

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Report:
Crampton Mountain
COF-020-049**

Section 201 of FLPMA requires the BLM to maintain on a continuing basis an inventory of all public lands and their resources and other values, which includes wilderness characteristics. It also provides that the preparation and maintenance of the inventory shall not, of itself, change or prevent change of the management or use of public lands. Regardless of past inventory, the BLM must maintain and update as necessary, its inventory of wilderness resources on public lands. In some circumstances conditions relating to wilderness characteristics may have changed over time, and an area that was once determined to lack wilderness characteristics may now possess them. BLM Manual 6310 'Conducting Wilderness Characteristics Inventory on BLM Lands' provides the guidance on conducting this inventory process.

Following BLM guidance the Royal Gorge Field Office conducted an inventory in 2013 and found that this unit did not meet the criteria for having wilderness characteristics. Per policy, the public has the opportunity to provide new information regarding wilderness characteristics that the BLM must evaluate and consider. New information that meets the minimum standard for further review was submitted by Wild Connections on May 6, 2015 contending that the entire 5,100 acre unit meets the criteria. This report reflects an updated inventory that combines BLM's 2013 findings and an evaluation of the data submitted by Wild Connections.

Inventory Effort	Acreage Inventoried	Wilderness Characteristics Acreage
BLM 2013 Inventory	5,110	0
Wild Connections Inventory (Cottonwood Creek, Little Crampton)	5,110 (approximate)	5,110 (approximate)
BLM 2015 Evaluation Conclusions	5,109.2	5,109.2

**Form 1: Document Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings on Record
(Refers to Original 1980's Inventory Effort)**

Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?

NO X (If no, go to form 2)
 YES — If yes, and if the area has subunits within the broader area, list the unique identifiers for each of those subunits:

Inventory Source:

Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): 09A 001

Map Name(s)/Number(s): _____

BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Front Range District/ Royal Gorge Field Office

BLM Inventory findings on record: Document existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Document BLM Wilderness Characteristics Findings on Record (Historic Findings)					
Inventory Source Document:					
Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? (YES/NO & acres)	Naturalness (YES/NO)	Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude (YES/NO)	Outstanding opportunities for primitive & unconfined recreation (YES/NO)	Supplemental Values? (YES/NO)

Form 2: Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier: CO-020-049, Crampton Mountain

Acreage: 5,109.2 acres

1. Is the area of sufficient size? :

Yes No

The land is greater than 5,000 acres and meets the size exception 2.a.i.

The unit, CO-020-049, is bounded as follows:

- The north, east, west and northwest edges are bounded by property lines other than BLM management;
- The northwest boundary is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5865, BLM 5865A and Fremont County Road 21;
- The northeastern edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 307 A;
- The eastern edge is bounded by transmission line, CO-020-049-C;
- The southern boundary is defined by transmission line, CO-020-050-A and wilderness inventory road, BLM 5985 as well as the wilderness inventory road, CO-020-049-F, the power line access road.

2. Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No

The unit, CO-020-049, is located northwest of Cañon City, CO less than 14 miles (measured to the nearest point). The unit is located west of US Highway 9 and south of Fremont County Road 2. The majority of access occurs along Hwy 9. The unit consists of 5,110 acres of public land.

The topography of the unit is mountainous and rugged. Prominent features within the unit include Little Crampton Mountain, Cottonwood Creek, Twelve mile Hole, Meadow Gulch, and Soapy Hills. The vegetation consists primarily of piñon- juniper in the lower elevations and ponderosa pines and mixed conifers in the higher reaches. Riparian vegetation such as cottonwoods is found along Cottonwood Creek.

The man-made features documented within the unit include numerous routes that receive off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. The majority of use is concentrated along Fremont County Road 307 A and Cottonwood Creek. The routes appear to have been originally constructed by mechanical means, perhaps by a bull dozer for timber harvesting but have not been maintained for regular and continuous use. The steep topography and dense vegetation reduces the visual impacts on the landscape.

Other man-made natural disturbances include vegetation treatment projects in the area. The projects were in effort to enhance rangeland management in the region. The project area is located in the northwestern portion of the unit, along Soapy Hills. The treatments include hand thinning projects. The treatment areas are relatively minor and do not affect the natural integrity of the unit.

The transmission line that defines the southern boundary is a significant visual impact throughout most of the unit. The power lines are located along a ridge at a higher elevation and are visible throughout most of the southern half of the unit. However, they are located outside of the unit

Upon further review, the BLM concurs with Wild Connections that the documented man-made features are not readily noticeable, are relatively minor, and do not affect the overall naturalness of the unit.

3. Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes X No _____

Description:

The Crampton Mountain Unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Lack of motorized routes and land ownership patterns make access into the interior of the unit difficult. The steep topography and dense vegetation also lend to the solitude opportunities within the unit.

4. Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes X No _____

Description:

Outstanding opportunities exist for primitive and unconfined recreation within the unit. The routes making up the boundary of the unit provide easy jumping off points into high quality hunting opportunities that few people access. A primitive trail along portions of Cottonwood Creek provides outstanding opportunities for hiking and horseback riding.

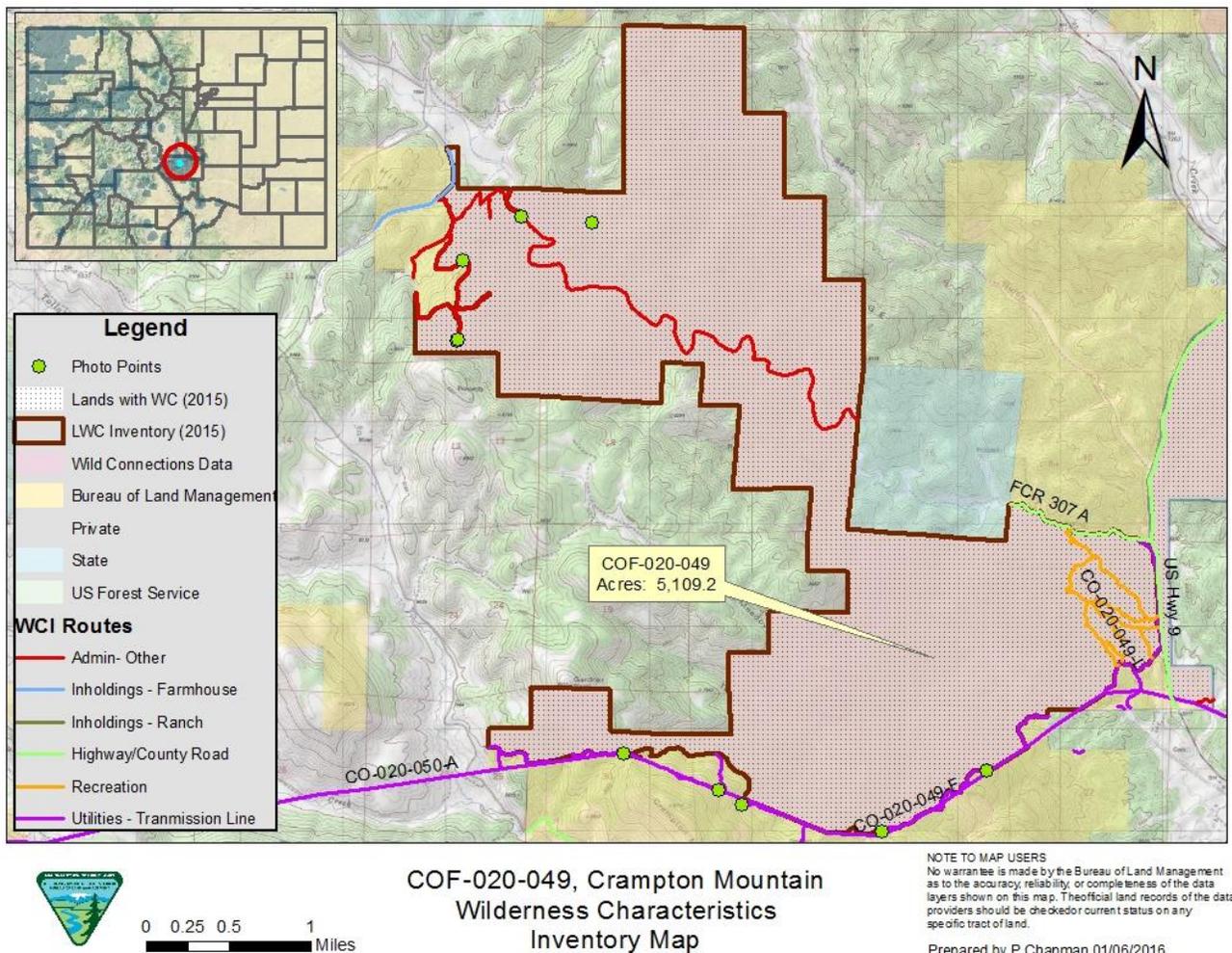
5. Does the area have supplemental values?

