

TRES RIOS AND SAN JUAN PROPOSED LAND & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

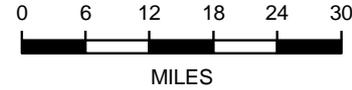
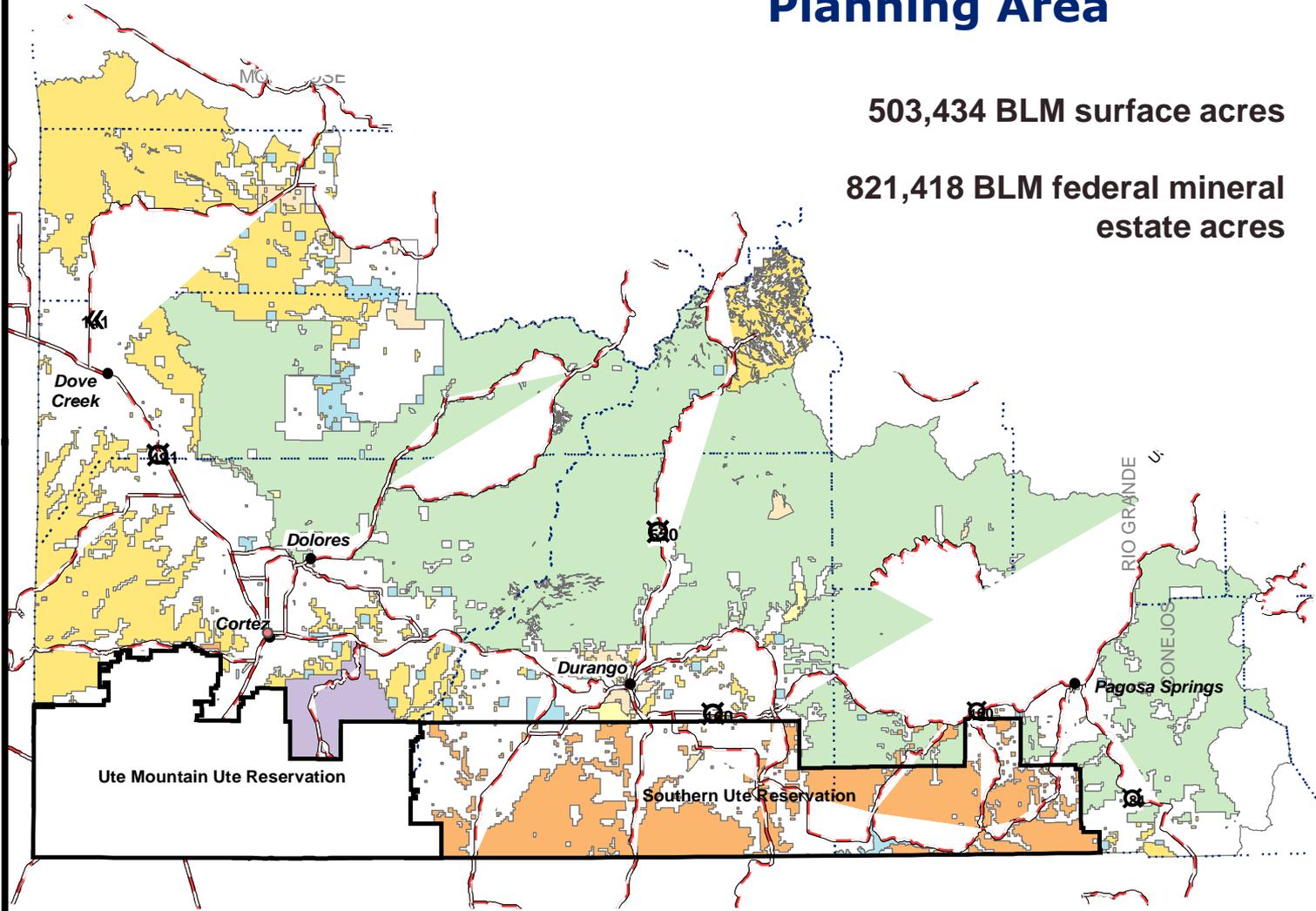


