost sites (500 acres/20 acres federal mineral estate).
No similar allowable use.	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-TL-15: <i>Special Status Bat Species Hibernation, Maternity and Fall Swarming Sites</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within a 0.25-mile radius of the following sites: maternity sites from April 15 to August 31, winter hibernation sites from November 15 to April 15, and fall swarming sites from August 15 to October 15; to protect bat population persistence during certain seasons (500 acres/ 20 acres federal mineral estate).	Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-TL-17: <i>Special Status Bat Species Maternity and Hibernation Sites (i.e., Townsend's big-eared bat, fringed myotis, Yuma myotis, and big free-tailed bat)</i> . Limit ground disturbance during the following periods: Maternity sites (April 15 to August 31), and winter hibernation sites (November 15 to April 15); to protect bats during maternity season and hibernation (500 acres/20 acres federal mineral estate).	
Canada Lynx			
Allowable Use: See stipulation GS-NSO-12: <i>Threatened or Endangered Species</i> .	Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species</i> for Canada lynx habitat within lynx analysis units.	Allowable Use: See revised NSO stipulations with buffers for plants and NSOs for individual terrestrial wildlife species in the applicable sections.	
No similar allowable use. (Project-specific USFWS consultation would be completed.)	Allowable Use: Designate Canada lynx landscape linkages as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).	No similar allowable use. (Project-specific USFWS consultation would be completed.)	
Gray Wolf			
See Appendix G - Best Management Practices and Conservation Measures.			

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Special Status Species - Common to all Special Status Species			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-12: <i>Threatened or Endangered Species</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on habitat areas for those species listed by the federal or state government as endangered or threatened and for federal proposed or candidate species. Habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on habitat areas for fish and wildlife species listed by the federal or state government as endangered or threatened and for federal proposed or candidate species to maintain the integrity of habitats for endangered, threatened or candidate species necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See revised NSO stipulations with buffers for plants and NSOs for individual terrestrial wildlife species in the applicable sections.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-CSU-3: <i>Species Listed as Sensitive by BLM</i>. For those species listed as sensitive by BLM and for significant natural plant communities, special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required. For plants, habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species or communities. (This applies to all sensitive wildlife, fish, and plant species and all significant natural plant communities.)</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-8: <i>BLM Sensitive Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Species and Significant Natural Plant Communities</i>. Apply CSU constraint to habitats for those fish and wildlife species listed as sensitive by the BLM and for significant natural plant communities (including relict plant communities and old-growth forests and woodlands) to protect BLM sensitive aquatic and terrestrial and significant plant communities.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-7: <i>Significant Plant Communities</i>. For plant communities that meet the BLM’s criteria for significant plant communities, special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required. For plant communities, habitat areas include occupied habitat and habitat necessary for the maintenance or recovery of the species or communities.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CO-LN-34 (Alternatives A, C and D)/CRVFO-LN-6 (Proposed RMP): <i>Endangered Species Act</i>. The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. The BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objectives.</p>			
<p>Management Action: See Lease Notice GS-LN-2 (Alternative A)/CRVFO-LN-2 (Proposed RMP)/CRV-LN-4 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Biological Inventories</i>. In areas of known or suspected habitat of special status species, or habitat of other species of interest, such as raptor nests, elk calving areas, or significant natural plant communities, a biological inventory would be required prior to approval of operations.</p>			

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Ensure that management of native, naturalized and exotic species enhances, restores, and does not reduce the biological and genetic diversity of natural ecosystems. Cooperate with the USFWS and appropriate State agencies in planning and providing for the recovery of T&E species. This includes the reestablishment or release of T&E species or experimental populations of T&E species within the historical range of the species. NEPA compliance is required before introductions, transplants and reestablishments can be approved.</p>	<p>Management Action: Allow introduction, translocation, transplantation, restocking, augmentation, and reestablishment of native and naturalized fish and wildlife species in cooperation with CPW and/or USFWS, subject to the guidance provided by BLM Manual 1745 and by existing or future memorandums of understanding with CPW.</p>	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain BLM lands with special status species (i.e. proposed, candidate, federally listed and BLM sensitive species) habitats • Pursue land tenure adjustments that facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species • Manage special status species habitat as ROW avoidance areas unless otherwise specified as ROW exclusion areas. 	<p>Management Actions: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain BLM lands with occupied special status species habitats • Pursue land tenure adjustments that facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species • Manage occupied habitat for special status species (includes sage-grouse) as ROW avoidance areas unless otherwise specified as ROW exclusion areas. 	<p>Management Actions: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain BLM lands with habitat for proposed, candidate, and listed species • Pursue land tenure adjustments that facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species • Manage occupied habitat for special status species (includes sage-grouse) as ROW avoidance areas unless otherwise specified as ROW exclusion areas.
<p>Management Action: No similar action.</p>	<p>Management Action: In occupied special status species habitat close or relocate selected travel routes to protect special status species and significant plant communities.</p>		
Cultural Resources			
<p>Goal: Identify, preserve, and protect significant cultural resources in order to ensure appropriate uses by present and future generations (i.e., for research, education, and preservation of cultural heritage (FLPMA Section 103 [C], 201 [A], 202 [A]; NHPA Sections 106 and 110; ARPA Section 14[a]; the Antiquities Act Section 2, National Programmatic Agreement between the BLM and National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, Colorado Protocol, and other pertinent legislation).</p>			
<p>Objective: Preserve the nature and value of cultural resources.</p>	<p>Objective: Identify research opportunities and preserve the nature and value of cultural resources.</p>	<p>Objective: Preserve the nature and value of cultural resources.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D																												
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Allocate all cultural resources currently recorded, or projected to occur on the basis of existing data synthesis, to use allocations according to their nature and relative preservation value (BLM Manual Section 8110.42 and Planning Handbook H-1601-1 [Appendix C]). Cultural Use Allocations include:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Use Allocation</th> <th>Desired Outcome</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Scientific use</td> <td>Preserved until research potential is realized</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Conservation for future use</td> <td>Preserved until conditions for use are met</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Traditional use</td> <td>Long-term preservation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public use</td> <td>Long-term preservation, onsite interpretation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experimental use</td> <td>Protected until used</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Discharge from management</td> <td>No use after recordation; not preserved</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Use category allocations may be revised in response to changing site conditions or as additional data and information is obtained. Criteria allowing for revising allocation includes: 1) environmental change or human caused impacts that alter the significance or scientific potential; 2) changes brought about by mitigation and/or data recovery; 3) new discovery that adds to the sites potential and changes its eligibility to the NRHP; 4) new information or techniques that reveal a new scientific value that was not previously recognized; and 5) new information shared through Native American consultation.</p>	Use Allocation	Desired Outcome	Scientific use	Preserved until research potential is realized	Conservation for future use	Preserved until conditions for use are met	Traditional use	Long-term preservation	Public use	Long-term preservation, onsite interpretation	Experimental use	Protected until used	Discharge from management	No use after recordation; not preserved	<p>Management Action: The BLM has allocated cultural resources currently recorded, or projected to occur on the basis of existing data synthesis, to the following uses (BLM 2005a). These allocations are contained in the <i>Class I Cultural Resource Overview of the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office</i> (Reed et al. 2008), which contains privileged information not for distribution.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Use Allocation</th> <th>Desired Outcome</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Scientific use</td> <td>Preserved until research potential is realized</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Conservation for future use</td> <td>Preserved until conditions for use are met</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Traditional use</td> <td>Long-term preservation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public use</td> <td>Long-term preservation, onsite interpretation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experimental use</td> <td>Protected until used</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Discharge from management</td> <td>No use after recordation; not preserved</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Sites would be added or removed from each allocation in response to changing conditions or as additional data and information is obtained.</p>	Use Allocation	Desired Outcome	Scientific use	Preserved until research potential is realized	Conservation for future use	Preserved until conditions for use are met	Traditional use	Long-term preservation	Public use	Long-term preservation, onsite interpretation	Experimental use	Protected until used	Discharge from management	No use after recordation; not preserved	<p>Management Action: The BLM has allocated cultural resources currently recorded, or projected to occur on the basis of existing data synthesis, to the following uses (BLM 2005a). These allocations are contained in the <i>Class I Cultural Resource Overview of the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office</i> (Reed et al. 2008), which contains privileged information not for distribution.</p>
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Experimental use	Protected until used																														
Discharge from management	No use after recordation; not preserved																														
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Provide long term protection and preservation of religious or culturally significant sites and areas.</p>	<p>Objective: Uphold Native American trust responsibilities and accommodate traditional uses.</p>																													

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Cultural Resources)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-20: <i>Heritage Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.25 mile of heritage areas or Native American traditional properties (e.g., ceremonial features, rock art, culturally modified trees, human remains and site types as identified through consultation) to protect the integrity of place, setting, and/or feeling (4,900 acres/500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-37: <i>Heritage Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 0.25 mile of heritage areas or Native American traditional properties to protect the integrity of place, setting, and/or feeling (4,900 acres/500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>Management Action: Designate the Blue Hill ACEC to preserve and protect areas with integrity of setting and place where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, important landscape.</p>	<p>Management Action: Designate the Blue Hill and Grand Hogback ACECs to preserve and protect areas with integrity of setting and place where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, important landscape.</p>	<p>Management Action: Designate the Blue Hill ACEC to preserve and protect areas with integrity of setting and place where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, important landscape.</p>	
<p>Goal: Seek to reduce imminent threats and resolve potential conflicts from natural or human-caused deterioration, or potential conflict with other resource uses (FLPMA Sec. 103[c], NHPA 106, 110[a][2]) by ensuring that all authorizations for land use and resource use will comply with the NHPA Section 106; Colorado Protocol; Colorado Revised Statutes 24-80-1301 for Historic, Prehistoric, and Archaeological Resources, and for Unmarked Human Graves; and other applicable laws.</p>			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Preserve and protect historic properties and/or landscapes to protect the integrity of setting and sense of place by reducing imminent threats from natural or human-caused deterioration to resolve potential conflicts with other resource uses and ensuring that all authorizations for land use and resource use comply with Section 106 of the NHPA.</p>	<p>Objective: Preserve the existing character of the cultural and associated physical landscape.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Technical Guidance from the BLM Colorado State Office of a 100-meter (328-foot) buffer for historic properties (9,100 acres/1,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-21: <i>Historic Properties (100 meters [328 feet])</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of historic properties (9,100 acres/1,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-39: <i>Historic Properties (200 meters [656 feet])</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 200 meters (656 feet) of historic properties (17,500 acres/2,500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-38: <i>Historic Properties (100 meters [328 feet])</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within 100 meters (328 feet) of historic properties (9,100 acres/1,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Cultural Resources)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Goal: Uphold Native American interests and accommodate traditional uses.</p>	<p>Goal: Work towards enhancing collaboration, consultation, and working relationships with Native American tribes.</p>	<p>Goal: Uphold Native American interests and accommodate traditional uses.</p>	
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Uphold Native American interests and accommodate traditional uses by maintaining and, where possible, improving natural and cultural resource conditions to enhance opportunities for use of cultural landscapes and cultural properties.</p>	<p>Objective: Uphold Native American interests and accommodate traditional uses.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Recognizing resource concerns provide administrative access on designated routes to tribal cultural departments and tribal members for the collection of appropriate natural resources needed to maintain traditional lifeways.</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Identify tribal plant gathering needs and establish tribal protocol for gathering materials for cultural and religious purposes. Do not charge members of federally recognized Tribes fees for the collection of non-commercial or personal-use quantities of plants or minerals used for food, medicine, utilitarian items, traditional use items, or items necessary for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes. Threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, or sensitive plants are not included as authorized for collection.</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>	
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Plants that are identified by the Tribe as important for traditional, religious or ceremonial purposes and are not widely available would not be offered for commercial collection.</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Paleontology			
No similar goal.	Goal: Preserve and protect significant paleontological resources (generally vertebrate or noteworthy occurrences of invertebrate or plant fossils) in compliance with the 2009 Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.	Goal: Preserve and protect significant paleontological resources (generally vertebrate or noteworthy occurrences of invertebrate or plant fossils) in compliance with the 2009 Paleontological Resources Preservation Act incorporated here by reference.	
No similar objective.	Objective: Ensure that paleontological resources are available for appropriate scientific and educational uses.		
Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-1: <i>Class 4 and 5 Paleontological Areas</i> . Have an accredited paleontologist approved by the Authorized Officer perform an inventory of surface-disturbing activities in Class 4 and 5 paleontological areas.	Management Action: Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-7: <i>Class 4 and 5 Paleontological Areas</i> . Require that an accredited paleontologist approved by the Authorized Officer perform an inventory of surface-disturbing activities in Class 4 and 5 paleontological areas.	Management Action: Lease Notice CRV-LN-6: <i>Class 4 and 5 Paleontological Areas</i> . Have an accredited paleontologist approved by the Authorized Officer perform an inventory of surface-disturbing activities in Class 4 and 5 paleontological areas.	
Visual Resource Management			
Goal: Protect the open spaces, the natural aesthetics, and the scenic vistas that are considered a social, economic, and environmental benefit.			
Objective: Maintain visual quality throughout the resource area and protect unique and fragile resource values. Manage Deep Creek and Bull Gulch and the Thompson Creek ACEC's Natural Environment Area under Class I VRM objectives.	Objective: Maintain visual quality and integrity in accordance with VRM classes.		
Management Action: Manage visual resources on BLM lands according to the objectives for each class and designate VRM classes as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM I = 22,700 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate • VRM II = 227,800 acres/83,600 acres federal mineral estate • VRM III = 112,900 acres/48,400 acres federal mineral estate 	Management Action: Manage visual resources on BLM lands according to the objectives for each class and designate VRM classes as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM I = 35,600 acres/0 acres federal mineral estate • VRM II = 268,900 acres/92,100 acres federal mineral estate • VRM III = 84,200 acres/48,600 acres federal mineral estate • VRM IV = 116,500 acres/69,000 acres 	Management Action: Manage visual resources on BLM lands according to the objectives for each class and designate VRM classes as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM I = 35,800 acres/0 acres federal mineral estate • VRM II = 256,900 acres/77,600 acres federal mineral estate • VRM III = 96,200 acres/48,100 acres federal mineral estate 	Management Action: Manage visual resources on BLM lands according to the objectives for each class and designate VRM classes as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM I = 35,200 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate • VRM II = 217,900 acres/86,500 acres federal mineral estate • VRM III = 113,100 acres/48,600 acres federal mineral estate

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Visual Resource Management)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VRM IV = 141,800 acres/64,400 acres federal mineral estate VRM V = 0 acres/0 acres federal mineral estate. 	federal mineral estate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VRM IV = 116,300 acres/59,000 acres federal mineral estate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VRM IV = 139,000 acres/64,400 acres federal mineral estate.
No similar management action.		Management Action: Recognize and make changes in VRM classes that compliment adjacent local, state, and federal entities' land use plans and objectives to maintain scenic values.	No similar management action.
No similar management action.	Management Action: Within VRM Class II areas, concentrate all new disturbances within existing ROWs or within 200 meters (656 feet) of existing disturbances in order to maintain overall scenic quality in utility corridors and in high-sensitivity transportation corridors identified and analyzed in the Visual Resource Management Update (Otak 2007). This recognizes existing disturbances while not foregoing protections for high-sensitivity transportation corridors.		
No similar management action.	Management Action: Manage all WSAs under VRM Class I objectives to support BLM <i>Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas</i> guidance to retain a natural landscape. If a WSA is designated as wilderness, the area would continue to be managed as VRM Class I. Exceptions: (1) Case-by-case exceptions for valid existing rights and grandfathered uses; (2) If the WSA is released by Congress.	Management Action: Manage all WSAs under VRM Class I objectives to support interim management policy guidelines to retain a natural landscape. If a WSA is designated as wilderness, the area would continue to be managed as VRM Class I. Exceptions: (1) Case-by-case exceptions for valid existing rights and grandfathered uses; (2) If the WSA is released by Congress (see WSA section).	
No similar management action.	Management Action: Designate VRM classes I or II for the following ACECs to preserve unique natural, geologic, or cultural features: VRM Class I: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thompson Creek Bull Gulch Deep Creek. VRM Class II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Hill Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Grand Hogback McCoy Fan Delta. 	Management Action: Manage all ACECs as VRM Class II, unless the ACEC is managed as VRM Class I (Thompson Creek, Bull Gulch, and Deep Creek ACECs).	Management Action: Manage ACECs per underlying VRM classes, excluding Bull Gulch ACEC (manage as VRM Class I because of WSA overlap) and Blue Hill ACEC (manage as VRM Class II).