Yes X No _____ NA _____

Description:

- The unit is located within elk winter range and mule deer severe winter range as mapped by Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Map 1 Crampton Mountain 2013 inventory was not found to have LWC; 2015 inventory agrees that a portion of the area does have LWC



Summary of Analysis:

Unique Identifier: COF-020-049, Crampton Mountain

Acreage: 5,109.2 acres

Results of Analysis:

The original inventory concluded that the unit is not natural due to documented imprints of man. Upon reviewing data by Wild Connections and BLM policy the BLM concludes that the original inventory took an overly strict approach to assessing naturalness. The man-made features including old roads and vegetation treatment projects are relatively unnoticeable in the given setting. The unit does possess wilderness characteristics.

The unit, CO-020-049, is bounded as follows:

- The north, east, west and northwest edges are bounded by property lines other than BLM management;
 - The northwest boundary is defined by wilderness inventory road, BLM 5865, BLM 5865A and Fremont County Road 21;
 - The northeastern edge is defined by wilderness inventory road, Fremont County Road 307 A;
 - The eastern edge is bounded by transmission line, CO-020-049-C;
 - The southern boundary is defined by transmission line, CO-020-050-A and wilderness inventory road, BLM 5985 as well as the wilderness inventory road, CO-020-049-F, the power line access road.
 - The unit is found in parts of the sections listed in the following townships;
 - o T. 17 S. R. 72 W. Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, and 30.
 - o T. 17 S. R. 73 W. Sections: 1, 12, and 25
- Does the area meet size requirements or exceptions? Yes X No _____
 - Does the area appear natural? Yes X No _____ NA _____
 - Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? Yes X No _____ NA _____
 - Does the area have supplemental value? Yes X No _____ NA _____

Check one:

X The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as land with wilderness characteristics.

_____ The area does not have wilderness characteristic.

This does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision, and does not represent a decision in regard to how the area will be managed or address impacts of management decisions.

Prepared by:

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician

Evaluator: Kalem Lenard/ Outdoor Recreation Planner

Evaluator: Ken Reed/ Forrester

Evaluator: Jeff Williams/ Rangeland Management Specialist

Evaluator: Matt Rustand/Wildlife Biologist

Date: May 30, 2013

Date: December 15, 2015

Date: August 4, 2013

Date: September 9, 2013

Date: Sept 11, 2013

Form 3: Route Analysis:

The Route Analysis includes factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. For the purposes of this analysis, use the following definition of a “road”. This definition is drawn from and the FLPMA legislative history and historic BLM inventory direction.

Road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

- a. Improved and maintained – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
- b. Mechanical means – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
- c. Relatively regular and continuous use – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities, or access roads to mining claims.

If a portion of a route is found to meet the wilderness inventory road criteria (see Part III) and the remainder does not meet these criteria (e.g., a cherrystem road with a primitive route continuing beyond a certain point), identify each segment and explain the rationale for the separate findings.

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: COF-020-049, Crampton Mountain Route or Route Segment Name and/or Identifier: BLM 5895, CO-020-050-A (transmission line), CO-020-049-F (transmission line access route), CO-020-049-C (transmission line), Fremont County Road 307 A (FCR 307 A), BLM 5865, BLM 5865 A, Fremont County Road 21 (FRC 21).

I. LOCATION:

Refer to attached map and BLM corporate data (GIS). List photo point references (where applicable) or reference attached photo log:

Map Title: Unit, COF-020-049 Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Map

Map Date: 2013

Describe:

The map shows the parcel inventoried for wilderness characteristics, photo points and routes collected by GPS

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

The purpose of a route is not a deciding factor in determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. The purpose of a route does provide context for factors on which such a determination may be based, particularly the question of whether maintenance of the route ensures relatively regular and continuous

use. The purpose also helps to determine whether maintenance that may so far have been unnecessary to ensure such use would be approved by BLM when the need arises.

A. Current Purpose of Route:

Describe:

- BLM 5895: Is currently used for recreational purposes. It is open to full size vehicle use. The route is also used for access to maintain the transmission line.
- CO-020-050-A: is a large transmission line.
- CO-020-049-F: is a route used to access the transmission line for maintenance.
- CO-020-049-C: is a small transmission line.
- FCR 307 A: is open to full size vehicle use, mostly recreational access and rangeland management improvements.
- BLM 5865: is open to full size vehicles and use mostly is for recreational purposes.
- BLM 5865 A: is open to full size vehicle, and is mostly used for recreational purposes.
- FCR 21: is a road open to general transportation.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

B.1. Is there a ROW associated with this route?