**BLM Resource Advisory Council
February 13, 2013**

Tres Rios and San Juan Planning Area

503,434 BLM surface acres

821,418 BLM federal mineral estate acres



Legend

- Cities and Towns
- State & Federal Highways
- Counties
- Orange Indian Reservation
- Yellow Bureau of Land Management
- Light Green Bureau of Reclamation
- Pink Energy and Defense
- Light Blue City or County
- Purple National Park Service
- White Patented Lands
- Light Blue State Lands
- Light Green National Forest



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Process Timeline

- December 2004: NOI for joint plan revision
- November 2007: Draft Plan/EIS released
- August 2011: Supplement to Draft EIS released
- May 2013: Publication of Proposed Plan/Final EIS
 - Initiation of 30-day protest period and 60-day Governor's consistency review
- September 2013: Sign Record of Decision

Consultation, Collaboration and Public Involvement

Cooperating Agencies	Montezuma County and Town of Rico
Consultation with Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montezuma County let CA status end in 2010
Public involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation occurred at the DRAFT plan and will be completed again on the Final Plan• 2005-2007, Plan revision alternatives developed with input from the public, federal, state, & local governments, tribes, FS & BLM personnel, and other groups and organizations (over 30 meetings held)• Community Study Groups formed to review preliminary alternatives (6 meetings held)
Comment periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 120-day public comment period for Draft Plan/EIS• 90-day public comment period for Supplement to Draft EIS

Public Comments on the Draft Plan/EIS

Comment	Response
Impacts from oil & gas leasing on water, air, and wildlife	<p><u>Water:</u> Developed standards / guidelines and leasing stipulations to mitigate impacts to shallow ground water and surface water; protect water bearing horizons from down-hole activity; and require disclosure of fracking materials.</p> <p><u>Air:</u> Developed standards and guidelines to reduce emissions. Additional mitigation options suggested by industry and EPA to reduce air quality impacts have also been incorporated.</p> <p><u>Wildlife:</u> Developed stipulations and standards / guidelines for timing, noise requirements to protect critical periods for big game, GUSC.</p>

Public Comments on the Draft Plan/EIS

Comment	Response
Management of Dolores River Canyon	Manage as a 'special area' targeting recreation, wildlife and restoration of the corridor ecosystem; oil and gas leasing is NSO; TL to support wildlife, bird & aquatic species
Management of Perins Peak	NSO in Alternative B
Designation of ACECs (areas of critical environmental concern)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The only current ACEC (Anasazi Cultural) has been modified and brought forward.• One new ACEC (Gypsum Valley) proposed.• Plan amendment will be necessary to address all ACEC nominations.
Lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC)	TRFO has done an inventory of wilderness characteristics; plan proposes that 11,721 acres be managed for protection of wilderness characteristics

Overview of Alternative Themes

Alternative	Theme
Alternative A (No Action)	Continues current management direction
Alternative B (Proposed Plan)	Emphasizes preserving a mix of multiple-use activities , while maintaining contiguous blocks of undeveloped lands and enhancing recreation opportunities
Alternative C	Emphasizes the undeveloped character , including more special area designations and use /access restrictions
Alternative D	Emphasizes the “ working forest and rangelands ” character of lands to yield the highest amount of goods and services while sustaining natural resources

Oil & Gas Leasing Availability

	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D	No Lease Alternative
Total Available	758,512	758,378	608,009	764,032	0
Not Available	62,907	63,041	213,410	57,387	821,419