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Visual Resource Management)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics would be managed under VRM Class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Peak Addition • Flat Tops addition • Pisgah Mountain • Thompson Creek outside ACEC. 	<p>Management Action: Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics would be managed under VRM Class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Peak Addition • Flat Tops addition • Grand Hogback • Pisgah Mountain • Thompson Creek outside ACEC. 	No similar management action.
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Manage the following SRMAs under VRM class II objectives to support setting prescriptions (for those SRMAs that overlap with WSAs, see above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardscrabble/East Eagle SRMA • King Mountain SRMA • Red Hill SRMA • The Crown SRMA • Upper Colorado River SRMA. 	<p>Management Action: Manage the following SRMAs under VRM class II objectives to support setting prescriptions (for those SRMAs that are within WSAs, see above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Hill SRMA • Upper Colorado River SRMA. 	<p>Management Action: Manage the following SRMAs under VRM class II objectives to support setting prescriptions (for those SRMAs that are within WSAs, see above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisher Creek SRMA • Hardscrabble/East Eagle SRMA • King Mountain SRMA • Red Hill SRMA • The Crown SRMA • Thompson Creek SRMA • Upper Colorado River SRMA.
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-16: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park).</i> Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the recreational setting, recreation opportunities and recreation facilities provided within SRMAs; the Class I VRM values within ACECs; and cave resources in the Deep Creek Cave Area. The stipulation applies to the following areas: Deep Creek ACEC/SRMA, Deep Creek Cave Area (includes NSO</p>	No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-42: <i>VRM Class I Areas.</i> For the protection of Class I VRM values, prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within areas designated VRM Class I (33,600 acres).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
for 5,000 feet below the surface), Bull Gulch ACEC/SRMA, Thompson Creek ACEC/SRMA, Hack Lake SRMA, and Rifle Mountain Park (21,800 acres/500 acres federal mineral estate).			
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-18: <i>Interstate 70 Viewshed</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on slopes over 30 percent with high visual sensitivity in the Interstate-70 viewshed. Lands with high visual sensitivity are those lands within 5 miles of the Interstate, of moderate to high visual exposure, where details of vegetation and landform are readily discernible, and where changes in visual contrast can be easily noticed by the casual observer on the Interstate (8,400 acres/1,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-22: <i>VRM Class II Areas with Slopes over 30 Percent and High Visual Sensitivity</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in VRM Class II areas with slopes over 30 percent and high visual sensitivity to preserve the visual setting and integrity. Lands with high visual sensitivity are those lands within 5 miles of the sensitive viewshed corridors of moderate to high visual exposure, where details of vegetation and landform are readily discernible, and changes in visual contrast can be easily noticed by the casual observer (120,100 acres/25,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-41: <i>VRM Class II Areas with Slopes over 30 Percent and High Visual Sensitivity</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in VRM Class II areas with slopes over 30 percent and high visual sensitivity to preserve the visual setting and integrity. Lands with high visual sensitivity are those lands within 5 miles of the sensitive viewshed corridors of moderate to high visual exposure, where details of vegetation and landform are readily discernible, and changes in visual contrast can be easily noticed by the casual observer (Alternative C =118,000 acres/ 25,000 acres federal mineral estate and Alternative D =102,100 acres/23,000 acres federal mineral estate.).</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-CSU-5: <i>VRM Class II</i>. Apply CSU constraint to areas in VRM Class II. Relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet) may be required to protect visual values (197,400 acres/67,500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-9: <i>VRM Class II</i>. Apply CSU constraint within VRM CLASS II areas to ensure that surface-disturbing activities within VRM Class II areas comply with BLM Handbook 8431-1 to retain the existing character of the landscape. Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the casual observer. Any change to the landscape must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape (270,500 acres/93,100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-16: <i>VRM Class II</i>. Apply CSU constraint to ensure that surface-disturbing activities within VRM Class II areas comply with BLM Handbook 8431-1 to retain the existing character of the landscape. Management activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the casual observer. Any change to the landscape must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape. Special design measures, mitigation plans, or relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet) may be required to protect visual values (Alternative C = 256,900 acres/92,100 acres federal mineral estate and Alternative D = 217,900 acres/86,500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-10: <i>Sensitive Viewsheds</i>. Use lease notices to inform oil and gas lessees of operational concerns in sensitive viewsheds. Special design and construction measures may be required to minimize the visual impacts of drilling activities within 5 miles of all communities or population centers, major BLM or county roads, and state or federal highways.</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRVFO-LN-8: <i>Sensitive Viewsheds</i>. Use lease notices to inform oil and gas lessees of operational concerns in sensitive viewsheds. Special design and construction measures may be required to minimize the visual impacts of drilling activities within 5 miles of all communities or population centers, major BLM or county roads, and state or federal highways.</p>	<p>Management Action: Lease Notice CRV-LN-7: <i>Sensitive Viewsheds</i>. Use lease notices to inform oil and gas lessees of operational concerns in sensitive viewsheds. Special design and construction measures may be required to minimize the visual impacts of drilling activities within 5 miles of all communities or population centers, major BLM or county roads, and state or federal highways.</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>Management Action: Collocate communication towers, facilities, and associated structures with existing communication sites to minimize overall visual impacts.</p>			<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>Management Action: Allow necessary road maintenance regardless of VRM class.</p>	<p>Management Action: Allow necessary annual road maintenance within the existing disturbance regardless of VRM class.</p>	<p>Management Action: Allow necessary road maintenance regardless of VRM class.</p>	<p>No similar management action.</p>
<p>Wildland Fire Management</p>			
<p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give first priority to public and firefighter safety and to protection of property • Recognize the rule of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and allow fire to play a natural role in the ecosystem where or when resource objectives can be met • Minimize costs and loss of property and natural resources, compliment resource management objectives, and sustain the productivity of biological ecosystems through fire management. 			
<p>Objective: Integrate fire and fuels management across all BLM programs and across all jurisdictional boundaries to improve land health standards, address wildland-urban interface issues and achieve commensurate resource and resource use objectives.</p>			
<p>Management Action: Use a full range of wildland fire management options, from full suppression to management of unplanned ignitions managed for resource benefits. Allow unplanned fire for resource benefit in specific geographic areas on 278,300 acres based on resource management objectives. On the remaining acreage of</p>	<p>Management Action: Use a full range of wildland fire management options, from full suppression to management of unplanned ignitions managed for resource benefits. Allow the use of naturally caused unplanned wildfires to be managed for multiple objectives including resource benefit in specific geographic areas on 192,200 acres. On the remaining acreage of BLM lands fire will be managed under a suppression strategy (see maps in Appendix A).</p>		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
BLM lands fire will be managed under a suppression strategy (see maps in Appendix A).			
Objective: Work to restore areas that are fire regime condition classes (FRCC) 2 and 3 towards Class 1, and maintain areas of FRCC 1.			
Management Action: Use fuels treatments to meet FRCC objectives (see Appendix G for types of treatments and best management practices). In FRCC 2 areas apply moderate levels of restoration treatments and in FRCC 3 areas apply higher levels of restoration treatments to restore to the natural fire regime.			
Lands Proposed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics			
No similar goal.	Goal: Protect wilderness characteristics and preserve the social, cultural, economic, scientific, and ecological benefits they provide to current and future generations.	Goal: Improve apparent naturalness in lands with wilderness characteristics through rehabilitation/restoration and mitigation of human impacts. Provide opportunities for solitude and/or primitive and unconfined recreation.	No similar goal.
No similar objective.	Objective: Improve the naturalness of lands managed to protect wilderness characteristics through rehabilitation/ restoration and mitigation of human impacts. Provide opportunities for solitude and/or primitive and unconfined recreation.	Objective: Improve apparent naturalness of lands with wilderness characteristics through rehabilitation/restoration and mitigation of human impacts. Provide opportunities for solitude and/or primitive and unconfined recreation.	No similar objective.
No similar management action.	Management Action: Manage the following lands with wilderness characteristics for the protection of their wilderness characteristics (34,400 acres): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Peak Addition (3,900 acres) • Deep Creek (4,300 acres) • Flat Tops Addition (3,500 acres) • Pisgah Mountain (14,500 acres) • Thompson Creek (8,200 acres). 	Management Action: Manage the following lands with wilderness characteristics for the protection of their wilderness characteristics (45,900 acres): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castle Peak Addition: 3,900 acres • Deep Creek: 4,400 acres • Flat Tops Addition: 3,500 acres • Grand Hogback: 11,400 acres • Pisgah Mountain: 14,500 acres • Thompson Creek: 8,200 acres. 	No similar management action.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Closed to Leasing for Fluid Minerals.</i> Manage approximately 34,500 acres of federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration for the protection of wilderness characteristics.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Closed to Leasing for Fluid Minerals.</i> Manage approximately 45,800 acres of federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration for the protection of wilderness characteristics.</p>	No similar allowable use.
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-23: Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics.</i> Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed to protect wilderness characteristics outside WSAs to protect wilderness characteristics (34,500 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Stipulation CRV-NSO-43: Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics.</i> Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities on lands managed to protect wilderness characteristics (45,800 acres).</p>	No similar allowable use.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Protect wilderness characteristics through the application of land use plan-level decisions found in Appendix F - Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics and summarized below:</p> <p><i>Valid Existing Rights:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New discretionary uses that create valid existing rights are not allowed if they would detract from the wilderness values. Specific exemptions/allowances are made for prior-existing rights. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These lands are closed to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. <p><i>Wildlife Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of threatened, endangered, or other special-status species native to North 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Protect wilderness character through the application of land use plan-level decisions found in Appendix F - Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics and summarized below:</p> <p><i>Valid Existing Rights:</i></p> <p>New discretionary uses that create valid existing rights are not allowed if they would detract from the wilderness values. Specific exemptions/allowances are made for prior-existing rights.</p> <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These lands are closed to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>America may be allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management activities on these lands would emphasize natural processes for wildlife management. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage areas under VRM Class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent recreation structures are not permitted. • No new special recreation permits (SRPs) would be authorized unless they are necessary for helping people realize the primitive and unconfined recreational values (e.g., upland outfitting service) • When commercial SRPs are renewed, the terms and conditions of the SRP would be modified as necessary to comply with the Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics • No competitive events would be authorized. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of new permanent or temporary routes would not be allowed • All lands are closed to over-snow travel • Access is granted for BLM administrative use • Within the Thompson Creek area: 1) routes 103, 102, and 72 (The Lorax Trail) would be designated as open to mechanized travel; 2) routes 22932, 8275, and 8275B would be designated as open to motorized travel. 	<p><i>Wildlife Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of threatened, endangered, or other special status species native to North America may be allowed • Management activities on these lands would emphasize natural processes for wildlife management. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage areas under VRM Class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent recreation structures are not permitted • When commercial (SRPs) are renewed, the terms and conditions of the SRPs would be modified as necessary to comply with the Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics • No competitive events would be authorized. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of new permanent or temporary routes would not be allowed • All lands are closed to over-snow travel • Access is granted for BLM administrative use 	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Colorado Army National Guard through the High-Altitude Army National Guard Aviation Training Site, may conduct aerial navigation training maneuver exercises over lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics in a manner and degree consistent with current authorizations and subsequent interagency agreements Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics would be retained in public ownership. They would not be disposed through any means, including public sales, exchanges, patents under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, State selections or other actions (except where a vested right was established prior to October 21, 1976) Prior existing rights, such as leases under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, leases/permits under 43 CFR 2920, and ROWs may be renewed These lands would be designated as ROW avoidance areas. New authorizations, leases, or ROWs that are not compatible with the defined values would not be authorized. <p><i>Locatable Minerals, Mineral Materials, & Non-Energy Leasable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior to close these lands to mining laws for locatable exploration or development. <p><i>Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All federal mineral estate within these lands would be closed to non-energy solid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the Thompson Creek area: 1) routes 103, 102, and 72 (The Lorax Trail) would be designated as open to mechanized travel; 2) routes 22932, 8275, and 8275B would be designated as open to motorized travel. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Colorado Army National Guard, through the High-Altitude Army National Guard Aviation Training Site, may conduct aerial navigation training maneuver exercises over lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics in a manner and degree consistent with current authorizations and subsequent interagency agreements Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics would be retained in public ownership. They would not be disposed through any means, including public sales, exchanges, patents under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, State selections or other actions (except where a vested right was established prior to October 21, 1976) Prior existing rights, such as leases under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, leases/permits under 43 CFR 2920, and ROWs may be renewed These lands would be designated as ROW avoidance areas. New 	

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>mineral leasing.</p> <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These lands are closed to mineral material (salable such as moss rock, top soil, sand and gravel, scoria, fill dirt) disposal. 	<p>authorizations, leases, or ROWs that are not compatible with the defined values would not be authorized.</p> <p><i>Locatable Minerals, Mineral Materials, & Non-Energy Leasable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior to close these lands to mining laws for locatable exploration or development. <p><i>Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All federal mineral estate within these lands would be closed to non-energy solid mineral leasing. <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These lands are closed to mineral material (salable such as moss rock, top soil, sand and gravel, scoria, fill dirt) disposal. 	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Protect wilderness character through the application of implementation-level actions identified in Appendix F - Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics.</p>	<p>Management Action: Protect wilderness character through the application of implementation-level actions identified in Appendix F - Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics.</p>	No similar management action.
Cave and Karst Resources			
<p>Goal: No similar goal.</p>	<p>Goal: Preserve the biotic, mineralogical, paleontological, hydrologic, and cultural values in caves defined as significant under the federal Cave Resources Protection Act.</p>		
<p>Objective: Protect significant cave and karst values per the standards identified by the Colorado Cave Survey in coordination with the BLM while providing opportunities for people to engage in caving, research, and scientific exploration at significant caves to the extent consistent with the targeted outcomes and the protection of cave resources (e.g., biota, cultural, geologic, mineralogic, hydrologic).</p>			
<p>Management Action: Setting prescriptions: Manage caves to retain their current physical, social, and operational settings (Appendix H - CRVFO Management and Setting Prescriptions for Caves).</p>			

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Cave and Karst Resources)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: If caves are found to be significant, manage in accordance with the federal Cave Resources Protection Act.</p>	<p>Management Action: Identify La Sunder Cave as a significant cave and manage the cave in accordance with the federal Cave Resources Protection Act. Initiate the nomination, evaluation, and designation of other potentially significant caves.</p>	<p>Management Action: If caves are found to be significant, manage in accordance with the federal Cave Resources Protection Act.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-16: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the recreational setting, recreation opportunities and recreation facilities provided within SRMAs; the Class 1 VRM values within ACECs; and cave resources in the Deep Creek Cave Area. The stipulation applies to the following areas: Deep Creek ACEC/SRMA, Deep Creek Cave Area (includes NSO for 5,000 feet below the surface), Bull Gulch ACEC/SRMA, Thompson Creek ACEC/SRMA, Hack Lake SRMA, and Rifle Mountain Park (21,800 acres/500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-24: <i>Cave and Karst Resources including the Deep Creek Cave Area</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities to the extent (at a minimum this stipulation extends to 5,000 feet below the surface) of known cave and karst resources, unless determined not significant, to protect the scientific and wildlife values associated with cave openings provided by these caves and to avoid the difficulties inherent in drilling such locations (5,300 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-54: <i>Deep Creek Cave Area</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the Deep Creek cave area (extends vertically to 5,000 feet below the surface and northward to the BLM boundary to protect underground features and supporting hydrology) (5,000 acres/100 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-24: <i>Cave and Karst Resources including the Deep Creek Cave Area</i>.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-44: <i>Cave and Karst Occurrence Area</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the area of 17 known cave and karst resources (extends to 5,000 feet below the surface). The NSO area encompasses cave openings and portions of the subsurface features and watersheds immediately above the caves (680 acres/0 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	
<p>Management Action: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend withdrawal for the Deep Creek ACEC. (Also see sections on Locatable Minerals, Salable Minerals/Mineral 	<p>Management Action: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend withdrawal for the Deep Creek ACEC. 	<p>No similar management action.</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Materials, and Non-Energy Leasable Minerals and ACECs.)			
II. Resource Uses			
Forestry			
No similar goal.	Goal: Use a variety of silvicultural techniques and harvest systems to manage for healthy forests and woodlands while offering a variety of forest products on a sustainable basis.		
Objective: Manage all suitable commercial forestland and woodland to meet saw timber and fuel wood demand and maintain stand productivity.	Objective: On suitable productive forestland, produce a variety of forest products to meet commercial and private demands on a sustained-yield basis.		
Management Actions: Intensively manage 41,700 acres of commercial forest and woodland to target an average annual PSQ of 1.8 million board-feet. Prohibit commercial timber harvest on 27,700 acres of forests and woodlands to protect WSAs.	Management Actions: Provide forest products, including but not limited to sawlogs, firewood, Christmas trees, posts and poles, transplants, specialty wood products, traditional Tribal forest products, and biomass by implementing the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensively manage 28,000 acres of commercial forest and woodland to target an average annual PSQ of 0.9 million board-feet • Apply limited management to the remaining 352,800 acres of forests and woodlands • Avoid commercial timber harvest on 123,300 acres of forests and woodlands to protect: ACECs, WSAs, recreation opportunities, wilderness characteristics, and wild and scenic river values; except when such harvest is done to enhance the area’s management objectives. 	Management Actions: Provide forest products, including but not limited to sawlogs, firewood, Christmas trees, posts and poles, transplants, specialty wood products, and biomass by implementing the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensively manage 28,400 acres of commercial forest and woodland to target an average annual PSQ of 0.9 million board feet • Apply limited management to the remaining 341,800 acres of forests and woodlands • Prohibit commercial timber harvest on 135,000 acres of forests and woodlands to protect: ACECs, WSAs, recreation opportunities, wilderness characteristics, and wild and scenic river values. 	Management Actions: Provide forest products, including but not limited to sawlogs, firewood, Christmas trees, post and poles, transplants, specialty wood products, and bio- mass by implementing the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensively manage 32,200 acres of commercial forest and woodland to target an average annual PSQ of 1.4 million board feet • Apply limited management to the remaining 396,400 acres of forests and woodlands • Prohibit commercial timber harvest on 76,600 acres of forests and woodlands to protect: ACECs, WSAs, recreation opportunities, wilderness characteristics, and wild and scenic river values.