Yes No Unknown

If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?

- BLM 5895: has a ROW association, serial #, C 0128242 15'
- CO-020-050-A: has a ROW association, serial # C 0128242 15'
- CO-020-049-F: has a ROW association, serial # C 0128242 15'
- CO-020-049-C: has a ROW association, serial # C 23496
- FCR 307 A: has a ROW association, COC 44142
- FCR 21: has a ROW association, COC 44142

- BLM 5865 does not have a ROW association.
- BLM 5865 A does not have a ROW association.

B.2. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

Yes No Unknown or N/A

Explain:

Yes, the above stated routes have the ROWs still in use.

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Is there evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means?

Yes, if either III.A.1 *or* III.A.2 is checked "yes" below

No, if both III.A.1 *and* III.A.2 are checked "no" below

- All of the inventoried routes have had mechanical construction or improvements.

A.1. Construction: Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?

Yes No

Describe:

- BLM 5895: has been originally constructed, possibly bladed.
- CO-020-050-A has evidence of original mechanical construction, numerous routes developed to access the line.
- CO-020-049-F has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly bladed.
- CO-020-049-C has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly bladed.
- FCR 307 A has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly bladed.
- BLM 5865 has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by use of bull dozer.
- BLM 5865 A has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly by bull dozer.
- FCR 21: has evidence of mechanical construction, possibly bladed.

A.2. Improvements: Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?

Yes If "yes", improvements by? Hand Tools by Machine
No

Describe:

- BLM 5895: has evidence of mechanical improvements, side berms and improved drainages.
- CO-020-050-A does not have evidence of new improvements.
- CO-020-049-F: does not have evidence of recent improvements.
- CO-020-049-C: does not have evidence of recent improvements.
- FCR 307 A: has evidence of recent improvements, possibly recently bladed.
- BLM 5865: has evidence of recent improvements, possibly bladed.
- BLM 5865 A: has evidence of recent improvements, possibly bladed.
- FCR 21: has evidence of recent improvements, graveled and graded.

B. Maintenance: Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?

Yes, if either III.B.1 *or* III.B.2 is checked "yes" below
No, if both III.B.1 *and* III.B.2 are checked "no" below

- BLM 5895 evidence of recent maintenance to ensure full size vehicle use.
- CO-02-050-A: N/A
- CO-020-049-F: no recent maintenance.
- CO-020-049-C: N/A
- FCR 307 A: maintained for full size vehicle access.
- BLM 5865: maintained for full size vehicle access.
- BLM 5865 A: maintained for full-size vehicle access.
- FCR 21: maintained recently, bladed and graveled.

B.1. Is there evidence or documentation of maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes If "yes", maintenance by? Hand Tools by Machine

No

Explain:

- BLM 5895: recent maintenance by use of machinery has occurred in the past 3-5 years.
- CO-02-050-A: N/A
- CO-020-049-F: no recent maintenance has occurred.
- CO-020-049-C: N/A
- FCR 307 A: has recently received mechanical maintenance in the past 5-6 years.
- BLM 5865: has received mechanical maintenance in the past 3-5 years.
- BLM 5865 A: has received mechanical maintenance in the past 3-5 years.
- FCR 21: has recently received mechanical maintenance.

B.2. If the route or route segment is in good condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable? "Good condition" would be a condition that ensures regular and continuous use relative to the purposes of the route. Consider whether the route can be clearly followed in the field over its entire course and whether all or any portion of the route contains any impediments to travel.

Yes No

Explain:

- BLM 5895: BLM and ROW holder would maintain route.
- CO-02-050-A: ROW would maintain.
- CO-020-049-F: ROW holder would maintain.
- CO-020-049-C: ROW holder will maintain.
- FCR 307 A: ROW holder and BLM would maintain to ensure access.
- BLM 5865: BLM would maintain to ensure access and administrative purposes.
- BLM 5865 A: BLM would maintain route for access and administrative purposes
- FCR 21: Fremont County would maintain route.

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?

Yes No

Explain: Describe evidence (e.g., direct: vehicles or vehicle tracks observed; or indirect: evidence of use associated with purpose of the route such as maintenance of facility that route accesses) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a *relatively* regular basis (regular and continuous use relative to the purpose(s) of the route). Include estimate of travel rates for the stated purposes (e.g.,

trips per day, week, month, season, year, or even multiple years in some facility maintenance cases).