Alternative B

Not available: WSAs, wild segment of Dolores River

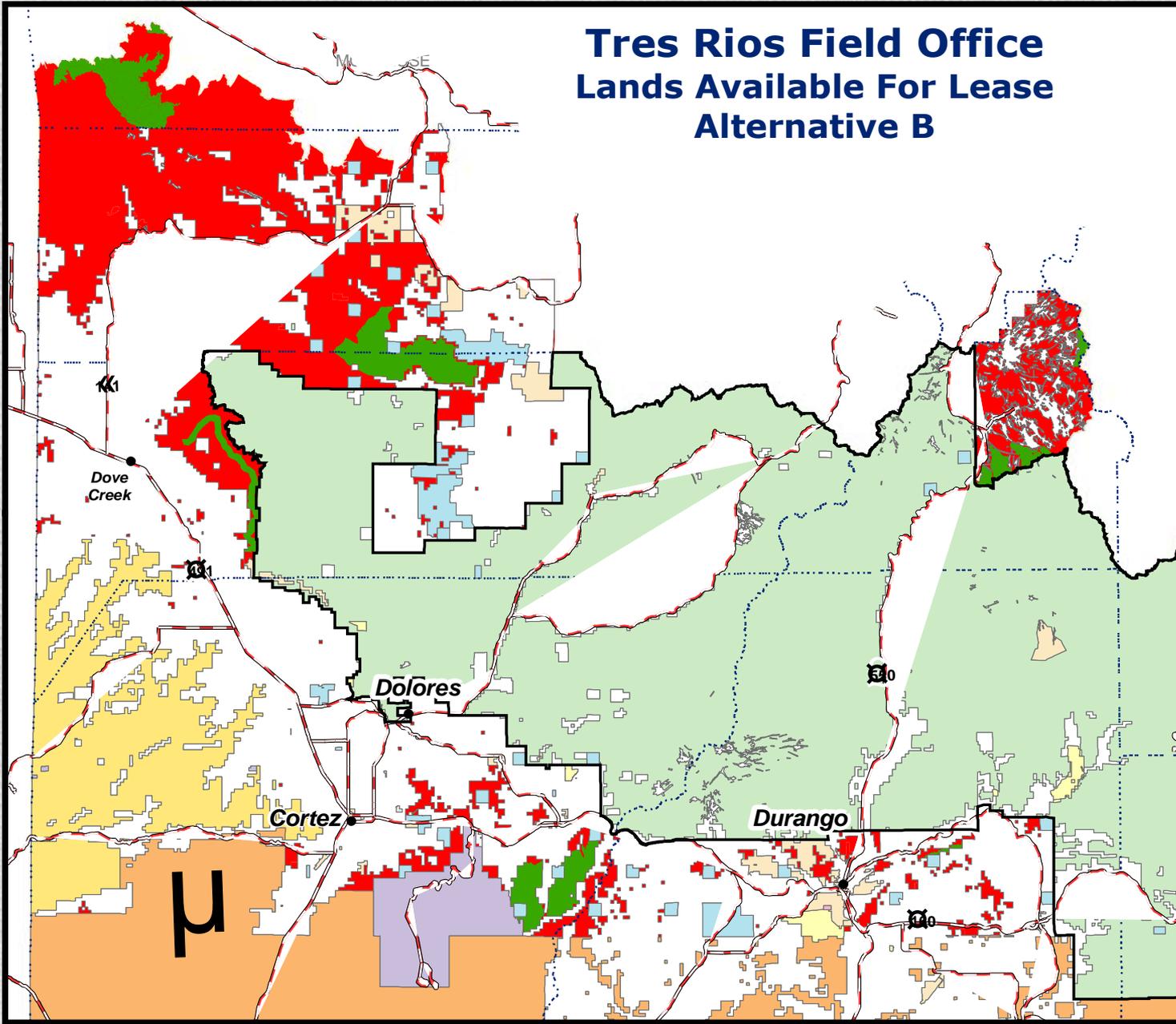
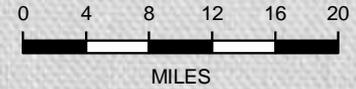
Oil & Gas Leasing Availability

	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D	No Lease Alternative
NSO	100,116	218,830	452,683	138,928	0
CSU	35,414	303,116	47,735	169,033	0
TL	377,919	104,836	0	8,355	0
SLT	245,063	131,595	107,591	447,715	0
Total Available	758,512	758,378	608,009	764,032	0

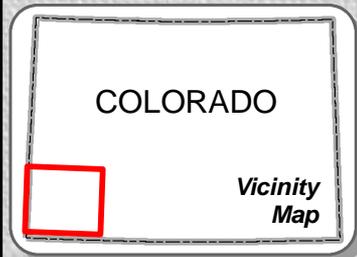
Alternative B

NSO: Dolores River Canyon, LWC, developed recreation sites, scenic byways, T&E species, water, steep slopes, unstable soils, Perins Peak wildlife area