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Manage forestland to minimize losses of or damage to forest resources from insects and disease.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Implement salvage or accelerated harvests following adverse events (e.g., pine and spruce beetle infestations, other insect outbreaks, disease, blow down, wildfire) to regenerate stands and to capture the economic value of forest products before that value is lost.</p> <p>Accelerate harvest of lodgepole pine killed or threatened by mountain pine beetle above the PSQ for the next 10 to 15 years to salvage commercial value and reduce the large scale severe wildfire potential. As markets develop, increase aspen harvest to regenerate stands affected by sudden aspen decline and other pathogens.</p>	<p>Management Action: Do not accelerate harvest levels to capture the economic values of forest products following adverse events.</p> <p>Conduct salvage operations to capture some commercial value and reduce the large scale severe wildfire potential.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Implement immediate salvage or accelerated harvests following adverse events (e.g., pine and spruce beetle infestations, other insect outbreaks, disease, blow down, wildfire) to regenerate stands and to capture the economic value of forest products before that value is lost.</p> <p>Accelerate harvest of lodgepole pine killed or threatened by mountain pine beetle above the PSQ for the next 10 to 15 years to salvage commercial value and reduce the large scale severe wildfire potential. As markets develop, increase aspen harvest to regenerate stands affected by sudden aspen decline and other pathogens.</p>
<p>Management Action: Manage all forestland supporting commercial forestland and woodland species, including the four forest management units (King Mountain, Black Mountain, Castle Peak, and Seven Hermits). Major commercial species include lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, and ponderosa pine (commercial forestland) and pinyon and juniper (woodland). Aspen and subalpine fir are not considered major commercial species.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Within forest management units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct intensive management using the following actions: clearcuts, shelterwood, and other partial cuts; pre-commercial and commercial thinning, seeding, and planting; timber stand improvement; sanitation treatments; and mechanical treatments or prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits for stand replacement or conversion • Maintain or improve existing access routes and construct permanent or temporary routes for access to productive forestlands in a manner that compliments travel management objectives. Pursue temporary or permanent access agreements or easements to provide public or administrative access to productive forest areas that are currently inaccessible • Conduct periodic regeneration surveys to monitor for adequacy of regeneration of all reproduction method treatment areas. If adequate regeneration is not present or anticipated within 5 years, then artificially regenerate the area. 		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Livestock Grazing)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C		Alternative D
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Outside forest management units, provide supplemental forest products by managing low-productivity forestland or sites withdrawn from planned harvest for other resource needs or because they are economically inaccessible, commensurate with meeting resource goals and objectives of the area.</p>	<p>Objective: Provide supplemental forest products by managing low-productivity forestland (woodlands and forest stands producing less than 20 cubic feet per acre per year), or sites withdrawn from planned harvest for other resource needs or because they are economically inaccessible, commensurate with meeting resource goals and objectives (e.g., insects, disease, wildfire).</p>		
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Conduct limited management, including harvesting for wood products and traditional tribal woodland products, through the following actions: clearcuts, shelterwood and other partial cuts, sanitation treatments, selective harvests, and mechanical treatments or prescribed fire and natural fire to achieve resource management objectives including hazardous fuels reduction in wildland urban interface areas or other high priority areas. Provide forest product sales from these actions as resources, site conditions, and site management allows.</p>	<p>Management Action: Conduct limited management, including harvesting for wood products, through the following actions: clearcuts, shelterwood and other partial cuts, sanitation treatments, and mechanical treatments or prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits for stand replacement or conversion. Conduct no intensive practices (e.g., artificial regeneration or pre-commercial thinning) unless necessary to achieve management objectives or benefit other resources.</p>		
Livestock Grazing				
No similar goal.	<p>Goal: Apply flexible and sustainable livestock grazing, in accordance with BLM <i>Colorado Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management</i> (Appendix J), to contribute to local economies, ranching livelihoods, and the rural western character integral to many communities.</p>			
<p>Objective: Provide 488,300 acres for livestock grazing. Provide 39,200 AUMs of livestock forage commensurate with meeting public land health standards.</p>	<p>Objective: Meet the forage demands of livestock operations based on active use, by providing approximately 441,600 acres for livestock grazing, and provide approximately 35,500 AUMs of livestock forage.</p>	<p>Objective: Meet the forage demands of livestock operations after consideration is given to other uses (e.g., wildlife) by providing approximately 427,800 acres for livestock grazing, and provide approximately 35,500 AUMs of livestock forage.</p>	<p>Objective: Meet the forage demands of livestock operations by providing approximately 442,200 acres for livestock grazing, and provide approximately 36,500 AUMs of livestock forage.</p>	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Livestock Grazing)

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Actions: Make 756 AUMs on 24 unallotted allotments available for livestock use.</p>	<p>Management Actions: Actions on 63 grazing allotments (see Appendix T):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close 48 allotments due to suitability for livestock grazing • Combine 11 allotments with adjacent allotments to facilitate administration • Create 2 reserve allotments (Reserved allotments are only available to applicants who have acquired a lease on adjacent private/state owned lands controlling use on the allotment) • Make 2 allotments available for grazing. 	<p>Management Actions: Actions on 58 grazing allotments (see Appendix T):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close all 58 allotments due to suitability for livestock grazing. 	<p>Management Actions: Actions on 59 grazing allotments (see Appendix T):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close 34 allotments due to suitability for livestock grazing • Combine 18 allotments with adjacent allotments to facilitate administration • Create 2 reserve allotments (Reserved allotments are only available to applicants who have acquired a lease on adjacent private/state owned lands controlling use on the allotment) • Make 5 allotments available for grazing.
<p>Management Action: Prioritize 254 grazing allotments for management according to one of the following three levels: Maintain, Improve, and Custodial, as follows: 42 Maintain (satisfactory condition/limited potential), 94 Improve (unsatisfactory condition/high potential), and 118 Custodial (small unconsolidated allotments/low potential).</p>	<p>Management Action: Continue prioritizing grazing allotments according to three levels: Improve as first priority, followed by Maintain and Custodial. Based on monitoring and resource management needs, reassign allotments as necessary. See Appendix I, Livestock Grazing Allotments, listing current allotments and levels of each allotment.</p>		
<p>Implementation Decision: Areas receiving moderate to high soil disturbance during treatment or an understory ground cover less than 10 percent will be seeded with a mixture of grass, forb, and browse species. Livestock grazing will be prohibited on all seeded areas for two growing seasons.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: When deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer, defer or exclude livestock grazing use for two growing seasons on disturbed areas (e.g., a fire event, reclamation of disturbed lands, seedings, surface-disturbing vegetation treatment), or until site-specific analysis and/or monitoring data indicate that vegetation cover, species composition, and litter accumulation are adequate to support and protect watershed values, meet vegetation objectives, and sustain grazing use.</p>		

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Recreation and Visitor Services			
No similar goal.	<p>Goal: Produce a diversity of quality recreational opportunities that support the outdoor-oriented lifestyles and quality of life of participants which in turn can benefit: local communities, regional economies and the environment.</p>	<p>Goal: Produce a diversity of quality recreational opportunities that support outdoor-oriented lifestyles and add to participants' quality of life while contributing to the local economies.</p>	
<p>Objective: Ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities that the public seeks and that are not readily available from other sources to reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and provide for visitor safety.</p>	<p>Objective: Foster a sense of awareness and stewardship in recreational participants and local community partners to maintain recreation values in: SRMAs, ERMAs, developed recreation sites and community growth areas (BLM lands adjacent to, between, and surrounding communities); as well as safeguard cultural and natural resources.</p>	<p>Objective: Increase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awareness, understanding, and a sense of stewardship in recreational activity participants so their conduct safeguards cultural and natural resources as defined by Colorado Standards for Public Land Health or area-specific (e.g., ACEC, wild and scenic river) objectives; and • collaboration with community partners to maintain appropriate activity-based recreation opportunities in community growth areas (BLM lands adjacent to, between, and surrounding communities; also referred to as wildland-urban interface areas). 	
Developed Recreation Facilities and Trails			
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-10: <i>Developed Recreation Facilities and Trails</i>. Apply CSU constraint on surface use, occupancy, and surface-disturbing activities at: developed recreation sites; mapped national/regional trails, local system trails that connect communities; trailheads; interpretive sites; other recreation investments, or sites with local public interest. The purpose is to minimize conflicts with new and existing BLM recreation facility investments (i.e. trails, recreation sites, boat launches, trailheads, interpretive sites), provide for recreational use, protect visitor health and safety, and protect the viewshed of the recreation facility (500 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-19: <i>Developed Recreation Facilities and Trails</i>. Apply CSU constraint on surface use, occupancy, and surface-disturbing activities of developed recreation sites and mapped national/regional trails, local system trails that connect communities, trailheads and interpretive sites with exceptional recreation value, recreation investment (i.e., time or funding), or local public interest. The purpose is to minimize conflicts with new and existing BLM recreation facility investments (i.e. trails, recreation sites, boat launches, trailheads, interpretive sites), provide for recreational use, protect visitor health and safety, and protect the viewshed of the recreation facility (500 acres).</p>	
No similar management action.	<p>Management Actions: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate developed recreation sites/facilities as ROW avoidance areas 	<p>Management Actions: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate developed recreation sites/facilities as ROW avoidance areas • Retain developed recreational sites/facilities for long-term management. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain developed recreational sites/facilities for long-term management unless recreation sites leaving public ownership would be guaranteed a level of protection under other ownership • Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior all developed recreation sites/facilities; for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals). 		
Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs)			
<p>Objective: Ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities that the public seeks and that are not readily available from other sources to reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and provide for visitor safety. Adopt recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) management classes.</p>	<p>Objective: SRMA specific outcomes-focused objectives, proposed recreation setting characteristics (RSCs), and the management framework for each can be found in Appendix K – Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework for Special and Extensive Recreation Management Areas.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Designate the existing eight SRMAs (60,400 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bocco Mountain (1,400 acres) • Bull Gulch (8,300 acres) • Deep Creek (2,400 acres) • Gypsum Hills (16,900 acres) • Hack Lake (3,300 acres) • Red Hill (3,100 acres) • Thompson Creek (4,300 acres) • Upper Colorado River (20,700 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate five SRMAs (62,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardscrabble-East Eagle (21,900 acres) • King Mountain (13,000 acres) • Red Hill (3,100 acres) • The Crown (9,100 acres) • Upper Colorado River (15,700 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate two SRMAs (23,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Hill (3,100 acres) • Upper Colorado River (20,700 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate seven SRMAs (63,600 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bocco Mountain (1,400 acres) • Fisher Creek (2,800 acres) • Hardscrabble/ East Eagle (17,000 acres) • Red Hill (3,100 acres) • The Crown (9,100 acres) • Thompson Creek (9,500 acres) • Upper Colorado River (20,700 acres).

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-16: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park)</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the recreational setting, recreation opportunities and recreation facilities provided within SRMAs; the Class 1 VRM values within ACECs; and cave resources in the Deep Creek Cave Area. The stipulation applies to the following areas: Deep Creek ACEC/SRMA, Deep Creek Cave Area (includes NSO for 5,000 feet below the surface), Bull Gulch ACEC/SRMA, Thompson Creek ACEC/SRMA, Hack Lake SRMA, and Rifle Mountain Park.</p> <p>Stipulation GS-NSO-17: <i>Recreation Management Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following Recreation Management Areas (64,100 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch Area (the portion of the WSA not within the SRMA) • Castle Peak Area • Fisher Creek Area (Haff Ranch) • King Creek Area (840 acres on the north side of King Mountain) • King Mountain Area • Pisgah Mountain Area • Siloam Springs Area • Sunlight Peak Area. 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-25: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas</i>. Prohibit surface use, occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs (62,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardscrabble-East Eagle • King Mountain • Red Hill • The Crown • Upper Colorado River. <p>The purpose is to: (a) protect the desired physical, social, and operational recreational setting characteristics; (b) achieve the targeted recreation objectives (including recreational activities, experiences, and outcomes); and (c) address visitor health/safety issues and use/user conflicts.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-46: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (23,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Hill • Upper Colorado River. <p>The purpose is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the prescribed physical, social, and operational recreational setting characteristics, • achieve the targeted recreation opportunities (including recreational activities, experiences, and outcomes); and • address visitor health/safety issues and use/user conflicts. 	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-46: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in the following SRMAs for the protection of the recreation outcomes and setting prescriptions (26,600 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Hill • Upper Colorado River • Fisher Creek. <p>The purpose is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the prescribed physical, social, and operational recreational setting characteristics, • achieve the targeted recreation opportunities (including recreational activities, experiences, and outcomes); and • address visitor health/safety issues and use/user conflicts.

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to SRMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bocco SRMA, Bull Gulch, Colorado River, Hack Lake and Gypsum SRMAs are classified as limited to designated routes Red Hill SRMA is closed to motorized use Over-snow travel is prohibited in portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior mitigation is required for siting of utility or communication facilities within areas designated as “sensitive.” 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all SRMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs are classified as limited to designated routes (All modes and types of over-land public travel, except foot and horse travel would be limited to designated routes). <i>Note: Red Hill SRMA is closed to motorized use</i> Over-snow travel is prohibited except on designated motorized routes in the King Mountain SRMA and in portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs are closed to timber harvest, firewood cutting and special forest product harvest except for the Hardscrabble and King Mountain SRMAs, provided that the natural character and other recreation values on BLM land are not impacted over the long-term (5 years). <p><i>Wildland Fire Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow fuels/vegetation treatments within SRMAs provided that the natural character and other recreation values on BLM land are not impacted over the long-term (5 years). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate SRMAs as ROW avoidance areas Retain SRMAs for long-term management. <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to mineral material (salable such as moss rock, top soil, sand and gravel, scoria, fill dirt) disposal. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all SRMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs are classified as limited to designated routes (All modes and types of over-land public travel, except foot and horse travel would be limited to designated routes); except Red Hill SRMA which is closed to motorized use Over-snow travel is prohibited except on designated motorized routes in the King Mountain and in portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Except for the Hardscrabble SRMA, SRMAs are closed to timber harvest, firewood cutting and special forest product harvest. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate SRMAs as ROW avoidance areas Retain SRMAs for long-term management. <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to mineral material (salable such as moss rock, top soil, sand and gravel, scoria, fill dirt) disposal. <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior developed recreation sites for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all SRMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs are classified as limited to designated routes (All modes and types of over-land public travel, except foot and horse travel would be limited to designated routes); except Red Hill SRMA which is closed to motorized use Over-snow travel is prohibited except on designated motorized routes in the King Mountain and in portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Except for the Hardscrabble SRMA, SRMAs are closed to timber harvest, firewood cutting and special forest product harvest. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain SRMAs for long-term management. <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior developed recreation sites for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals).

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior developed recreation sites for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals). <p><i>Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to non-energy solid mineral leasing. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs would be classified as VRM Class II and managed under VRM Class II objectives See stipulation CRVFO-CSU-9: <i>VRM Class II.</i> <p><i>Note: See Appendix K for a comprehensive list of recreation management area-specific actions.</i></p>	<p>(locatable minerals).</p> <p><i>Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to non-energy solid mineral leasing. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs would be classified as VRM Class II and managed under VRM Class II objectives Stipulation CRV-CSU-16: <i>VRM Class II.</i> <p><i>Note: See Appendix K for a comprehensive list of recreation management area-specific actions.</i></p>	<p><i>Non-energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to non-energy solid mineral leasing. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRMAs would be classified as VRM Class II and managed under VRM Class II objectives Stipulation CRV-CSU-16: <i>VRM Class II.</i> <p><i>Note: See Appendix K for a comprehensive list of recreation management area-specific actions.</i></p>
Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs)			
<p>Objective: Ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities that the public seeks and that are not readily available from other sources to reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and provide for visitor safety. Adopt ROS management classes.</p>	<p>Objective: ERMA specific objectives and the management framework for each can be found in Appendix K – Recreation and Visitor Services Management Framework for Special and Extensive Recreation Management Areas.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Identify BLM lands not included in SRMAs as part of the CRVFO ERMA.</p>	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ERMAs (40,900 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bocco Mountain (1,400 acres) Eagle River (2,600 acres) Gypsum Hills (18,900 acres) New Castle (5,400 acres) Silt Mesa (3,100 acres) 	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ERMAs (71,400 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eagle River (3,300 acres) Fisher Creek (2,800 acres) Hardscrabble/East Eagle (17,000 acres) New Castle (9,900 acres) 	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ERMAs (33,000 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eagle River (3,300 acres) Hack Lake (3,700 acres) King Mountain (13,000 acres) New Castle (9,900 acres) Silt Mesa (3,100 acres).

