

# **West Fork of Terror Creek**

## **Eligibility Report Information:**

- Classification: Scenic
- ORV: Native Colorado Trout (may be threatened Greenback Cutthroats)
- Segment Length: 1.21 miles, 39.2% managed by BLM

## **Stakeholder comments & questions on BLM information:**

- Request for details on when and where trout were found in the creek
  - DOW Response: Sampling records confirm the presence of cutthroat trout as early as 1978 & as recent as 2010
- Fish may be a non-threatened species of Colorado Cutthroat Trout. Most sampling has occurred on USFS land.
- If BLM only manages a broken 39.2% of the segment, could it manage that? Suggest not considering it b/c of this issue.
- Grand Mesa Canal Headgate #4, mentioned in eligibility report, has never been built – it is a conditional decree.
- Two small impoundments Rex and Holy Terror Reservoirs, are upstream from the reach; their stored water is not released through the West Fork of Terror Creek, but instead the water is diverted into the Leroux Creek drainage for irrigation use by the Leroux Creek Water Users Association.

**Chart on Following Page**

## West Fork of Terror Creek – cont.

	ORV + Classification Condition & Needs	Current Uses & Values	Potential Future Uses	Current Problems/ Assets	Policy/Mgmt tools – options and impact
1	Fish ORV: Flows	<p>Senior water rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Above segment: Overland Ditch, Leroux Creek Water Users Association</li> <li>▪ Below segment: Terror Ditch, Holy Bee, Fawcett</li> </ul>		Several years the creek is dry at the confluence with the East Fork of Terror Creek. Bowie Resources has data back to 1983 showing flows ranging from spring flood (220 cfs) to 0 in the fall.	Endangered Species Act already provides protections for the endangered fish. <b>Noted at 1/10 mtg:</b> ESA is not valid for these fish that are not threatened or endangered.
2	Scenic Classification	Roads: 1.15 miles unsurfaced, 0.90 single-lane county rd		Segment can be easily accessed by road. There is currently no public access to adjacent road system.	1/10/11 Mtg: Water is diverted to West Fork Terror Creek that is not a natural drainage.
		230 KV transmission line crosses creek on BLM and requires year-round motorized access for operation, maintenance & repair. Vegetation trimming and/or road repair may be required to maintain t-line and access ROW's.	Replacement, upgrade or expansion of utilities within corridor.	More industrial infrastructure in corridor than indicated in eligibility report.	
		Dilapidated cabin and several small outbuildings located within corridor.	Future permanent and/or seasonal residence within corridor	Existing structures not noted in eligibility report.	
		Roads cross the stream at two locations within the corridor. The county road crosses the stream over a culvert and the unsurfaced road crosses the steam with an unimproved 'at-grade' ford.		Stream crossing not noted in eligibility report.	
		Coal exploration drill hole and water quality monitoring wells currently permitted and scheduled to be installed in 2011	Use of water quality monitoring wells will be required for 10-15 years	Additional industrial use in the corridor not noted in eligibility report.	
3	General	Cattle grazing			All species whether listed as endangered, threatened, or sensitive species are protected under mine permitting processes.
		Fishing		Stream is narrow and brushy limiting fishing opportunity.	
		Mining – coal exploration drill holes.	Potential coal reserves in corridor; leased.	Significant economic impact to local economy if coal reserves are unable to be mined.	
		Oil & gas leases.	Oil & gas devel.		