Tres Rios Field Office Lands Available For Lease Alternative B



- Legend**
- Lands Not Available For Lease
 - Lands Available For Lease
 - San Juan National Forest
 - Indian Reservation
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Bureau of Reclamation
 - Energy and Defense
 - City or County
 - National Park Service
 - Patented Lands
 - State Lands
 - National Forest
 - Counties
 - State & Federal Highways
 - Cities and Towns



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Locatable and Non-energy Leasable Minerals

	Alt A	Alt B (Proposed)	Alt C	Alt D
Open to locatable minerals	619,694	607,201	588,354	619,694
Withdrawn from mineral entry	55,397	55,397	55,397	55,397
Petition for withdrawal	0	12,493	31,340	0

Alternative B

Acres withdrawn from mineral entry: WSAs

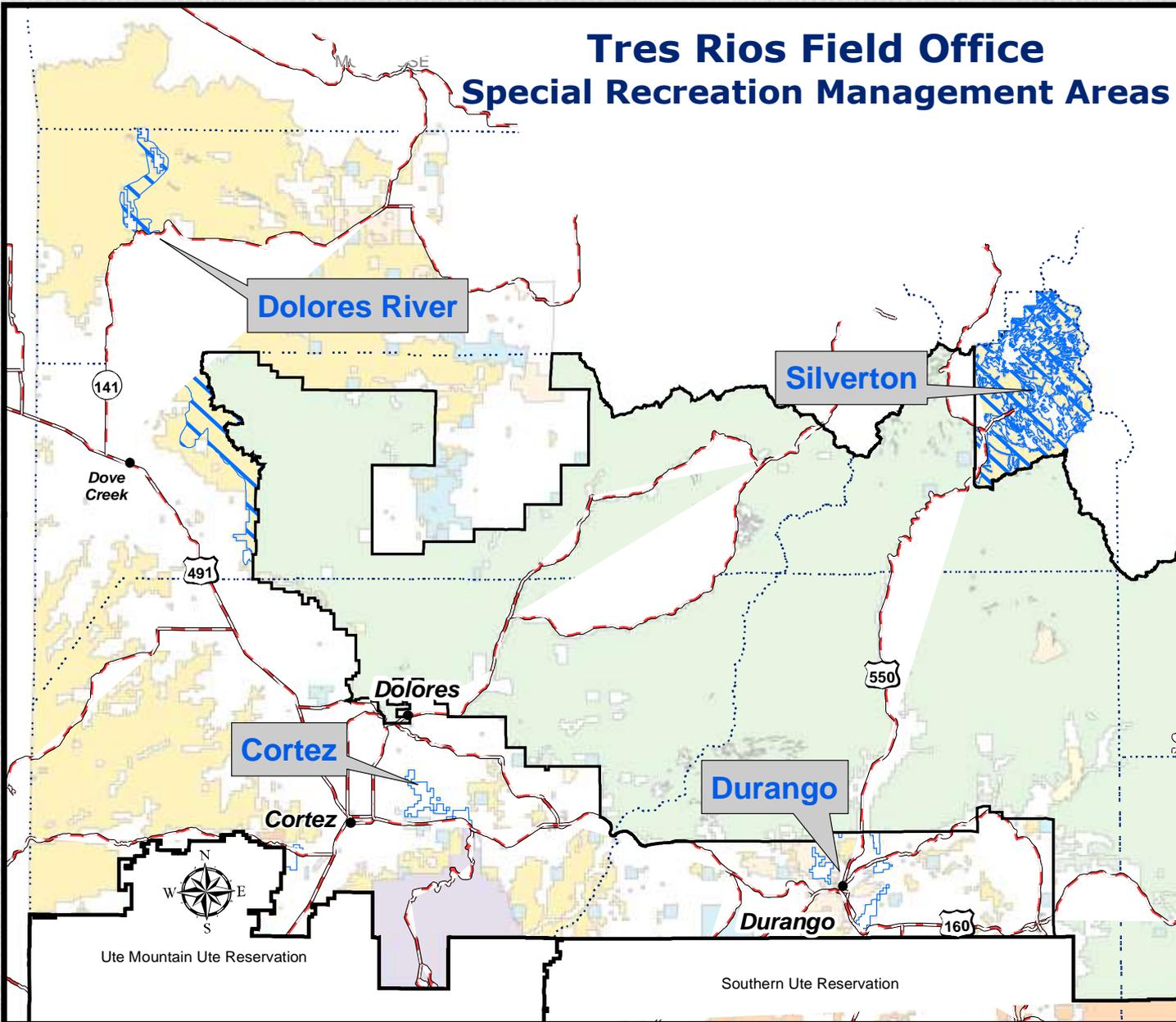
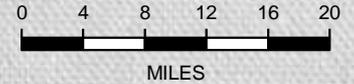
Alternative Energy