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thompson Creek (9,500 acres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silt Mesa (3,100 acres) Thompson Creek (9,500 acres) Hack Lake (3,700 acres) King Mountain (13,000 acres) The Crown (9,100 acres). 	
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-11: <i>Extensive Recreation Management Areas</i>. Apply CSU constraint on surface use, occupancy, and surface disturbing in the following ERMAs (40,900 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bocco Mountain ERMA Eagle River ERMA Gypsum Hills ERMA New Castle ERMA Silt Mesa ERMA Thompson Creek ERMA. <p>The purpose is to: (a) minimize impacts to recreation opportunities, (b) maintain particular recreation setting characteristics, (c) protect visitor health and safety, (d) provide resource protection, and (e) reduce use/user conflicts. ERMAs offer recreation opportunities that facilitate the visitors' freedom to pursue a variety of outdoor recreation activities and attain a variety of outcomes.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-18: <i>Extensive Recreation Management Areas</i>. Apply CSU constraint on surface use, occupancy, and surface disturbing in the following ERMAs (43,000 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> King Mountain New Castle Silt Mesa Hardscrabble/East Eagle. 	No similar allowable use.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all ERMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERMAs are classified as limited to designated routes (All modes and types of over-land public travel, except foot and horse travel would be limited to designated routes) Over-snow travel is prohibited. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all ERMAs: <i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERMAs are classified as limited to designated routes (All modes and types of over-land public travel, except foot and horse travel would be limited to designated routes) Over-snow travel is prohibited. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unless otherwise specified below, ERMAs are closed to timber harvest, firewood cutting and special forest product harvest. 	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Except for Gypsum Hills ERMA, ERMA's are closed to timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow fuels/vegetation treatments within ERMA's provided that the natural character and other recreation values on BLM land are not impacted over the long-term (5 years). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain ERMA's for long-term management. <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior all ERMA's, for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals). <p><i>Note: See Appendix K for a comprehensive list of recreation management area-specific actions.</i></p>	<p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain ERMA's for long-term management. <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior all ERMA's, for closure to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals). <p><i>Note: See Appendix K for a comprehensive list of recreation management area-specific actions.</i></p>	
Visitor Use and Safety			
<p>Objective: Provide for visitor safety. Reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values.</p>	<p>Objective: Ensure that visitors are not exposed to unhealthy or unsafe human-created conditions (defined by a repeat incident in the same year, of the same type, in the same location, due to the same cause).</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: <i>Discharge of Firearms.</i> Allow the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on BLM lands outside areas with firearm use restrictions, provided that the firearm is discharged toward a proper backstop sufficient to stop the projectile's forward progress beyond the intended target. Targets shall be constructed of wood, cardboard and paper or similar non-breakable materials. All targets, clays, and shells are considered litter after use and must be removed and properly discarded.</p>			

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: <i>Firearm Use Restriction.</i> Hunting is authorized in accordance with CPW regulations. Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on the following BLM lands (200 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreation sites • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) located in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Firearm Use Restriction.</i> Hunting is authorized in accordance with CPW regulations. Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on the following BLM lands to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings (43 CFR 8364.1) (1,100 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) located in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Developed recreation sites (existing and future) • Silt Mesa ERMA (BLM lands south of the crest of the Grand Hogback mountain in (T. 5 S., R. 91 W.; SW1/4 SW1/4 Sec 28; SW1/4 Sec 29; S1/2 SE1/4 Sec 29; NE1/4 SE1/4 Sec 29; N1/2 SE1/4 Sec30; N1/2 NE1/4 Sec 32; S1/2 Sec 33; S1/2 NE1/4 Sec 33; NW1/4 NW1/4 Sec 33). 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Firearm Use Restriction.</i> Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on the following BLM lands. The purpose of the restriction is to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings (43 CFR 8364.1). Continue to permit hunting in accordance with CPW regulations (3,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreation sites (existing and future) • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) located in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Silt Mesa on BLM lands south of the crest of the Grand Hogback in (Township 5 South, Range 91 West Township 5 South, Range 92 West Township 6 South, Range 91 West Township 6 South, Range 92 West, Sixth Principal Meridian) • Battlement Creek within 0.25 mile of Garfield County Road 302 Township 7 South, Range 95 West Sections 14 and 15. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Firearm Use Restriction.</i> Prohibit the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting on the following BLM lands. The purpose of the restriction is to protect visitor safety by minimizing potential for accidental shootings (43 CFR 8364.1). Continue to permit hunting in accordance with CPW regulations (500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreation sites (existing and future) • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) located in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Battlement Creek within 0.25 mile of Garfield County Road 302 Township 7 South, Range 95 West Sections 14 and 15.
<p>Objective: Provide for visitor safety. Reduce the impacts of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values.</p>	<p>Objective: Achieve a minimum level of conflict between recreation participants to 1) allow other resources/programs to achieve their RMP objectives; 2) curb illegal trespass and property damage; and 3) maintain a diversity of recreation activity participation.</p>		
<p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Limits.</i> Within ERMAs and SRMAs, implement a 14-day camping limit on BLM lands from September 1 to March 31. From April 1 to August 31, implement a 7-day camping limit. Campers must relocate at least 30 miles</p>	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Limits.</i> In areas open to camping and overnight use, implement a 14-day camping limit on BLM lands from September 1 to March 31. From April 1 to August 31, implement a 7-day camping limit. Campers must relocate at least a 30-mile radius away and may not return within 30 days to a previous campsite.</p>		

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>away and may not return within 30 days to a previous campsite.</p> <p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Restrictions.</i> Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use outside designated campsites and developed campgrounds (700 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 0.25 mile of the Fisher Creek Cemetery Road • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Glenwood Canyon in the Horseshoe Canyon (Bend) area in Township 6 South, Range 89 West Section 3, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Deep Creek in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Section 30 and Township 4 South, Range 87 West, Section 25, Sixth Principal Meridian. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Restrictions.</i> Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use outside designated campsites and developed campgrounds (12,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 0.25 mile of the Fisher Creek Cemetery Road • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Glenwood Canyon in the Horseshoe Canyon (Bend) area in Township 6 South, Range 89 West Section 3, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Deep Creek in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Section 30 and Township 4 South, Range 87 West, Section 25, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Prince Creek Road (Pitkin County Road 7) • Outside of designated campsites and developed campgrounds within the Eagle River ERMA • Garfield Creek Colorado River Access in Township 6 South, Range 91 West, Sections 7 and 8 • Silt Mesa at trailheads • Thompson Creek area within 0.25 mile of USFS Road 305 • Red Hill SRMA (north of Carbondale) • East Glenwood Canyon Trailhead area north of the Colorado River in Township 5 South, Range 87 West, Sections 14-15, Sixth Principal Meridian • South Canyon Recreation Site and surrounding area in Township 6 South, 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Restrictions.</i> Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use outside designated campsites and developed campgrounds (20,900 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 0.25 mile of the Fisher Creek Cemetery Road • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Glenwood Canyon in the Horseshoe Canyon (Bend) area in Township 6 South, Range 89 West Section 3, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Deep Creek in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Section 30 and Township 4 South, Range 87 West, Section 25, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Prince Creek Road (Pitkin County Road 7) • Within the Eagle River ERMA • Garfield Creek Colorado River Access in Township 6 South, Range 91 West, Sections 7 and 8 • Silt Mesa on BLM lands south of the crest of the Grand Hogback in Township 5 South, Range 91 West; Township 5 South, Range 92 West; Township 6 South, Range 91 West; Township 6 South, Range 92 West; Sixth Principal Meridian • Thompson Creek area within 0.25 mile of USFS Road 305 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Camping Restrictions.</i> Close the following BLM lands to camping and overnight use outside designated campsites and developed campgrounds (9,400 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 0.25 mile of the Fisher Creek Cemetery Road • Within 300 feet from the centerline of North Hardscrabble Access Road (Spring Creek) in Township 5 South, Range 85 West, Track 80, Sixth Principal Meridian • Glenwood Canyon in the Horseshoe Canyon (Bend) area in Township 6 South, Range 89 West Section 3, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Deep Creek in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Section 30 and Township 4 South, Range 87 West, Section 25, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within 0.25 mile of Prince Creek Road (Pitkin County Road 7) • Within the Eagle River ERMA • Garfield Creek Colorado River Access in Township 6 South, Range 91 West, Sections 7 and 8 • Thompson Creek area within 0.25 mile of USFS Road 305 • Red Hill SRMA (north of Carbondale) • East Glenwood Canyon Trailhead area north of the

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>Range 90 West, Section 2, Sixth Principal Meridian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ute Trailhead (near Dotsero) west and north of the Colorado River in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Sections 31-32 and Township 5 South, Range 86 West, Sections 5-6, Sixth Principal Meridian. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Hill SRMA (north of Carbondale) • East Glenwood Canyon Trailhead area north of the Colorado River in Township 5 South, Range 87 West, Sections 14-15, Sixth Principal Meridian • South Canyon Recreation Site and surrounding area in Township 6 South, Range 90 West, Section 2, Sixth Principal Meridian • Ute Trailhead (near Dotsero) west and north of the Colorado River in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Sections 31-32 and Township 5 South, Range 86 West, Sections 5-6, Sixth Principal Meridian • Within The Crown ERMA. 	<p>East Glenwood Canyon Trailhead area north of the Colorado River in Township 5 South, Range 87 West, Sections 14-15, Sixth Principal Meridian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Canyon Recreation Site and surrounding area in Township 6 South, Range 90 West, Section 2, Sixth Principal Meridian • Ute Trailhead (near Dotsero) west and north of the Colorado River in Township 4 South, Range 86 West, Sections 31-32 and Township 5 South, Range 86 West, Sections 5-6, Sixth Principal Meridian.
<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-16: <i>Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities for the protection of the recreational setting, recreation opportunities and recreation facilities provided within SRMAs; the Class 1 VRM values within ACECs; and cave resources in the Deep Creek Cave Area. The stipulation applies to the following areas: Deep Creek ACEC/SRMA, Deep Creek Cave Area (includes NSO for 5,000 feet below the surface), Bull Gulch ACEC/SRMA, Thompson Creek ACEC/SRMA, Hack Lake SRMA, and Rifle Mountain Park.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-26: <i>Rifle Mountain Park</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in Rifle Mountain Park to protect the recreational setting, recreation opportunities, and recreation facilities (500 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-45: <i>Rifle Mountain Park</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in Rifle Mountain Park to protect the recreational setting, recreation opportunities, and recreation facilities (500 acres Federal mineral estate).</p>	

No Action Alternative	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: <i>Special Recreation Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unless otherwise specified issue SRPs as a discretionary action • No new SRPs would be issued and no additional uses would be added to existing SRPs for big game hunting, mountain lion hunting, river-related activities in the following areas: King Mountain area, Upper Colorado River SRMA, Eagle River area, Red Hill SRMA, Thompson Creek ACEC, Deep Creek ACEC, Castle Peak WSA, Bull Gulch WSA or Eagle Mountain WSA. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: <i>Special Recreation Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Red Hill SRMA and the Bocco Mountain ERMA, the CRVFO would evaluate the need for new SRPs or new uses on existing permits every 5 years • SRPs would be issued as a discretionary action for activities that: 1) are consistent with resource/program objectives, 2) within budgetary/ workload constraints and 3) would satisfy a public demand that the applicant can factually demonstrate is not being met • The number of big game hunting SRPs (14) and mountain lion hunting SRPs (12) will be managed to maintain the current number of SRPs as a maximum within same or similar permit area boundaries (except SRPs for guiding special big game tag holders [e.g. Governor’s tag] which would be issued on a case-by-case basis) • In the Red Hill SRMA and the Bocco Mountain ERMA, no SRPs for competitive events, vending, group use, special area use, or new commercial SRPs would be issued. In other RMAs, SRP issuance would be guided by specific RMA guidance (see Appendix K) • Within lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics, issue special recreation permits only if the proposed activity or event is beneficial to the realization of values associated with wilderness characteristics. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: <i>Special Recreation Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue SRPs as a discretionary action for a variety of uses that are consistent with resource/program objectives and within budgetary/workload constraints • No new SRPs would be issued for big game and mountain lion hunting (except SRPs for guiding special big game tag holders [e.g. Governor’s tag] which would be issued on a case-by-case basis) • No new river-related SRPs would be issued within the Upper Colorado River SRMA or the Eagle River ERMA • In the Red Hill SRMA no competitive events, group use or new commercial SRPs would be issued. In other RMAs, SRP issuance would be guided by specific RMA guidance (see Appendix K) • Within lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics, issue special recreation permits only if the proposed activity or event is beneficial to the realization of values associated with wilderness characteristics. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: <i>Special Recreation Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue SRPs as a discretionary action • Unless otherwise specified, maximize opportunities for commercial recreation through the issuance of SRPs, including vending permits outside special events. • Issue river-related SRPs to the extent monitoring indicates: (a) the recreation objectives and proposed social RSCs are being achieved (Upper Colorado River SRMA), (b) land health standards are being achieved, and (c) use conflicts are minimal. • In the Red Hill SRMA limited small (< 75 person) competitive and group use events would be allowed. In the Bocco Mountain ERMA, no competitive events, group use or new commercial SRPs would be issued due to natural and cultural resource concerns. In other RMAs, SRP issuance would be guided by specific RMA guidance (see Appendix K).

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar implementation decision.	<p>Implementation Decisions:</p> <p><i>Within the Upper Colorado River SRMA:</i></p> <p>Commercial and private river party group size is limited to a maximum of 25 people per group (including guides).</p>	<p>Implementation Decisions:</p> <p><i>Within the Upper Colorado River SRMA:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial and private groups are limited to a maximum of 15 people per group (including guides) in recreation management zone (RMZ) 1 (State Bridge to Burns) Commercial and private groups are limited to a maximum of 25 people per group (including guides) in RMZ 2 (Burns to Glenwood Canyon). <p><i>Within the Eagle River ERMA:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial and private groups are limited to a maximum of 25 people per group (including guides). 	No similar implementation decision.
Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management			
No similar goal.	<p>Goal:</p> <p>The travel system supports the BLM mission, achieves resource management goals and objectives, and provides for appropriate public and administrative access.</p>		
<p>Objective:</p> <p>Protect fragile and unique resource values from damage by ORV use and provide ORV use opportunities where appropriate.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <p>Maintain a comprehensive travel network that best meets the full range of public, resource management, and administrative access needs.</p>		
Over-Land Travel			
<p>Management Action:</p> <p><i>Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open: 295,900 acres Limited to existing routes: 38,000 acres Limited to existing routes May 1 to November 30: 4,300 acres Limited to designated routes: 123,000 acres Closed: 44,000 acres. 	<p>Management Action:</p> <p><i>Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open: 0 acres Limited to designated routes: 464,000 acres Closed: 41,200 acres. 	<p>Management Action:</p> <p><i>Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open: 0 acres Limited to designated routes: 461,300 acres Closed: 43,900 acres. 	<p>Management Action:</p> <p><i>Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open: 0 acres Limited to designated routes: 464,800 acres Closed: 40,400 acres.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Area Travel Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit motorized travel from December 1 to April 30 on big game winter ranges (see Terrestrial Wildlife – Big Game section) Prohibit mechanized travel from December 1 to March 31 on the northside of the Red Hill SRMA. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Area Travel Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 on big game winter ranges (see Terrestrial Wildlife – Big Game section) Prohibit mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 on the northside of the Red Hill SRMA. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Area Travel Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit motorized and mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 on big game winter ranges (see Terrestrial Wildlife – Big Game section) Prohibit mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 on the northside of the Red Hill SRMA. 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Area Travel Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit motorized travel from December 1 to April 30 on big game winter ranges (see Terrestrial Wildlife – Big Game section) Prohibit mechanized travel from December 1 to April 15 on the northside of the Red Hill SRMA.
<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Route Designations.</i> Existing or designated routes (1,632 miles):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing routes without public access which are open to full-sized vehicles for people with legal access: 320 miles Routes existing or designated for full-sized vehicles: 770 miles Routes existing or designated for all-terrain vehicle (less than 50 inches in width): 90 miles Routes existing or designated for motorcycle: 90 miles Routes existing or designated for mechanized: 185 miles Routes existing or designated for foot/horse: 170 miles Routes existing or designated for foot: 2 miles Routes designated for obliteration/ decommission: 0 miles. 	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Route Designations.</i> In areas classified as limited to designated routes, allow public travel on 1632 miles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes without public access designated as administrative routes for motorized/mechanized vehicles: 320 miles Routes designated for full-sized vehicles: 510 miles Routes designated for all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles: 75 miles Routes designated for motorcycle: 90 miles Routes designated for mechanized: 180 miles Routes designated for foot/horse: 405 miles Routes designated for foot: 2 miles Routes designated for obliteration/ decommission: 50 miles. <p><i>Note: Administrative routes do not have public motorized access. These routes are open to public foot/horse travel if legally accessed. Administrative use authorizations are described below.</i></p> <p><i>Note: A site-specific travel network of roads and</i></p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Route Designations.</i> In areas classified as limited to designated routes, allow travel on 1,632 miles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes without public access designated as administrative routes for motorized/mechanized vehicles: 320 miles Routes designated for full-sized vehicles: 430 miles Routes designated for all-terrain vehicle (less than 50 inches in width): 55 miles Routes designated for motorcycle: 30 miles Routes designated for mechanized: 150 miles Routes designated for foot/horse: 470 miles Routes designated for foot: 2 miles Routes designated for obliteration/ decommission: 205 miles. <p><i>Note: Administrative routes do not have public motorized access. These routes are open to public foot/horse travel if legally</i></p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Route Designations.</i> In areas classified as limited to designated routes, allow travel on 1,632:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes without public access which are open to full-sized vehicles for people with legal access: 320 miles Routes designated for full-sized vehicles: 525 miles Routes designated for all-terrain vehicle (less than 50 inches in width): 70 miles Routes designated for motorcycle: 90 miles Routes designated for mechanized: 290 miles Routes designated for foot/horse: 305 miles Routes designated for foot: 2 miles Routes designated for obliteration/ decommission: 30 miles.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>trails available for public use and any limitations placed on that use would be included in the land use plan to the extent practical. In some areas the final travel management network of trails would be determined, at the implementation level (on-the-ground).</i></p>	<p><i>accessed. Administrative use authorizations are described below.</i></p>	
<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Route Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit motorized travel on Transfer Trail – route 8149/8149F (north of Glenwood Springs), except for snowmobiles (6 miles) • Prohibit motorized travel in the Castle Peak area from October 1 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stagecoach Trail (#8535) ○ Domantle Road (#8513). 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Route Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit motorized travel from November 20 to May 23 on Transfer Trail – route 8149/8149F (north of Glenwood Springs), except for snowmobiles (6 miles) • Prohibit motorized travel on the following routes in the Castle Peak area to motorized use from August 20 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stagecoach Trail (#8535) ○ Domantle Road (#8513) • Prohibit motorized travel in the Dry Rifle Creek and West Rifle Creek areas to motorized use from October 1 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (10 miles). 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Route Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit motorized travel from November 20 to May 23 on Transfer Trail – route 8149/8149F (north of Glenwood Springs), except for snowmobiles (6 miles) • Prohibit motorized travel on the following routes in the Castle Peak area to motorized use from August 20 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stagecoach Trail (#8535) ○ Domantle Road (#8513) • Prohibit motorized travel in the Dry Rifle Creek and West Rifle Creek areas to motorized use from October 1 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (10 miles). 	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Seasonal Route Limitations.</i> Implement the following seasonal limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit motorized travel from November 20 to May 23 on Transfer Trail – route 8149/8149F (north of Glenwood Springs), except for snowmobiles (6 miles) • Prohibit motorized travel on the following routes in the Castle Peak area to motorized use from August 20 to November 30 to reduce big game movement to private lands during the big game hunting seasons (8 miles): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stagecoach Trail (#8535) ○ Domantle Road (#8513).
<p>Allowable Use: Prohibit motorized/mechanized travel off designated routes in limited and closed areas, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM authorization for administrative use (e.g., accessing private land, accessing minerals/energy sites, administering grazing allotments, or conducting maintenance or installation of range improvements, habitat treatments, trail construction, communication sites, and reservoirs) • BLM authorization to exercise valid existing rights • For emergency and other purposes as authorized under 43 CFR 8340.0-5(a)(2), (3), (4) and (5) • Any non-amphibious registered motorboat • Any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes • Any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved 			