- BLM 5895: receives full size vehicle use, 20-40 times a week.
- CO-02-050-A: N/A
- CO-020-049-F: no recent use
- CO-020-049-C: N/A
- FCR 307 A: receive use by full size vehicles and OHVs 20-40 times a week
- BLM 5865 receives full size vehicle use 20-30 times a month.
- BLM 5865 A received full size vehicle use 20-40 times a month.
- FCR 21 receives regular and continuous use, 20-50 times a day.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A and III.B and III.C all checked yes)? If part of the route meets the wilderness inventory road definition and the remainder does not, describe the segment meeting the definition and any remaining portion not meeting the definition and why. Also, describe and explain rationale for any discrepancies with citizen proposals.

Yes = Wilderness Inventory Road
No = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explain:

- BLM 5895 meets the wilderness inventory road definition, due to having a ROW association.
- CO-02-050-A is not a "road" but defines a boundary for the unit.
- CO-020-049-F: meets the definition as a wilderness inventory road, due to the ROW association.
- CO-020-049-C: is not a "road" but defines the eastern boundary.
- FCR 307 A: is a wilderness inventory road, due to the ROW association.
- BLM 5865 is a wilderness inventory road; it is on the BLM maintenance schedule for full size vehicle use.
- BLM 5865 A is a wilderness inventory road; it is on the BLM maintenance schedule for full size vehicle use.
- FCR 21 is a wilderness inventory road.

Evaluator: Janine Prout/ Recreation Assistant

Date: August 27, 2013

PHOTO LOG

Photographer(s): Monica Mohr/ Rangeland Management Technician, Janine Prout/ Recreation Technician, Bryce Hoffmann/ Recreation Technician

Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **COF-020-049, Crampton Mountain**

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #
5/30/2013	DSC03610	NE	Beginning of route	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	28	1
5/30/2013	DSC03611	E	Route through fence	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	29	2
5/30/2013	DSC03612	E	Power line tower	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	29	3
5/30/2013	DSC03613	NE	Power line	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	30	4
5/30/2013	DSC03614	SE	mine	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	30	5
6/27/2013	Img_0039	E	Rock blocking route	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	30	6
6/27/2013	Img_0040	W	Power line	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	30	7
6/27/2013	Img_0041	E	Route condition of CO-020-049-F	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	29	8
6/27/2013	Img_0042	W	Route condition	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	28	9
6/27/2013	Img_0043	E	Power line	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	28	10
6/27/2013	Img_0044	E	Power line disturbance	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	28	11
7/3/2013	P7030527	W	Route condition	See Map	17 S.	73 W.	12	12
7/3/2013	P7030528	N	Route condition	See Map	17 S.	73 W.	12	13
7/3/2013	P7030529	W	Route condition	See Map	17 S.	73 W.	12	14
7/3/2013	P7030530	E	ATV route, intersection	See Map	17 S.	73 W.	12	15
7/3/2013	P7030557	SE	Route condition	See Map	17 S.	73 W.	12	16
7/3/2013	P7030565	NE	Route Condition	See Map	17 S.	72 W.	7	17



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



#9



10



11



#12



#13



#14



#15



#16



#17

Royal Gorge Field Office Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Inventory, 2015: Evaluation of new information

Assessment and Determination

The BLM Royal Gorge Field Office followed manual 6310 in the performance of inventory for lands with wilderness characteristics. In response to new information submitted in May, 2015 by Wild Connections, the 2013 inventory was re-evaluated. A final review was made by comparing existing data and when needed additional field trips were taken to collect data by GPS, inventory forms, and photo points. Resource specialists were also consulted to determine if the conclusion reached in the 2013 inventory remains valid, or whether changes should occur. The above report documents those findings for the following area(s):

Unit ID	Unit Name	Total BLM acreage inventoried	Acreage with Wilderness Characteristics	Acreage without Wilderness Characteristics
COF-020-049	Crampton Mountain	5,109.2	5,109.2	0

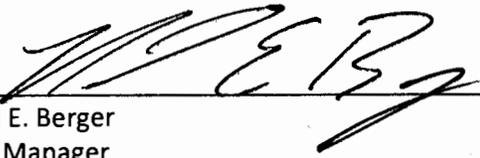
Review:

I have reviewed the inventory results, reports, photos, and maps for the above Lands with Wilderness Characteristics and concur with the findings as submitted.



James Kalem Lenard
Outdoor Recreation Planner, Royal Gorge Field Office

Date: 2/22/16



Keith E. Berger
Field Manager
Royal Gorge Field Office

Date: 2/24/16