- Current RMP was amended by programmatic EISs for solar and geothermal energy development.
- Programmatic EISs indicated that the TRFO has low potential (and low to no commercial potential) for these resources.
- Plan does allow for alternative energy development throughout most of TRFO.

Special Recreation Management Areas

SRMA	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Dolores SRMA	50,313	33,429	33,429	33,429
Silverton SRMA	44,889	44,889	44,889	44,889
Durango SRMA	0	4,019	4,019	5,532
Cortez SRMA	0	3,626	3,626	4,777

Tres Rios Field Office Special Recreation Management Areas



Legend

- Special Recreation Management Areas
- San Juan National Forest
- Indian Reservation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Energy and Defense
- City or County
- National Park Service
- Patented Lands
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COLORADO

Vicinity Map

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Lands & Realty

	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Lands suitable for disposal	10,474	15,333	7,681	15,333
ROW exclusion areas	59,974	71,695	71,695	59,974
ROW avoidance areas	N/A	45,884	69,307	34,163

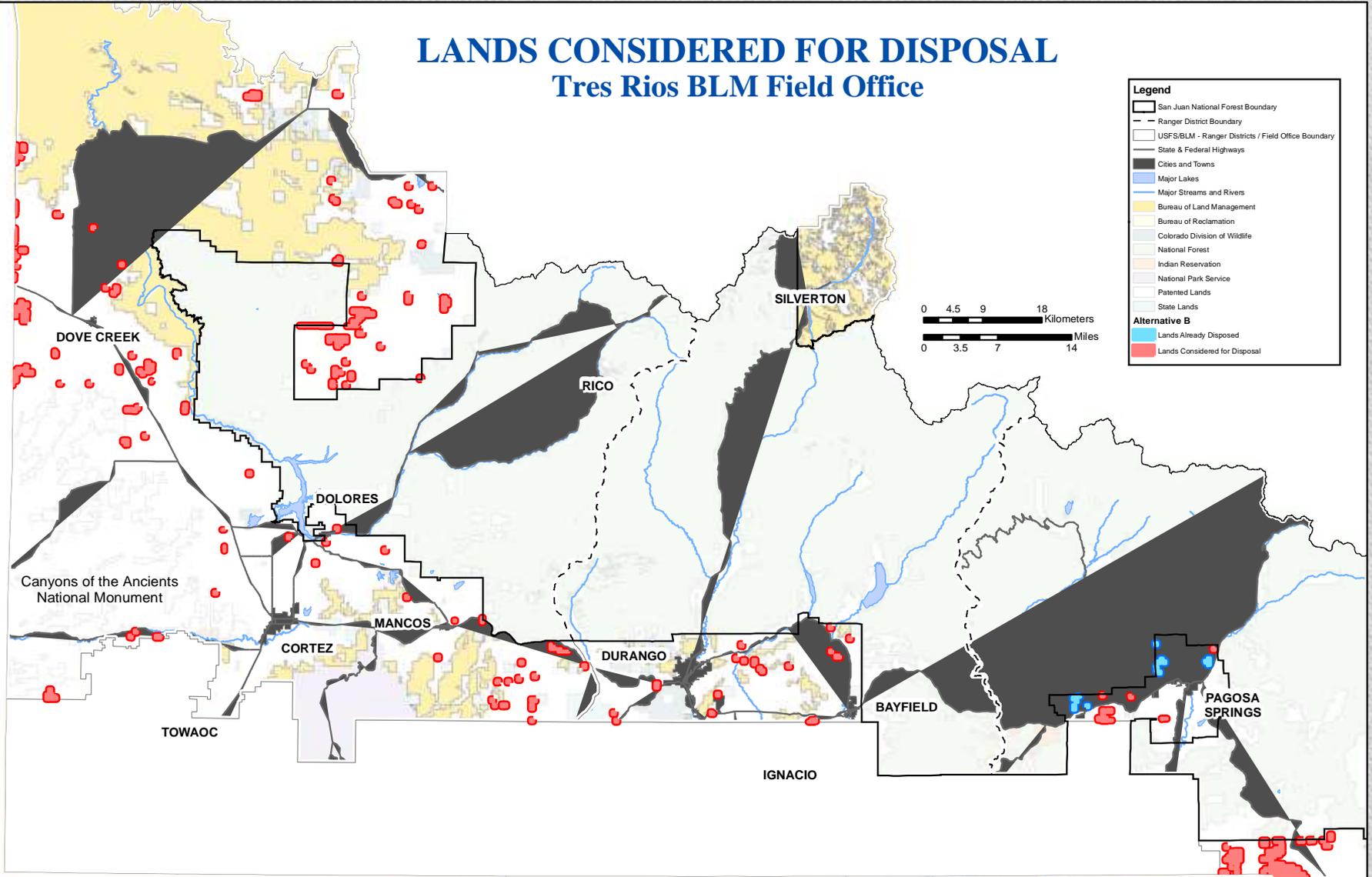
Alternative B

Exclusion areas: WSAs, LWCs

Avoidance areas: Mesa Verde Escarpment, Perins Peak, Dolores River Canyon, Silverton Ski Area, Developed Recreation Sites

LANDS CONSIDERED FOR DISPOSAL

Tres Rios BLM Field Office



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Lands Considered for Disposal = 15,333 acres
 Lands Already Disposed of = 691 acres

Livestock Grazing

	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Cattle: Available Acres	272,725	273,511	219,732	282,745
Sheep: Available Acres	6,745	6,745	171	9,031
Cattle AUMs	21,070	21,152	14,189	23,734
Sheep AUMs	2,073	2,073	16	2,281

Alternative B

Close custodial allotments near Pagosa (landlocked; no access)

Close vacant custodial allotments throughout planning area

Fill vacant allotments

Wildlife

- Biological Assessment addresses Gunnison sage grouse (as a candidate species), Mexican spotted owl, SW willow fly catcher, Uncompaghre fritillary butterfly, & Canada lynx, bonytail, Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, razorback sucker
- Designation of Perins Peak as Wildlife Area

Travel Management

Motorized/Mechanized Area Designations	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Closed	65,906	74,507	74,507	67,090
Limited	45,377	429,097	429,097	436,514
Open	392,344	23	23	23