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles in official use • Any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies. 			
<p>Management Actions: <i>Administrative Use.</i> 1) Administrative routes are limited to authorized users (typically motorized access). These are existing routes that lead to developments that have an administrative purpose, where the BLM or a permitted user must have access for regular maintenance or operation. 2) Grant administrative use authorizations on a case-by-case basis with approval from the BLM authorized officer. For all authorizations that allow off-route motorized/mechanized travel, specify the following: what type of use is allowed and for what purpose, times, dates or seasons of access; and where motorized/mechanized vehicle travel off designated routes is allowed.</p>	<p>Management Actions: <i>Administrative Use.</i> Administrative use authorizations would allow motorized access for: BLM, tribal members and permitted users of BLM lands for an administrative purpose on designated routes or off-routes (e.g., access to private property, operation or maintenance activities).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant administrative use authorizations on a case-by-case basis with approval from the BLM authorized officer • For all authorizations that allow off-route motorized/mechanized travel, specify the following: what type of use is allowed and for what purpose, times, dates or seasons of access; and where motorized/ mechanized vehicle travel off designated routes is allowed • Recognizing resource concerns provide administrative access on designated routes to tribal cultural departments and tribal members for the collection of appropriate natural resources needed to maintain traditional lifeways. 	<p>Management Actions: <i>Administrative Use.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant administrative use authorizations on a case-by-case basis with approval from the BLM authorized officer • For all authorizations that allow off-route motorized/mechanized travel, specify the following: what type of use is allowed and for what purpose, times, dates or seasons of access; and where motorized/mechanized vehicle travel off designated routes is allowed. 	
<p>Management Action: <i>Access to Campsites.</i> In areas with limited travel designations, allow motorized/mechanized travel up to 300 feet from designated motorized/mechanized routes for direct access to dispersed campsites provided that: 1) no resource damage occurs; 2) no new routes are created; and 3) such access is not otherwise prohibited (such as WSAs).</p>			
<p>No similar management action. <i>Note: Game retrieval was defined by specific open, closed, or limited travel regulations.</i></p>	<p>Management Actions: <i>Game Retrieval.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit motorized cross-country travel for big game retrieval on BLM lands • Direct access for mechanized game retrieval carts is allowed provided that 1) no resource damage occurs; 2) no new routes are created; and 3) such access is not otherwise prohibited (e.g., WSAs). 		
<p>Management Action: <i>Nonmotorized and Non-mechanized Modes of Travel.</i> Nonmotorized and non-mechanized modes of travel (e.g., foot and equestrian, including pack stock) are allowed on all BLM lands and are not restricted by route designations (i.e., cross-country travel) unless otherwise specified.</p>			

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Over-Snow Travel			
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Areas open to over-snow travel must have a minimum of 12 inches of snow to be considered open for public use. Define an over-snow vehicle as a motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis. An over-snow vehicle does not include machinery used strictly for the grooming of nonmotorized trails.</p>	<p>Management Action: Areas and routes open to over-snow travel must have a minimum average of 12 inches of snow to be considered open for public use. Define an over-snow vehicle as a motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis. An over-snow vehicle does not include machinery used strictly for the grooming of nonmotorized trails.</p>	
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: On groomed nonmotorized winter trails, restrict travel to nonmotorized/non-mechanized uses only, unless otherwise authorized by the BLM Field Manager.</p>		<p>Allowable Use: On groomed nonmotorized winter trails, restrict travel to nonmotorized/non-mechanized uses only, unless otherwise authorized by the BLM Field Manager.</p>
<p>Management Action: <i>Over-Snow Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open: 373,600 acres • Limited: 13,000 acres • Closed: 118,600 acres. 	<p>Management Action: <i>Over-Snow Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open: 284,800 acres • Limited: 45,800 acres • Closed: 174,600 acres. 	<p>Management Action: <i>Over-Snow Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open: 271,000 acres • Limited: 27,800 acres • Closed: 206,400 acres . 	<p>Management Action: <i>Over-Snow Area Travel Designations.</i> Designate OHV area travel as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open: 343,300 acres • Limited: 27,800 acres • Closed: 134,100 acres.
<p>Allowable Use: Over-snow travel is limited to designated motorized routes in the following areas (13,000 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Mountain – Snowmobile use is prohibited except on designated routes. 	<p>Allowable Use: Over-snow travel is limited to designated motorized routes in the following areas (45,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Mountain SRMA • Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Sheep Creek Uplands ACEC • Lyons Gulch ACEC • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC • Mount Logan ACEC. 	<p>Allowable Use: Over-snow travel is limited to designated motorized routes in the following areas (27,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Mountain • Portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Sheep Creek Uplands ACEC • Lyons Gulch ACEC • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC. 	<p>Allowable Use: Over-snow travel is limited to designated motorized routes in the following areas (27,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Mountain • Portions of the Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Sheep Creek Uplands ACEC • Lyons Gulch ACEC • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow ACEC.

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: Prohibit over-snow vehicles on BLM lands in the following areas (127,000 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All winter wildlife closures Deep Creek ACEC Thompson Creek ACEC WSAs Hack Lake area Siloam Springs area Haff Pasture portion of Fisher Creek Red Hill SRMA. 	<p>Allowable Use: Prohibit over-snow vehicles on BLM lands in the following areas (174,600 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All winter wildlife closures Deep Creek ACEC Thompson Creek ACEC WSAs Siloam Springs area East Castle Peak/ Castle Peak isolate parcels Wolcott Red Hill SRMA Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. 	<p>Allowable Use: Prohibit over-snow vehicles on BLM lands in the following areas (208,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All winter wildlife closures Deep Creek ACEC Thompson Creek ACEC WSAs Hack Lake area Siloam Springs area East Castle Peak/ Castle Peak isolate parcels Wolcott Haff Pasture portion of Fisher Creek Red Hill-Gypsum area Basalt Mountain Red Hill SRMA Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. 	<p>Allowable Use: Prohibit over-snow vehicles on BLM lands in the following areas (134,100 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All winter wildlife closures Deep Creek ACEC Thompson Creek ACEC WSAs Hack Lake area Siloam Springs area Haff Pasture/Fisher Creek Red Hill SRMA Hardscrabble/East Eagle SRMA The Crown SRMA.
Water and Air Travel			
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: <i>Water.</i> Close all BLM waters (lakes, ponds, and reservoirs) to motorized use unless such use is consistent with the area's management objectives, and is authorized by the BLM Field Manager.</p>		
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: <i>Air.</i> There are no designated landing strips within the CRVFO. Require all motorized aircraft, including but not limited to airplanes, helicopters, and ultralights, to have a use authorization for take-off and landing locations on BLM lands or waterways.</p>		
Lands and Realty			
<p>No similar goal.</p>	<p>Goal: Meet public needs while for realty authorizations such as ROWs, renewable energy sources, permits, and leases when such needs are consistent with other resource values.</p>		
<p>Objective: Respond in a timely manner to requests for utility and communication facility authorizations on BLM land, while considering environmental, social, economic, and interagency concerns.</p>	<p>Objective: Provide for the development of transportation systems, utilities, communication sites, and renewable energy resources when such needs are consistent with other resource values.</p>		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands and Realty)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Corridors designated as a West-Wide Energy Corridor (Section 368) shall follow procedures listed in the Record of Decision (January 2009) of the West-Wide Energy Corridor PEIS, Appendix B: Interagency Operating Procedures.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Designate the ROW corridors as delineated in the 1992 (updated in 2003) Western Regional Corridor Study (Western Utility Group 1992, 2003). Locate new utility facilities in designated or existing corridors unless an evaluation shows it to be impracticable.</p>	
<p>Allowable Use: Prior mitigation is required for siting of utility or communication facilities within 101,300 acres designated as “sensitive.”</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 219,800 acres of BLM land and 63,000 of federal mineral estate as ROW avoidance areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs – Glenwood Springs Debris Flow, Grand Hogback, Hardscrabble-East Eagle, Lyons Gulch, McCoy Fan Delta, Mount Logan Foothills, Sheep Creek Uplands • Heritage Areas • Lands covered by stipulation CRVFO-NSO-2: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent</i> • Developed recreation sites • SRMAs • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. • Administrative sites • Wetlands • Vegetation monitoring plots • Occupied habitat for special status species (includes priority greater sage-grouse habitat) • Wildlife habitat treatment areas • Canada lynx landscape linkages • WSR segments - Deep Creek Segment 3 (recreational) along with the two Colorado River (Segments 6 and 7). 	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 196,800 acres of BLM land and 29,400 of federal mineral estate as ROW avoidance areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs not included in ROW exclusion areas • Heritage Areas • Lands covered by stipulation CRV-NSO-2: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent</i> • Developed recreation sites • SRMAs • Administrative sites • Wetlands • Vegetation monitoring plots • Occupied habitat for special status species (includes sage-grouse) • Wildlife habitat treatment areas • Portions of eight streams suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS (recreational and scenic) • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. 	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 105,100 acres of BLM land and 29,400 of federal mineral estate as ROW avoidance areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs not included in ROW exclusion areas • Heritage Areas • Lands covered by stipulation CRV-NSO-2: <i>Steep Slopes Greater than 50 Percent</i> • Developed recreation sites • Administrative sites • Wetlands • Vegetation monitoring plots • Occupied habitat for special status species (includes sage-grouse) • Wildlife habitat treatment areas.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands and Realty)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Use: Siting of utility or communication facilities is precluded within 20,800 acres currently designated as “unsuitable.”</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 39,400 acres of ROW exclusion areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs – Blue Hill, Bull Gulch, Deep Creek, Thompson Creek • VRM Class I areas • W&SR Segments - Deep Creek Segment 2 (wild). 	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 39,900 acres of ROW exclusion areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs – Abrams Creek, Blue Hill, Bull Gulch, Deep Creek, Thompson Creek • VRM Class I areas • W&SR segments - Deep Creek Segment 2 (wild) • Lands that are segregated (State Land Board Exchange parcel in Eby Creek area). 	<p>Allowable Use: Designate 39,100 acres of ROW exclusion areas (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs – Blue Hill, Bull Gulch • VRM Class I areas.
<p>Management Action: Designate Monument Peak, Castle Peak, Doghead Mountain, Sunlight Mountain (in conjunction with the WRNF), Bellyache Ridge, and Lookout Mountain as communication sites and prepare management plans.</p> <p>Require special attention beyond the scope of the plan for administrative actions, including issuance of permits for land actions, issuance of grants, leases, and permits, and resolution of trespass.</p>	<p>Management Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collocate communication towers, facilities, and associated structures with existing communication sites to minimize overall visual impacts • Require communication site plans for new communication site locations • New communication sites may be considered if the new use cannot be accommodated on an existing site or on non-BLM land. 	<p>Management Action: Review communication site proposals on a case-by-case basis.</p>	
<p>Management Action: All lands would be excluded” from utility-scale solar development (20MW or greater). Any application for solar development under 20MWs would be processed subject to the CRVFO RMP and would not subject to the requirements within the Solar Programmatic EIS ROD.</p>			
<p>No similar goal.</p>	<p>Goal: Provide for public ownership of lands (or interests in lands) with high resources and/or public values that facilitate effective BLM land management.</p>		

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Objective: Increase overall efficiency and effectiveness of BLM land management by identifying BLM land suitable for disposal through public sale (Category I lands) and suitable for continued management under multiple use concepts (Category II lands).</p>	<p>Objective: Increase overall efficiency and effectiveness of BLM land management through land tenure actions.</p>		
<p>No similar management action.</p>	<p>Management Action: Apply the following land tenure criteria: (1) retain all public lands or interests (such as easements) in land that enhance multiple use management; (2) acquire lands or interests in land that complement important resource values and further management objectives; (3) dispose of lands or interests in lands that are difficult or uneconomical to manage or no longer needed for Federal purposes and (4) transfer to another public agencies if management would be more effective and better serve the public interest.</p>	<p>Management Action: Retain the areas below for long-term management unless (1) resource values and public objectives that were the basis for designation as a retention area, and related management opportunities, would be maintained or enhanced; (2) the lands leaving public ownership would be guaranteed a level of protection under other ownership (e.g., included in a long-term conservation easement) sufficient to ensure maintenance or enhancement of the resource values and public objectives associated with the retention area; or (3) equal or better public access would be acquired through the exchange.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Manage 494,400 BLM surface acres that are not suitable for disposal through public sale as Category II lands, the land base to be managed under multiple use principles. On a case-by-case basis, consider disposal of Category II lands through exchange, boundary adjustment, state selection, Recreation and Public Purpose Act purchase, or other appropriate statutory authority, provided such disposal is consistent with management efficiency and effectiveness under multiple use principles for specific areas.</p>	<p>Management Action: Subject to the land tenure exception criteria, retain for long-term management the following BLM lands (497,200 acres/130,400 Federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRMAs • ERMAs • Developed recreational sites/facilities • Developed administrative sites • ACECs • WSAs • Heritage Areas (Traditional Cultural Properties) • Lands covered by stipulation CRV-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. • Perennial stream corridors (retain the 100 year floodplain width at a minimum). • Habitat for proposed, candidate, and Federally listed species 	<p>Management Action: Subject to the land tenure exception criteria, retain for long-term management the following BLM lands (432,700 acres/117,000 Federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRMAs • ERMAs • Developed recreational sites • Developed administrative sites • ACECs • WSAs • Heritage Areas • Major river corridors • Perennial stream corridors (retain the floodplain width at a minimum) • Wetlands and riparian areas • Habitat for proposed, candidate, and Federally listed species 	<p>Management Action: Subject to the land tenure exception criteria, retain for long-term management the following BLM lands (319,100 acres/120,500 Federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRMAs • ERMAs • Developed recreational sites • Developed administrative sites • ACECs • WSAs • Heritage Areas • Major river corridors • Perennial stream corridors (retain the floodplain width at a minimum) • Wetlands and riparian areas

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM lands that have access points from public roads • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Lands covered by stipulation CRV-NSO-7: <i>Priority Wildlife Habitat</i> • W&SR segments - Deep Creek segments 2 and 3 along with the two Colorado River (segments 6 and 7). <p>Exception Criteria for Retention Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the areas above for long-term management unless any of the following exceptions apply: (1) resource values and public objectives that were the basis for designation as a retention area, and related management opportunities, would be maintained or enhanced; (2) the lands leaving public ownership would be guaranteed a level of protection under other ownership (e.g., included in a perpetual conservation easement or public access easement) sufficient to ensure maintenance or enhancement of the resource values and public objectives associated with the retention area; or (3) equal or better public access would be acquired through the exchange. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM lands that have access points from public roads • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Both high- and moderate-potential Federal mineral estate under Federal surface • Deer critical winter range and elk severe winter range. • Core wildlife areas • Occupied sensitive species habitat • Suitable wild and scenic river segments. <p>Exception Criteria for Retention Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the areas above for long-term management unless any of the following exceptions apply: (1) resource values and public objectives that were the basis for designation as a retention area, and related management opportunities, would be maintained or enhanced; (2) the lands leaving public ownership would be guaranteed a level of protection under other ownership (e.g., included in a perpetual conservation easement or public access easement) sufficient to ensure maintenance or enhancement of the resource values and public objectives associated with the retention area; or (3) equal or better public access would be acquired through the exchange. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat for proposed, candidate, and Federally listed species • BLM lands that have access points from public roads • Both high- and moderate-potential Federal mineral estate under Federal surface • Occupied sensitive species habitat • Deer critical winter range and elk severe winter range. <p>Exception Criteria for Retention Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the areas above for long-term management unless any of the following exceptions apply: (1) resource values and public objectives that were the basis for designation as a retention area, and related management opportunities, would be maintained or enhanced; (2) the lands leaving public ownership would be guaranteed a level of protection under other ownership (e.g., included in a perpetual conservation easement or public access easement) sufficient to ensure maintenance or enhancement of the resource values and public objectives associated with the retention area; or (3) equal or better public access would be acquired through the exchange.

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Manage 62,800 acres of Category II lands as cooperative management areas where multiple use principles are influenced by other adjacent or interested governmental agencies. Cooperative management areas may be managed through cooperative agreements, memoranda of understanding, or withdrawals. They may also be exchanged with other governmental agencies if exchange best meets management objectives and public needs.</p>	<p>Management Action: Based on the following criteria consider acquisitions for BLM lands inside and outside retention areas through exchanges, boundary adjustments, donations, or purchase that meet any of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide public access • Consolidate existing BLM lands including parcels that make management easier or reduce trespass occurrences • Are suitable for public purposes adjacent to or of special importance to local communities and to state and/or Federal agencies for purposes including, but not limited to, community expansion, extended community services, or economic development • Are near communities and provide open spaces and preserve agriculture, protect wildlife and critical habitat, enhance recreation opportunities, and generally serve the public good • Could improve water quality or increase water quantity • Facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species • Meet the intent of the Land and Water Conservation Fund or Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act. <p>Actively pursue easements through specific parcels to improve access to BLM lands for administrative and public needs.</p>	<p>Management Action: Consider acquisitions for BLM lands inside and outside retention areas through exchanges, boundary adjustments, donations, or purchase that meet any of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide public access • Consolidate existing BLM lands, including parcels that make management easier or reduce trespass occurrences • Are suitable for public purposes adjacent to or of special importance to local communities and to state and/or Federal agencies for purposes including, but not limited to, community expansion, extended community services, or economic development • Are near communities and provide open spaces and preserve agriculture, protect wildlife and critical habitat, enhance recreation opportunities, and generally serve the public good • Could improve water quality or increase water quantity • Facilitate the conservation or recovery of special status species • Meet the intent of the Land and Water Conservation Fund or Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act. <p>Actively pursue easements through specific parcels to improve access to BLM lands for administrative and public needs.</p>	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Lands and Realty)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Manage 11,100 acres as Category I lands suitable for disposal through exchange, state selections, and Recreation and Public Purpose Act purchases.</p>	<p>Management Action: Consider disposals through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, Recreation and Public Purpose Act leases and patents, leases under Section 302 of FLPMA, sales under Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA, and sales under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act for BLM lands outside retention areas. Apply the following criteria to disposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposal of the land would not adversely impact the manageability of remaining BLM lands or minerals • Disposal of the land would not adversely impact public access to remaining BLM administered lands • Disposal of the land is deemed to be in the public interest. 	<p>Management Action: Consider disposals through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, Recreation and Public Purpose Act leases and patents, leases under Section 302 of FLPMA, sales under Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA, and sales under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act for BLM lands outside retention areas. Apply the following criteria to disposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposal of the land would not adversely impact the manageability of remaining BLM lands or minerals • Disposal of the land would not adversely impact public access to remaining BLM –administered lands • Disposal of the land is deemed to be in the public interest. • Existing public access at the time of disposal would be reserved, as needed, if the lands are transferred out of public ownership. 	<p>Management Action: Consider disposals through exchanges, state selections, boundary adjustments, Recreation and Public Purpose Act leases and patents, and Section 302 leases and sales for BLM lands outside retention areas that would meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands that have facilities in trespass • Lands without legal public access • Lands of any configuration that makes the land difficult to manage and increases the occurrence of trespass • Lands suitable for public purposes adjacent to or of special importance to local communities and to state and/or Federal agencies for purposes including, but not limited to, community expansion, extended community services, or economic development • Existing public access at the time of disposal would be reserved, as needed, if the lands are transferred out of public ownership.
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Meet resource needs by recommending for withdrawal of lands from mineral entry under the General Mining Law of 1872.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Recommend for withdrawal the following areas from locatable exploration or development (34,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch ACEC/SRMA 	<p>Management Action: Recommend for withdrawal the following areas from locatable exploration or development (162,900 acres/18,300 acres federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs 	<p>Management Action: Recommend for withdrawal the following areas from locatable exploration or development (175,000 acres/4,400 acres federal mineral estate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs 	<p>Management Action: Recommend for withdrawal the following areas from locatable exploration or development (132,700 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACECs

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep Creek ACEC/SRMA • Thompson Creek ACEC/SRMA • Developed recreation sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreational sites/facilities • SRMAs • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Municipal watersheds • Deep Creek Segment 2 (wild) and Deep Creek Segment 3 (recreational) as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS • State wildlife areas and state parks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreation sites • SRMAs and ERMAs • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Municipal watersheds • 13 stream segments suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed recreation sites • SRMAs and ERMAs.
Coal			
No similar goal.	Goal: Provide opportunities for leasing, exploration, and development of coal to meet local and national energy and mineral needs, consistent with 43 CFR 4320.1-4.		
Objective: Maximize the availability of Federal mineral exploration and development to allow the best mechanism for meeting BLM management objectives. Maximize the number of acres of federal mineral estate open for development, while protecting other resources and allowing for resource recovery and impacts mitigation.	Objective: Facilitate environmentally sound exploration and development of coal resources using the best available technology.		
Allowable Use: Manage approximately 28,500 acres of the federal mineral estate as open to consideration for coal leasing. Within areas open to coal leasing, designate approximately 1,600 acres as unacceptable for coal leasing based on multiple-use conflicts.	Allowable Use: No lands are currently identified as containing potentially developable coal resources based on geologic and economic constraints and lack of expressions of interest. Only areas of potentially developable coal resources may be identified at the RMP planning level as acceptable for further consideration for leasing (43 CFR 3420.1-4). Therefore, no lands are currently identified as acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing.		
Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-NSO-1(Alternative A) / CRVFO-NSO-27 (Proposed RMP) / CRV-NSO-47 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Surface Coal Mines</i> . Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within the area of an approved surface coal mine to avoid conflicts with approved coal mining operations.			
Allowable Use: Stipulation GS-CSU-1 (Alternative A) / CRVFO-CSU-12 (Proposed RMP) / CRV-CSU-20 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Underground Coal Mines</i> . Apply CSU constraint to oil and gas operations within the area of Federally leased coal lands. Relocate oil and gas operations outside the area to be mined or located to accommodate room and pillar mining operations to protect coal resources.			

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Fluid Minerals (Oil and Gas, Oil Shale, and Geothermal Resources))

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Fluid Minerals (Oil and Gas, Oil Shale, and Geothermal Resources)			
No similar goal.	Goal: Provide opportunities for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals using balanced multiple-use management to meet local and national energy needs.		
Oil and Gas (including Coalbed Natural Gas and Geothermal)			
Objective: Facilitate the orderly, economic, and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas resources using balanced multiple-use management.	Objective: Facilitate orderly, economic, and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas resources (including coalbed natural gas and geothermal), using the best available technology.		
Allowable Use: Manage approximately 672,500 acres of the federal mineral estate as open to oil and gas leasing and development.	Allowable Use: Manage approximately 603,100 acres of federal mineral estate as open to oil and gas leasing and development.	Allowable Use: Manage approximately 521,500 acres of federal mineral estate as open to oil and gas leasing and development.	Allowable Use: Manage approximately 648,400 acres of federal mineral estate as open to oil and gas leasing and development.
Allowable Use: Closed to leasing for fluid minerals: Manage approximately 28,700 acres of the federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands within municipal boundaries • Thompson Creek Natural Environment Area (part of the ACEC) • Eagle Mountain (Maroon Bells Addition) WSA • Hack Lack (Flat Tops Addition) WSA Castle Peak WSA • Bull Gulch WSA. 	Allowable Use: Closed to leasing for fluid minerals: Manage approximately 98,100 acres of the federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands within municipal boundaries • Eagle Mountain (Maroon Bells Addition) WSA • Hack Lack (Flat Tops Addition) WSA • Castle Peak WSA • Bull Gulch WSA • Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Bull Gulch ACEC • Deep Creek ACEC • Thompson Creek ACEC • State wildlife areas • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Deep Creek segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and the two Colorado River segments that are found eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	Allowable Use: Closed to leasing for fluid minerals: Manage approximately 179,700 acres of the federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands within municipal boundaries • Eagle Mountain (Maroon Bells Addition) WSA • Hack Lack (Flat Tops Addition) WSA Castle Peak WSA • Bull Gulch WSA • Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Bull Gulch ACEC • Deep Creek ACEC • Thompson Creek ACEC • 13 stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS • Core wildlife areas • Greater Sage-grouse Habitat ACEC • State wildlife areas • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics. 	Allowable Use: Closed to leasing for fluid minerals: Manage approximately 52,800 acres of the federal mineral estate as closed to fluid minerals leasing and geophysical exploration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands within municipal boundaries • Eagle Mountain (Maroon Bells Addition) WSA • Hack Lack (Flat Tops Addition) WSA Castle Peak WSA • Bull Gulch WSA • Thompson Creek ACEC • Upper Colorado River SRMA • Blue Hill ACEC • Bull Gulch ACEC.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Solid Minerals (Locatable Minerals, Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials, and Non-Energy Leasable Minerals)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: In areas being actively developed, the operator must submit a MDP (formerly known as Geographic Area Proposal) that describes 2 to 5 years of activity for operator-controlled Federal leases within a reasonable geographic area (to be determined jointly with BLM). The MDP would be used to plan development of Federal leases within the area to account for well locations, roads, and pipelines, and to identify cumulative environmental effects and appropriate mitigation. The extent of the analysis would be dependent on the extent of surface ownership, extent of lease holdings, topography, access, and resource concerns. This requirement for a MDP may be waived for individual or small groups of exploratory wells, for directional wells drilled on previously developed well pads, or for individual wells proposed along existing roads.</p>			
<p>Oil Shale</p>			
<p>Management Action: The BLM amended the 1984 Glenwood Springs RMP to revoke withdrawals placed on BLM lands for the purpose of protecting the oil shale resource. This proposed action pertains only to oil shale lands withdrawn under Executive Order 5327, dated April 15, 1930, as amended, and Public Land Order 4522, dated September 13, 1968, as amended. These two oil shale withdrawal orders were no longer needed because existing regulations, policies, and land use decisions provide adequate protection and conservation of oil shale resources. The proposed action revoked these two withdrawal orders in their entirety. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 requires development of a commercial scale leasing program for oil shale.</p>	<p>Management Action: Conduct oil shale leasing in conformance with the Record of Decision for the 2012 Oil Shale and Tar Sands Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.</p>	<p>Management Action: Conduct oil shale leasing in conformance with the Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments / Record of Decision for Oil Shale and Tar Sands Resources to Address Land Use Allocations in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming and Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (BLM 2008h), the Roan Plateau RMP Amendment/ Record of Decision and surface-disturbing stipulations identified in Appendix B. Resource condition objectives identified in this RMP would guide reclamation activities of areas to be developed before their abandonment.</p>	
<p>Solid Minerals (Locatable Minerals, Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials, and Non-Energy Leasable Minerals)</p>			
<p>No similar goal.</p>	<p>Goal: Provide opportunities for development of locatable minerals, mineral materials, and non-energy leasable minerals while preventing unnecessary and undue degradation.</p>		
<p>Objective: Maintain the maximum amount of BLM land available for exploration and development of minerals.</p>	<p>Objective: Facilitate environmentally sound exploration and development of locatable minerals, salable minerals/mineral materials, and non-energy leasable minerals.</p>		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Solid Minerals (Locatable Minerals, Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials, and Non-Energy Leasable Minerals)

Alternative A - No Action	Alternative B - Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Locatable Minerals			
<p>Management Action: All BLM lands are open to mineral entry and development (locatable minerals) under the General Mining Law of 1872 unless already withdrawn or proposed for administrative withdrawal or designated as wilderness. Locatable mineral exploration and development on BLM lands would be regulated under 43 CFR 3800. All surface estate (locatable minerals) would be open to location of mining claims activity. In WSAs, restrictions on mineral development would become effective only if Congress designates the area as wilderness. Pending this determination, WSAs remain open provided that activities meet non-impairment criteria and that those activities began before the passage of FLPMA. (Refer to Lands and Realty section for the list of areas proposed for withdrawal.) (Refer to Lands and Realty section for the list of areas proposed for withdrawal.)</p>			
Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials			
<p>Allowable Use: Open 470,700 acres of BLM surface estate to salable/mineral materials disposal, except those identified below, which would be closed (34,500 acres) to disposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • Deep Creek RMA/ACEC • Thompson Creek ACEC. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 342,700 acres of BLM surface estate to salable/mineral materials disposal, except for those identified below, which would be closed (162,500 acres) to disposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs • SRMAs • Developed recreation sites • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Municipal watersheds • Two Deep Creek segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 323,100 acres of BLM surface estate to salable/mineral materials disposal, except for those identified below, which would be closed (182,100 acres) to disposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs • SRMAs • Developed recreation sites • Municipal watersheds • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 477,400 acres of BLM surface estate to salable/mineral materials disposal, except for those identified below, which would be closed (27,700 acres) to disposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs.
Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals			
<p>Allowable Use: Open 470,700 acres of BLM surface estate to non-energy solid minerals leasing, except for those identified below, which would be closed (34,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • Deep Creek RMA/ACEC • Thompson Creek ACEC. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 342,700 acres of BLM surface estate to non-energy solid minerals leasing, except for those identified below, which would be closed (162,500 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs • SRMAs • Developed recreation sites • Municipal watersheds • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Two Deep Creek segments suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 323,100 acres of BLM surface estate to non-energy solid minerals leasing, except for those identified below, which would be closed (182,100 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • ACECs • SRMAs • Developed recreation sites • Municipal watersheds • Lands managed for the protection of wilderness characteristics • Stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. 	<p>Allowable Use: Open 477,400 acres of BLM surface estate to non-energy solid minerals leasing, except for those identified below, which would be closed (27,700 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
III. Special Designations			
<p>Goal: Through special designations, recognize the unique values on BLM lands that require special management in order to protect resource values.</p>			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)			
<p>Objective: Designate ACECs where special management is needed to protect important geologic, botanic, historic, cultural, and scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems (rare or exemplary), or to protect human life and property from natural hazards.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect important geologic, botanic, historic, cultural, and scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, and other natural systems (rare or exemplary) that are vulnerable to adverse change and protect human life and property from natural hazards.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate ACECs where special management is needed to protect important geologic, botanic, historic, cultural, and scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems (rare or exemplary), or to protect human life and property from natural hazards.</p>	
<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (27,000 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Hill (3,700 acres) • Bull Gulch (10,400 acres) • Deep Creek (2,400 acres) • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones (6,100 acres) • Lower Colorado River (130 acres) • Thompson Creek (formally Natural Environment Area, 4,300 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (46,400 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Hill (3,700 acres) • Bull Gulch (10,400 acres) • Deep Creek (4,300 acres) • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones (6,100 acres) • Grand Hogback (4,300 acres) • Hardscrabble-East Eagle (4,200 acres) • Lyons Gulch (400 acres) • McCoy Fan Delta (1,500 acres) • Mount Logan Foothills (4,000 acres) • Sheep Creek Uplands (3,900 acres) • Thompson Creek (3,600 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (79,800 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abrams Creek (190 acres) • Blue Hill (3,700 acres) • Bull Gulch (10,400 acres) • Colorado River Seeps (470 acres) • Deep Creek (2,400 acres) • Dotsero Crater (100 acres) • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones (6,100 acres) • Grand Hogback (14,000 acres) • Greater Sage-grouse Habitat (24,600 acres) • Hardscrabble- East Eagle (4,200 acres) • Lyons Gulch (500 acres) • McCoy Fan Delta (220 acres) • Mount Logan Foothills (4,000 acres) • Sheep Creek Uplands (4,500 acres) • The Crown Ridge (1,000 acres) • Thompson Creek (3,400 acres). 	<p>Management Action: Designate the following areas as ACECs (20,200 acres):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Hill (3,700 acres) • Bull Gulch (10,400 acres) • Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones (6,100 acres).