Alternative B

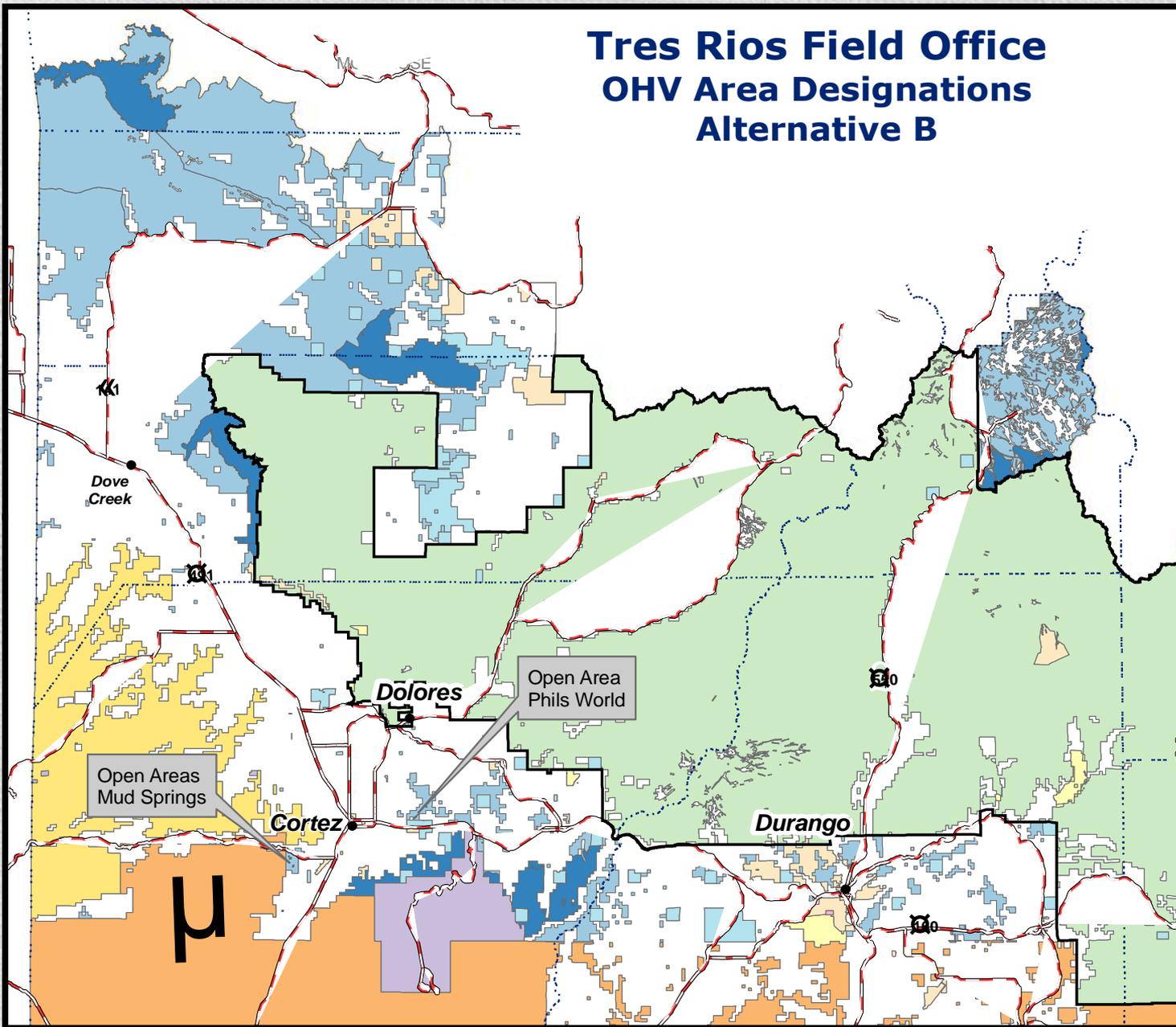
Closed: LWCs, WSAs, Mesa Verde Escarpment

Open: Phil's World, Mud Springs per Mancos Cortez Travel plan

Limited: Existing routes – Designated after travel planning is completed.

Tres Rios will complete comprehensive travel management planning within 5 years after the plan is approved.

Tres Rios Field Office OHV Area Designations Alternative B



Legend

OHV Area Designations

- Closed
- Limited To Existing Roads and Trails
- Open
- San Juan National Forest
- Indian Reservation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Eneri and Defense
- City or County
- National Park Service
- Patented Lands
- State Lands
- National Forest
- Counties
- State & Federal Highways
- Cities and Towns