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Apply the following to Deep Creek and Thompson Creek ACECs:</p> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal from mineral location (locatable minerals). <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i> Close to salable minerals/mineral</p> <p><i>Non-Energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing of non-energy solid minerals. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend the Secretary of the Interior for closure of ACECs to the mining laws for locatable exploration or development (locatable minerals). <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miles of routes within ACECs will not increase beyond baseline of designated routes Routes may be closed or re-routed to protect ACEC values. <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to mineral material (salable such as moss rock, top soil, sand and gravel, scoria, fill dirt) disposal. <p><i>Non-Energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing of non-energy solid minerals. <p><i>Special Recreational Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New special recreation permits that would potentially impact relevant and important values would not be authorized. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Apply the following management to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend for withdrawal from mineral location (locatable minerals). <p><i>Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to salable minerals/mineral materials disposal. <p><i>Non-Energy Solid Mineral Leasing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing of non-energy solid minerals. <p><i>Special Recreational Permits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not issue special recreation permits for special or competitive events. 	
Abrams Creek ACEC			
<p>No similar objective.</p>		<p>Objective: Designate the Abrams Creek ACEC to protect a genetically pure population of native, wild, naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout identified as a core conservation population</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable uses/management actions.		<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Designate the Abrams Creek ACEC (190 acres) to protect a genetically pure population of native, wild, naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout identified as a core conservation population. Management actions include the following:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to unauthorized motorized travel activities, including over-the-snow travel. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.
Blue Hill ACEC			
Objective: Designate the Blue Hill ACEC to protect significant historic and cultural values and natural hazards	Objective: Preserve and protect the integrity of the setting and place where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, important landscape within the Blue Hill ACEC.	Objective: Designate the Blue Hill ACEC to protect significant historic and cultural values and natural hazards	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow BLM Technical Guidance for Certain Cultural/Native American Resources (100-meter [328-foot] buffer). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as sensitive area for utility and communications facilities development (ROW avoidance area). <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs</i>. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel). <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs</i>. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <p>Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs</i>. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <p>Designate as a ROW exclusion area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development).</p> <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel) Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest.
<p>No similar implementation decisions.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow only non-mechanized ground disturbing fire suppression techniques (e.g., no dozers). 	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only allow vegetation treatments that benefit the identified relevant and important values. 	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only allow vegetation treatments that benefit the identified relevant and important values.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Vegetation Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only allow vegetation treatments that benefit the identified relevant and important values and for maintaining cultural resources. 		
Bull Gulch ACEC			
<p>Objective: Designate the Bull Gulch ACEC (10,400 acres) to protect the scenic qualities, to protect sub-occurrences of the Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>), which is known to occur in the area, and to maintain the natural landscape adjacent to the Colorado River.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect scenic qualities, protect sub-occurrences of the Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>), and maintain the natural landscape adjacent to the Colorado River.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate the Bull Gulch ACEC to protect the scenic qualities, to protect sub-occurrences of the Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>), which is known to occur in the area, and to maintain the natural landscape adjacent to the Colorado River.</p>	
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation GS-NSO-16: Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Siting of utility or communication facilities is precluded in areas designated as “unsuitable.” <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to unauthorized motorized travel activities (including over-the-snow motorized travel). 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel activities (including over-the-snow motorized travel), except for administrative access. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class I. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel activities (including over-the-snow motorized travel), except for administrative access. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class I. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development). <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel activities (including over-the-snow.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class I. 	<p>product harvest.</p>		
Colorado River Seeps ACEC			
<p>No similar objective.</p>		<p>Objective: Designate the Colorado River Seeps ACEC to protect two significant plant communities: River Birch/Mesic grass (Imperilment Rank G3/S2), and Basin big sagebrush/Basin wildrye (Imperilment Rank G2/S1).</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>
<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>		<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. 	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>
Deep Creek ACEC			
<p>Objective: Designate the Deep Creek ACEC (2,400 acres) to protect scenic and geologic values. The area contains outstanding landforms, water features, and vegetation that contribute to the scenic values. Geologic faults and unusual erosional formations are found along the canyon. There is also a high concentration of cave and karst resources within the canyon.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect the scenic and geologic values of the Deep Creek area. The area contains outstanding landforms, water features, and vegetation that contribute to the scenic values. Geologic faults and unusual erosional formations are found along the canyon. There is also a high concentration of cave and karst resources within the canyon.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate the Deep Creek ACEC to protect scenic and geologic values. The area contains outstanding landforms, water features, and vegetation that contribute to the scenic values. Geologic faults and unusual erosional formations are found along the canyon. There is also a high concentration of cave and karst resources within the canyon.</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation GS-NSO-16: Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Siting of utility or communication facilities is precluded in areas designated as “unsuitable.” <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to unauthorized motorized travel activities including over-the-snow travel. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class I. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs</i> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-24: Cave and Karst Resources including the Deep Creek Cave Area. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel activities, including over-the-snow travel, except administrative access Classify as closed to mechanized travel. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class I. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow unplanned fire if it would not degrade the scenic values within Deep Creek canyon. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Use/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACEC</i> See stipulation CRV-NSO-54: <i>Deep Creek Cave Area.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel activities, including over-the-snow travel Classify as closed to mechanized travel. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Dotsero Crater ACEC			
No similar objective.		Objective: Designate the Dotsero Crater ACEC to protect the geologic values related to the youngest known volcanic event in Colorado.	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.		Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <i>Lands and Realty:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <i>Travel Management:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to unauthorized motorized travel activities. <i>Visual Resource Management:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.
Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones ACEC			
Objective: Designate the Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones ACEC to ensure public safety as the area is prone to mass wasting processes. Additionally, debris flows, slump, and rock fall pose threats to lives and property in the area. The ACEC also contains a genetically pure population of native, wild, naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout identified as a core conservation population in Mitchell Creek.	Objective: Protect human lives and property by reducing debris flow hazards. Also protect a genetically pure population of native, wild, naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout identified as a core conservation population in Mitchell Creek.	Objective: Designate the Glenwood Springs Debris Flow Hazard Zones ACEC to ensure public safety as the area is prone to mass wasting processes. Additionally, debris flows, slump, and rock fall pose threats to lives and property in the area. The ACEC also contains a genetically pure population of native, wild, naturally reproducing Colorado River cutthroat trout identified as a core conservation population in Mitchell Creek.	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation GS-NSO-14: <i>Debris Flow Hazard Zones.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior mitigation is required for siting of utility or communication facilities areas designated as “sensitive.” <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel). <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtually all wildland fires would be actively suppressed and no fire is prescribed except as required to combat an immediate threat to firefighter or public safety. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-1: <i>Debris Flow Hazard Zones.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel). <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel). <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development). <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow motorized travel). <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar implementation decision.	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i> Allow vegetation treatments if they are determined to 1) reduce the severity and extent of wildfires/insect infestations, 2) enhance the identified relevant and important values, or 3) reduce debris flow risk.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i> Allow vegetation treatments if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values.</p>	
Grand Hogback ACEC			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Protect scenic, geologic, and cultural values in portions of the Grand Hogback.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate the Grand Hogback ACEC to protect scenic, geologic, and cultural values.</p>	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Coal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as unavailable for coal leasing. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow planned fire managed for wildlife, WUI, and ACEC values. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow planned fire managed for wildlife, WUI, and ACEC values. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Coal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as unavailable for coal leasing. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow vegetation treatments if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
		<p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
<p>Implementation Decision: No similar implementation decision.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i> Allow vegetation treatments for wildlife, WUI, and to protect cultural values.</p>	<p>Implementation Decision: <i>Vegetation Management:</i> Allow vegetation treatments if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values.</p>	<p>No similar implementation decision.</p>
<p>Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat ACEC</p>			
<p>No similar objective.</p>		<p>Objective: Designate the Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat ACEC to protect priority habitat for the greater sage-grouse, (a candidate species for listing under the ESA).</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>
<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: See decisions pertaining to greater sage-grouse under Special Status Species – Terrestrial Wildlife including stipulation CRVFO-NSO-15: <i>Priority Habitat for the Northern Eagle/Southern Routt County Greater Sage-grouse Population.</i></p>	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRV-NSO-49. <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <p>Designate as a ROW avoidance area, Designate as a ROW avoidance area, however amendments to existing ROWs, such as upgrading of existing facilities or granting of short (approx. 0.25 mile or less) or temporary ROWs for utility service or access roads may be permitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude new transmission lines unless lines can be co-located with existing lines • Other compatible ROWs may be allowed within existing ROWs 	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or amended distribution lines from existing transmission lines may be allowed. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of new administrative routes • Close the Castle Peak portion of the ACEC to over-the-snow travel. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow prescribed fire and unplanned natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to be beneficial to maintaining or enhancing greater sage-grouse habitat. 	
No similar implementation decisions.		<p>Implementation Decision:</p> <p><i>Vegetation Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow vegetation treatments if they are determined to be beneficial to maintaining or enhancing greater sage-grouse habitat • Attach as COAs to project proposals additional onsite or offsite mitigation to minimize impacts to ACEC values. 	No similar implementation decisions.
Hardscrabble-East Eagle ACEC			
No similar objective.	Objective: Protect one of the highest known concentrations of excellent quality occurrences (a core population) of the BLM sensitive plant species, Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>).	Objective: Designate the Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat ACEC to protect priority habitat for the greater sage-grouse, (a candidate species for listing under the ESA).	No similar objective.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-10: <i>Sensitive Plants within ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed to over-the-snow motorized travel, except for Forest Road 413. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow planned fire and other vegetation treatments if they would maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-19: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of new administrative routes Classify as closed to over-the-snow motorized travel. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>
<p>Lower Colorado ACEC</p>			
<p>Objective: Designate the Lower Colorado River (130 acres) to protect riparian and wildlife habitat values.</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>		

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: <i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior mitigation is required for siting of utility or communication facilities within areas designated as “sensitive.” <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. 	<p>No similar management action.</p>		
Lyons Gulch ACEC			
<p>No similar objective.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect one of the larger and more intact populations (a core population) of the BLM-sensitive plant, Harrington’s penstemon.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate the Lyons Gulch ACEC to protect the BLM-sensitive plant species Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>). The proposed ACEC is more than locally significant because it contains one of the larger and more intact populations of the species.</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>
<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-10: <i>Sensitive Plants within ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify as closed to over-the-snow motorized travel. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow planned and unplanned fire if it would maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-19: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of administrative routes Classify as closed to over-the-snow motorized travel. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p>	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	product harvest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire treatments only if they would maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
McCoy Fan Delta ACEC			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Protect the geologic and paleontological values associated with fluvial and marine depositional events that occurred along the western margin of the Ancestral Front Range. The McCoy fan deltas are among the best exposed deltaic deposits in the Rocky Mountains.</p>	<p>Objective: Designate the McCoy Fan Delta ACEC to protect geologic values showcasing fluvial and marine depositional events that occurred along the western margin of the Ancestral Front Range. The McCoy fan deltas are among the best exposed deltaic deposits in the Rocky Mountains</p>	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miles of routes within ACECs would not increase beyond baseline of designated routes. If routes must be closed to protect ACEC values, similar route mileage will be accommodated contiguous to the motorcycle trail network but outside of the ACEC. <p><i>Fossil Collection:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close the ACEC to invertebrate and vertebrate fossil collection, except as 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes. <p><i>Fossil Collection:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close the ACEC to invertebrate and vertebrate fossil collection. <p><i>Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits and 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>permitted by the authorized officer for scientific research.</p> <p><i>Fire Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>vegetation treatments if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values.</p> <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
Mount Logan Foothills ACEC			
No similar objective.	<p>Objective:</p> <p>Protect all known occurrences within the CRVFO of the threatened plant species Colorado hookless cactus (<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>), and DeBeque phacelia (<i>Phacelia submutica</i>) and the BLM sensitive Naturita milkvetch (<i>Astragalus naturitensis</i>). Protect a sub-occurrence of the threatened plant species Parachute penstemon (<i>Penstemon debilis</i>).</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <p>Designate the Mount Logan Foothills ACEC to protect all known occurrences within the CRVFO of the threatened Colorado hookless cactus (<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>) and BLM sensitive Naturita milkvetch (<i>Astragalus naturitensis</i>) and to protect most of the CRVFO occurrences of the Federal proposed species DeBeque Phacelia (<i>Phacelia submutica</i>) and an occurrence of the Federal proposed species Parachute penstemon (<i>Penstemon debilis</i>).</p>	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions:</p> <p>In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: Certain ACECs. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <p>Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow travel).</p>	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions:</p> <p>In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-19. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate as a ROW avoidance area. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suppress all fires in salt desert shrub communities within the ACEC and in other vegetation types where cheatgrass is present • Allow only non-mechanized ground disturbing fire suppression techniques (e.g., no dozers). <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow travel). <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits and vegetation treatments only if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
Sheep Creek Uplands ACEC			
No similar objective.	Objective: Protect core populations of Harrington’s penstemon across a representation of the geographical range.	Objective: Designate the Sheep Creek Uplands ACEC to protect Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>).	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-10: <i>Sensitive Plants within ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as limited to designated routes (including over-the-snow travel). 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRV-NSO-19. <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance area. 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow planned and unplanned fire if the fires would maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of new administrative routes Classify over-the-snow motorized travel as limited to designated routes. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage as underlying VRM class. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
The Crown Ridge ACEC			
No similar objective.		Objective: Designate The Crown Ridge ACEC to protect the BLM sensitive plant species Harrington’s penstemon (<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>). The biodiversity significance is ranked high at B2 and supports excellent quality (A-rank) occurrences of the species.	No similar objective.
No similar allowable uses/management actions.		Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs: <i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i>	No similar allowable uses/management actions.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See stipulation CRV-NSO-19: <i>Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and BLM Sensitive Plant</i> 	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
		<p><i>Species Current and Historically Occupied Habitat.</i></p> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW avoidance area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit net increase in motorized/mechanized routes, with the exception of new administrative routes • Classify over-the-snow motorized travel as limited to designated routes <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class II. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow prescribed fire and natural fire managed for resource benefits if they are determined to maintain or enhance the identified relevant and important values. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
Thompson Creek ACEC			
Objective: Designate the Thompson Creek ACEC to protect scenic, geologic, historic, and ecological values.	Objective: Protect the scenic, geologic, historic and ecological values in the Thompson Creek area.	Objective: Designate the Thompson Creek ACEC (4,300 acres) to protect scenic, geologic, historic, and ecological values.	No similar objective.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs))

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to leasing for fluid minerals (960 acres within Thompson Creek Natural Environment Area). <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation GS-NSO-16: Special Recreation Management Areas, Deep Creek Cave Complex, and ACECs (includes Rifle Mountain Park). <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW exclusion area (including renewable energy sites such as solar, wind, hydro, and biomass development). <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend for withdrawal from mineral location (locatable minerals). <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as closed to unauthorized motorized travel, including over-the-snow motorized travel. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class I and Class III. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close Thompson Creek ACEC to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-28: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to motorized travel, including over-the-snow travel, except for administrative access. • Close the ACEC to mechanized travel. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit installation of bolts or other human-made devices on identified relevant and important geologic features outside the existing climbing fin. <p><i>Wildland Fire Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow unplanned fire if it would not degrade the scenic or historic values within Thompson Creek canyon. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class I. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: In addition to actions that apply to all ACECs:</p> <p><i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close Thompson Creek ACEC to leasing for fluid minerals. <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See stipulation CRV-NSO-49: <i>Certain ACECs.</i> <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate as a ROW exclusion area. <p><i>Mineral Withdrawal:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend for withdrawal from mineral location (locatable minerals). <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify as closed (see 43 CFR 8342.1) to unauthorized motorized travel activities, including over-the-snow travel • Close the ACEC to mechanized travel. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit installation of bolts or other human-made devices on identified relevant and important geologic features outside the existing climbing fin. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage as VRM Class I. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>No similar allowable uses/management actions.</p>

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
Wilderness Study Areas			
No similar goal.	Goal: Preserve the wilderness character of WSAs.		
Objective: Preserve wilderness characteristics in WSAs in accordance with non-impairment standards as defined under the BLM Manual 6330 – Management of Wilderness Study Areas (which replaced the Interim Management Policy (IMP) for Lands Under Wilderness Review in July of 2012), until Congress either designates these lands as wilderness or releases them for other purposes.			
Management Action: Manage four WSAs (27,700 acres) under the IMP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch • Castle Peak • Eagle Mountain • Hack Lake. 	Management Action: Manage four WSAs (27,700 acres) under BLM <i>Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch • Castle Peak • Eagle Mountain • Hack Lake. 	Management Action: Manage four WSAs (27,700 acres) under the IMP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch • Castle Peak • Eagle Mountain • Hack Lake. 	
No similar management action.	Management Action: In accordance with BLM <i>Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas</i> . Manage all WSAs under VRM Class I objectives to support interim management policy guidelines to retain a natural landscape. If a WSA is designated as wilderness, the area would continue to be managed as VRM Class I. Exceptions: (1) Case-by-case exceptions for valid existing rights and grandfathered uses; and (2) If the WSA is released by Congress.	Management Action: Designate WSAs as VRM Class I.	
Management Action: Prohibit motorized or mechanized travel in three WSAs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bull Gulch • Castle Peak • Hack Lake. 			
Allowable Use: Close WSAs to leasing for fluid minerals.			

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-29: <i>Wilderness Study Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in WSAs to preserve wilderness in accordance with non-impairment standards as defined by <i>BLM Manual 6330 – Management of BLM Wilderness Study Areas</i> (27,700 acres).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-50: <i>Wilderness Study Areas</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities in WSAs to preserve wilderness in accordance with non-impairment standards as defined by Interim Management Policy for land under wilderness review -BLM Manual H-8550-1 (27,700 acres).</p>	
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Action: If Congress releases the Bull Gulch WSA and Castle Peak WSA from wilderness consideration, manage areas under the following prescriptions.</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-13: <i>Wilderness Study Areas if Released from Wilderness Consideration</i>. If Congress releases WSAs from wilderness consideration, then apply CSU constraints to the lands to protect recreation activity opportunities. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close the areas to mechanized and motorized (43 CFR 8342.1) travel. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage areas as ERMAs to support and sustain the principle recreation activities and the associated qualities and conditions of the area Protect scenic values with VRM Class II designation. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect scenic values with VRM Class II designation. 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Action: If Congress releases the Bull Gulch WSA and the Castle Peak WSA from wilderness consideration, manage areas under the following prescriptions.</p> <p><i>Surface-Disturbing Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulation CRV-CSU-22: <i>Wilderness Study Areas if Released from Wilderness Consideration</i>. If Congress releases WSAs from wilderness consideration, then apply CSU constraints to the lands to protect recreation activity opportunities. <p><i>Travel Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close the areas to mechanized and motorized (43 CFR 8342.1) travel. <p><i>Recreation and Visitor Services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage areas as separate, distinct ERMAs to better address area-specific nonmotorized recreation-tourism issues on an interdisciplinary basis with other resources/uses. <p><i>Visual Resource Management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect scenic values with VRM Class II designation. 	

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Wild and Scenic Rivers – Bureau of Land Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: If Congress releases the Eagle Mountain WSA and Hack Lake WSA from wilderness consideration, manage the lands consistently with management of adjacent USFS lands.</p>	<p>Management Action: If Congress releases the Eagle Mountain WSA and the Hack Lake WSA from wilderness consideration, manage the lands to protect their wilderness characteristics per the Appendix F Management and Setting Prescriptions for Lands Managed for the Protection of Wilderness Characteristics.</p>	<p>Management Action: If Congress releases WSAs from wilderness consideration, manage the lands consistently with management of adjacent BLM lands.</p>
Wild and Scenic Rivers – Bureau of Land Management			
No similar goal.	<p>Goal: Manage the selected suitable and eligible river segments to protect their free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification.</p>	<p>Goal: Manage suitable river segments to protect their free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification.</p>	No similar goal.
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification of the suitable Deep Creek segments pending congressional action or the duration of the CRVFO Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>Objective: Protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification of the eligible Colorado River segments until a suitability determination is made. <i>Note: A suitability determination for the eligible Colorado River segments is deferred, as described below.</i></p>	<p>Objective: Protect ORVs in accordance with interim protection for all suitable segments to protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification, pending congressional action or for the duration of the RMP.</p>	No similar objective.
<p>Management Actions: Identify the following 26 stream segments in CRVFO as eligible, and manage them under interim protection to preserve the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification (refer to Appendix C, Final Wild and Scenic River Suitability Report for total segment lengths, segment</p>	<p>Management Actions: 1) Determine Deep Creek segment 2 (wild) and Deep Creek segment 3 (recreational) as suitable to protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification of Deep Creek segments (4.5 miles total/4.5 on BLM land). 2) Defer suitability determinations for:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Determine all 13 eligible rivers in CRVFO as suitable, and apply interim protective management to the following segments (118.9 miles total/64.2 miles on BLM land): <u>13 Segments:</u> • Abrams Creek (recreational)</p>	<p>Management Actions: Determine all 13 eligible rivers in CRVFO as not suitable, and release the following segments from interim management protections afforded eligible segments: <u>13 Segments:</u> • Abrams Creek</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Wild and Scenic Rivers – Bureau of Land Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>lengths on BLM land, and a description of each segment:</p> <p><u>26 Segments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abrams Creek • Battlement Creek • Colorado River – segments 6 and 7 • Deep Creek – Segments 2 and 3 • Eagle River • Egeria Creek • Hack Creek • Mitchell Creek No Name Creek • Rock Creek • Thompson Creek • East Middle Fork Parachute Creek complex (five segments on the Roan Plateau) • East Fork Parachute Creek complex (eight segments on the Roan Plateau). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado River segment 6 (recreational) • Colorado River segment 7 (recreational). <p>Rely upon the <i>Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group Management Plan</i> (Appendix Q), in concert with BLM land management authorities, to protect the free-flowing condition, ORVs, classification, and water quality of Colorado River segments 6 and 7. If monitoring indicates that the <i>Upper Colorado River Stakeholder Group Management Plan</i> is not adequately protecting flow-dependent and water-dependent ORVs, the BLM would initiate a process to evaluate suitability factors and make a suitability determination. The eligibility determination for the two segments will remain in place until a suitability determination is made.</p> <p><i>Note: Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to a supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. At that time, BLM will render a suitability determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area supplemental EIS.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battlement Creek (recreational) • Colorado River segment 6 (recreational) • Colorado River segment 7 (recreational) • Deep Creek segment 2 (wild) • Deep Creek segment 3 (recreational) • Eagle River (recreational) • Egeria Creek (recreational) • Hack Creek (scenic) • Mitchell Creek (recreational) • No Name Creek (recreational) • Rock Creek (recreational) • Thompson Creek (wild). <p><i>Note: Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to a supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. At that time, BLM will render a suitability determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area Supplemental EIS.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battlement Creek • Colorado River – segments 6 and 7 • Deep Creek – segments 2 and 3 • Eagle River • Egeria Creek • Hack Creek • Mitchell Creek • No Name Creek • Rock Creek • Thompson Creek. <p><i>Note: Suitability determinations for eligible stream segments on the Roan Plateau have been deferred to a supplemental EIS. BLM will maintain eligible status for East Middle Fork Parachute Creek Complex and East Fork Parachute Creek Complex until a record of decision is entered for the Roan Plateau planning area. At that time, BLM will render a suitability determination using information and alternatives from this planning process, along with any new alternatives and information generated for the Roan Plateau planning area Supplemental EIS.</i></p>
<p>No similar allowable use.</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-NSO-30: <i>Suitable Stream Segments Classified as “Wild”</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within suitable stream segments classified as “Wild” to protect the ORVs, water quality, the free-flowing condition and recommended classification of suitable</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-NSO-51: <i>Suitable Stream Segments Classified as “Wild”</i>. Prohibit surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within suitable stream segments classified as “Wild” to protect the ORVs, water quality, the free-flowing condition and</p>	<p>No similar allowable use.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Wild and Scenic Rivers – Bureau of Land Management)

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	segments (4,300 acres).	recommended classification of suitable segments (2,500 acres).	
No similar allowable use.	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRVFO-CSU-14: <i>Suitable Stream Segments Classified as “Scenic” and “Recreational”</i>. Apply CSU constraints within suitable stream segments classified as “Scenic” and “Recreational” to protect the ORVs, free-flowing condition, water quality, and tentative classification for which the stream segments were found suitable (500 acres/0 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: Stipulation CRV-CSU-23: <i>Suitable Stream Segments Classified as “Scenic” and “Recreational”</i>. Apply CSU constraints within suitable stream segments classified as “Scenic” and “Recreational” to protect the ORVs, free-flowing condition, water quality, and tentative classification for which the stream segments were found suitable (17,400 acres/700 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	No similar allowable use.
<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-3: <i>Major River Corridors</i> (26,400 acres/1,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRVFO-NSO-4: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. The stipulation prohibits surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within eligible Colorado River segments (26,400 acres/1,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-3: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. The stipulation prohibits surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within suitable Colorado River segments (26,400 acres/1,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>	<p>Allowable Use: See stipulation CRV-NSO-3: <i>Major River Corridors</i>. The stipulation prohibits surface occupancy and surface-disturbing activities within Colorado River corridor (26,400 acres/1,000 acres federal mineral estate).</p>
No similar allowable uses/management actions.	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Other actions that apply to river segments: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to leasing for fluid minerals Deep Creek segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS and the two Colorado River segments that are found eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate Deep Creek Segment 3 along with Colorado River Segments 6 and 7 as ROW avoidance areas • Designate Deep Creek Segment 2 as a ROW exclusion area • Recommend for withdrawal Deep Creek Segment 2 and Deep Creek Segment 3 from locatable exploration 	<p>Allowable Uses/Management Actions: Other actions that apply to river segments: <i>Fluid Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to leasing for fluid minerals 13 stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. <p><i>Lands and Realty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of eight streams suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS (recreational and scenic) • Designate Deep Creek Segment 2 as a ROW exclusion area • Recommend for withdrawal 26 stream segments from locatable exploration • Retain for long-term management 	No similar allowable uses/management actions.

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Wild and Scenic Rivers – White River National Forest)

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain for long-term management Deep Creek Segments 2 and 3 along with Colorado River Segments 6 and 7. <p><i>Locatable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed for closure to the Mining Law for locatable exploration or development Deep Creek Segment 2 and 3 found as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. <p><i>Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close Deep Creek Segment 2 and 3 found as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS to salable/mineral materials disposal. <p><i>Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close Deep Creek Segment 2 and 3 found as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS to solid minerals leasing. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	<p>suitable wild and scenic river segments.</p> <p><i>Locatable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed for closure to the Mining Law for locatable exploration or development stream segments suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS. <p><i>Salable Minerals/Mineral Materials:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS to salable/mineral materials disposal. <p><i>Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close stream segments found suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS to solid minerals leasing. <p><i>Forestry:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to commercial timber harvest, firewood cutting, and special forest product harvest. 	
Wild and Scenic Rivers – White River National Forest			
<p>Goal: Manage to protect and perpetuate eligible river segments, and identify suitable segments for inclusion in the NWSRS, protecting the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and Forest Service guidance.</p>	<p>Goal: The ORVs of suitable and eligible river segments shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and their immediate environments, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.</p>	<p>Goal: Manage to protect and perpetuate eligible river segments, and identify suitable segments for inclusion in the NWSRS, protecting the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and Forest Service guidance.</p>	<p>No similar goal.</p>

2. Alternatives (Management Guidance for Alternatives A, B, C, and D — Wild and Scenic Rivers – White River National Forest)

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Objective: Protect and perpetuate eligible river segments in their current condition so that their wild, scenic, or recreational river qualities are not diminished. Existing uses, levels of use, and management actions would vary from area to area.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification of suitable Deep Creek segments pending congressional action or duration of the White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>Protect the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification of eligible Colorado River segments for the duration of the White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect and perpetuate suitable segments free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification, pending congressional action or for the duration of the <i>White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan</i> (USFS 2002).</p>	<p>No similar objective.</p>
<p>Management Actions: Continue to manage the following four stream segments in the WRNF as eligible, and apply management area direction prescribed in the <i>White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan</i> (USFS 2002) to preserve the free-flowing condition, water quality, ORVs, and tentative classification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado River Segment 1 (recreational classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 4.4: Recreation Rivers – Designated and Eligible); Colorado River Segment 2 (recreational classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 4.4: Recreation Rivers – Designated and Eligible); Deep Creek Segment 1 (scenic classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 3.4: Scenic Rivers – Designated and Eligible); and Deep Creek Segment 2a (wild classification) (Management Area 	<p>Management Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Determine USFS segments of Deep Creek Segment 1 (scenic) and Deep Creek Segment 2a (wild) as suitable (10.8 miles on USFS land). Defer suitability determinations for the following two USFS Colorado River segments (<i>referred to and included as Segment 7 in stakeholder plan</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado River Segment 1 (recreational) Colorado River Segment 2 (recreational). <p>Rely upon the <i>Upper Colorado River Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group Management Plan</i> (Appendix Q), in concert with USFS land management authorities, to protect the free-flowing condition, ORVs, classification, and water quality of Colorado River segments 1 and 2. If monitoring indicates that the <i>Upper Colorado River Stakeholder Group Management Plan</i> is not adequately protecting flow-dependent and water-dependent ORVs, the USFS would initiate a process to evaluate suitability factors and make a suitability determination. The eligibility determination for the two segments will remain in place until a</p>	<p>Management Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the following eligible river segments as suitable: (16.3 miles on USFS land). Deep Creek segments (10.8 miles on USFS land): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deep Creek Segment 1 (scenic classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 3.4: Scenic Rivers – Designated and Eligible) Deep Creek Segment 2a (wild classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 1.5: Wild Rivers—Designated and Eligible). <p>Colorado River segments (5.5 miles on USFS land):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado River Segment 1 (recreational) (Management Area Prescription Category 4.4: Recreation Rivers – Designated and Eligible) Colorado River Segment 2 (recreational classification) (Management Area Prescription Category 4.4: Recreation Rivers – Designated and Eligible). 	<p>Management Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Determine all four eligible rivers as not suitable and release them from interim management protections afforded to eligible segments. This concludes the suitability study phase for these segments. Current management area direction would be amended to reflect those decisions. The following management direction would be adopted for the 4 segments studied which would revise the White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USFS 2002). <p>Manage Colorado River Segments 1 and 2 under Management Area Prescription Category 4.23, Scenic Byways, Scenic Areas, Vistas, and Travel Corridors, as described in the Forest Plan (USFS 2002).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Manage Deep Creek Segments 1 and 2a under Management Area Prescription Category 2.1, Special Interest Area – minimal use and

No Action Alternative	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Prescription Category 1.5: Wild Rivers – Designated and Eligible).</p> <p><i>Note: Complete description of current management standards and guidelines for the above segments can be found in the White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan- 2002 Revision.</i></p>	<p>suitability determination is made.</p> <p>3) Maintain and apply current management area direction as prescribed in the <i>White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan</i> (USFS 2002).</p>	<p>3) Management area direction prescribed in the Forest Plan (USFS 2002) would be maintained until formal designation and subsequent planning for these river segments under the NWSRS was completed.</p>	<p>interpretation, as described in the Forest Plan (USFS 2002).</p>
IV. Support			
Transportation Facilities			
<p>No similar goal.</p>	<p>Goal: Provide a transportation system that is manageable, maintainable, and meets the needs, as defined by the goals and objectives, for resources and resource uses.</p>		
<p>Objective: Provide access to allow multiple use management of BLM lands.</p>	<p>Objective: Maintain BLM roads to identified maintenance intensity levels (appropriate intensity, frequency, and type of maintenance) consistent with public safety and land use plan objectives.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Maintain 258 miles of road and 48 miles of trails in CRVFO, the amount needed to serve the area. This includes approximately (Appendix N):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 miles at Maintenance Level 1 • 239 miles at Maintenance Level 2 • 19 miles at Maintenance Level 3 • 6 miles at Maintenance Level 4. 	<p>Management Action: Maintain the following (Appendix N):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 0: Existing routes that will no longer be maintained and no longer be declared a route. Routes identified as Level 0 are identified for removal from the transportation system entirely • 166 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 1: Routes where minimum (low intensity) maintenance is required to protect adjacent lands and resource values. These roads may be impassable for extended periods of time • 93 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 3: Routes requiring moderate maintenance due to low-volume use (e.g., seasonally or year-round for commercial, recreation, or administrative access). Maintenance intensities may not provide year-round 	<p>Management Action: Maintain the following (Appendix N):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 0: Existing routes that will no longer be maintained and no longer be declared a route. Routes identified as Level 0 are identified for removal from the Transportation System entirely • 162 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 1: Routes where minimum (low intensity) maintenance is required to protect adjacent lands and resource values. These roads may be impassable for extended periods of time • 96 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 3: Routes requiring moderate maintenance due to low-volume use (e.g., seasonally or year-round for 	<p>Management Action: Maintain the following (Appendix N):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 0: Existing routes that will no longer be maintained and no longer be declared a route. Routes identified as Level 0 are identified for removal from the Transportation System entirely • 167 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 1: Routes where minimum (low-intensity) maintenance is required to protect adjacent lands and resource values. These roads may be impassable for extended periods of time • 84 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 3: Routes

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed RMP	Alternative C	Alternative D
	<p>access but are intended to generally provide resources appropriate to keep the route in use for the majority of the year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 5: Routes for high (maximum) maintenance due to year-round needs, high-volume traffic, or significant use. Also may include routes identified through management objectives as requiring high intensities of maintenance or to be maintained open on a year-round basis. 	<p>commercial, recreation, or administrative access). Maintenance intensities may not provide year-round access but are intended to generally provide resources appropriate to keep the route in use for the majority of the year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 miles at Maintenance Intensity Level 5: Routes for high (maximum) maintenance due to year-round needs, high-volume traffic, or significant use. Also may include routes identified through management objectives as requiring high intensities of maintenance or to be maintained open on a year-round basis. 	<p>requiring moderate maintenance due to low-volume use (e.g., seasonally or year-round for commercial, recreation, or administrative access). Maintenance intensities may not provide year-round access but are intended to generally provide resources appropriate to keep the route in use for the majority of the year.</p>
Health and Safety			
No similar goal.	<p>Goal: Protect lives, resources, and property to improve the quality of life in local communities.</p>		
No similar objective.	<p>Objective: Ensure that BLM lands provide safe facilities and conditions for visitors, users, and employees, with minimum conflict among users and minimum damage to BLM lands and resources as defined by the Department of the Interior Performance and Accountability Report measures.</p>		
No similar management action.	<p>Management Action: Close motorized vehicle access routes that lead to illegal dumpsites.</p>		
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-4 (Alternative A)/CRVFO-LN-9 (Proposed RMP)/CRV-LN-4 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Emergency Communications Plan</i>. The operator is required to prepare and maintain a current emergency communications plan. The plan shall be provided to the BLM, Colorado State Patrol, the affected county and communities, and the general public. The plan shall contain information sufficient to describe the potential for emergency incidents related to fluid minerals development that pose an immediate danger to human health and safety and would normally require immediate actions by the operator to remove the threat, such as for hazardous materials spills; actions to be taken by the operator in the event of such an incident; and a communications plan to inform appropriate authorities and potentially affected citizens.</p>			
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-7 (Alternative A)/CRVFO-LN-10 (Proposed RMP)/CRV-LN-9 (Alternatives C and D) <i>Working in Residential Areas</i>. The operator drilling on federal mineral estate is required to consider the impact of operations on nearby communities and residences and will be expected to reasonably adjust operating procedures to accommodate local residential concerns. For example, the operator will be expected to try to work out reasonable compromises on issues such as noise, dust, and traffic. The operator will be expected to address such issues when raised during public comment periods associated with preparation of environmental assessments or when complaints are reported to the operator, BLM, or the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.</p>			

Alternative A - No Action	Proposed Plan	Alternative C	Alternative D
<p>Management Action: Lease Notice GS-LN-9 (Alternative A)/CRVFO-LN-11 (Proposed RMP)/CRV-LN-10 (Alternatives C and D): <i>Project Rulison Monitoring</i>. Any wells within three miles of Project Rulison will be subject to oversight measures established by the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Any such wells would also be reviewed by the DOE for consideration if such wells should be incorporated into DOE's regular monitoring program.</p>			

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