COLORADO

Vicinity
Map

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Visual Resources

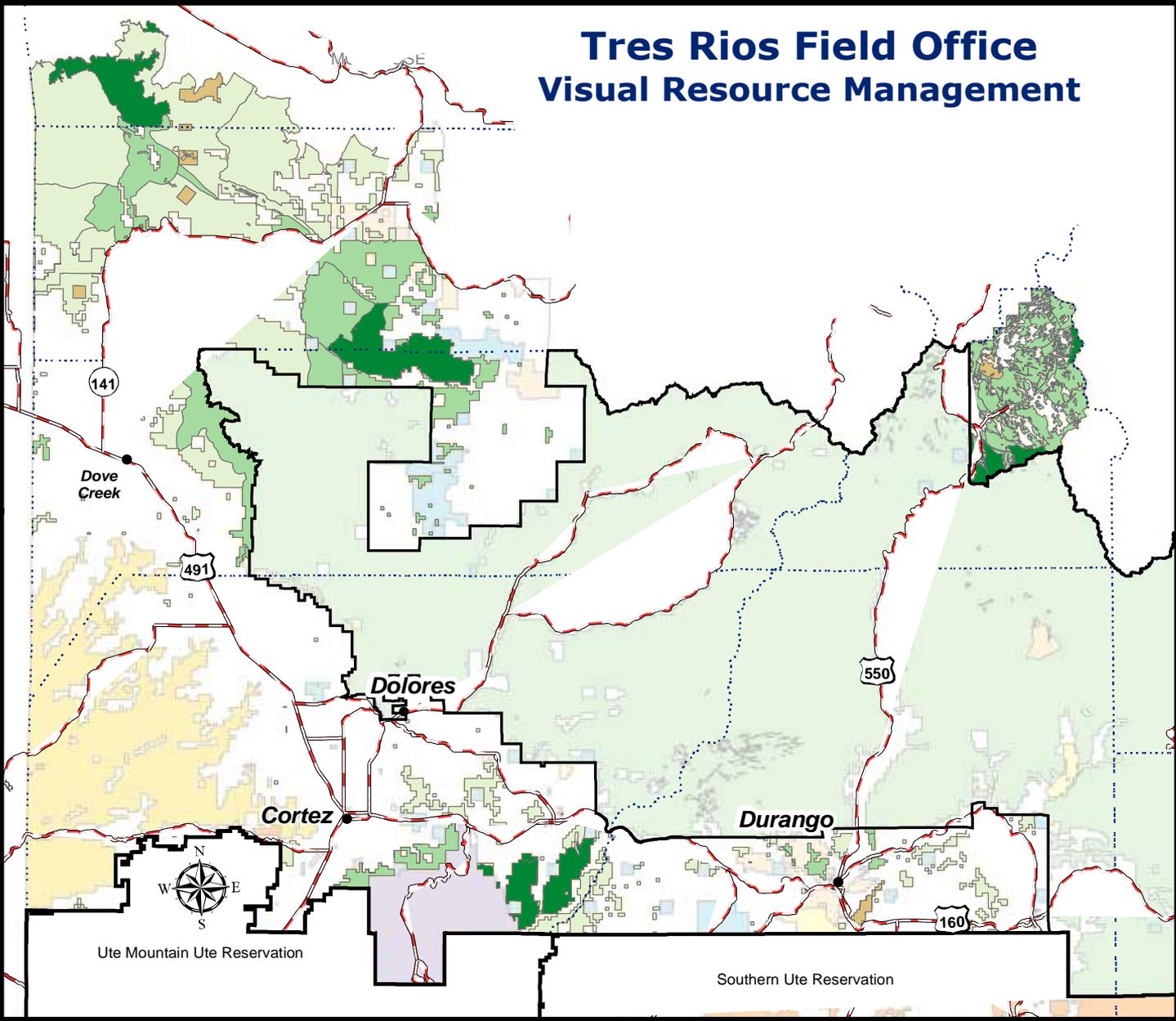
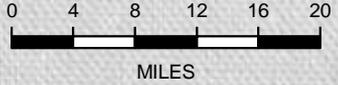
VRM Class	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
VRM I	N/A	57,922	57,592	57,494
VRM II	N/A	169,277	354,264	235,634
VRM III	N/A	267,296	90,572	108,372
VRM IV	N/A	9,133	1,201	102,129

Alternative B

VRM I: WSAs

VRM II: Dolores River Canyon foreground, Silverton, Alpine Loop, San Juan Scenic Skyway foreground, LWCs

Tres Rios Field Office Visual Resource Management



Legend

- VRM = IV
- VRM = III
- VRM = II
- VRM = I
- San Juan National Forest
- Indian Reservation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Emergency and Defense
- City or County
- National Park Service
- Patented Lands
- State Lands
- National Forest
- Counties
- State & Federal Highways
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COLORADO

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Lands With Wilderness Characteristics

Areas containing 'units' analyzed for wilderness characteristics:

- Lands adjacent to Weber & Menefee WSA
- Lands adjacent to McKenna Peak WSA
- Snaggletooth and Lower Dolores River areas
- Silverton area

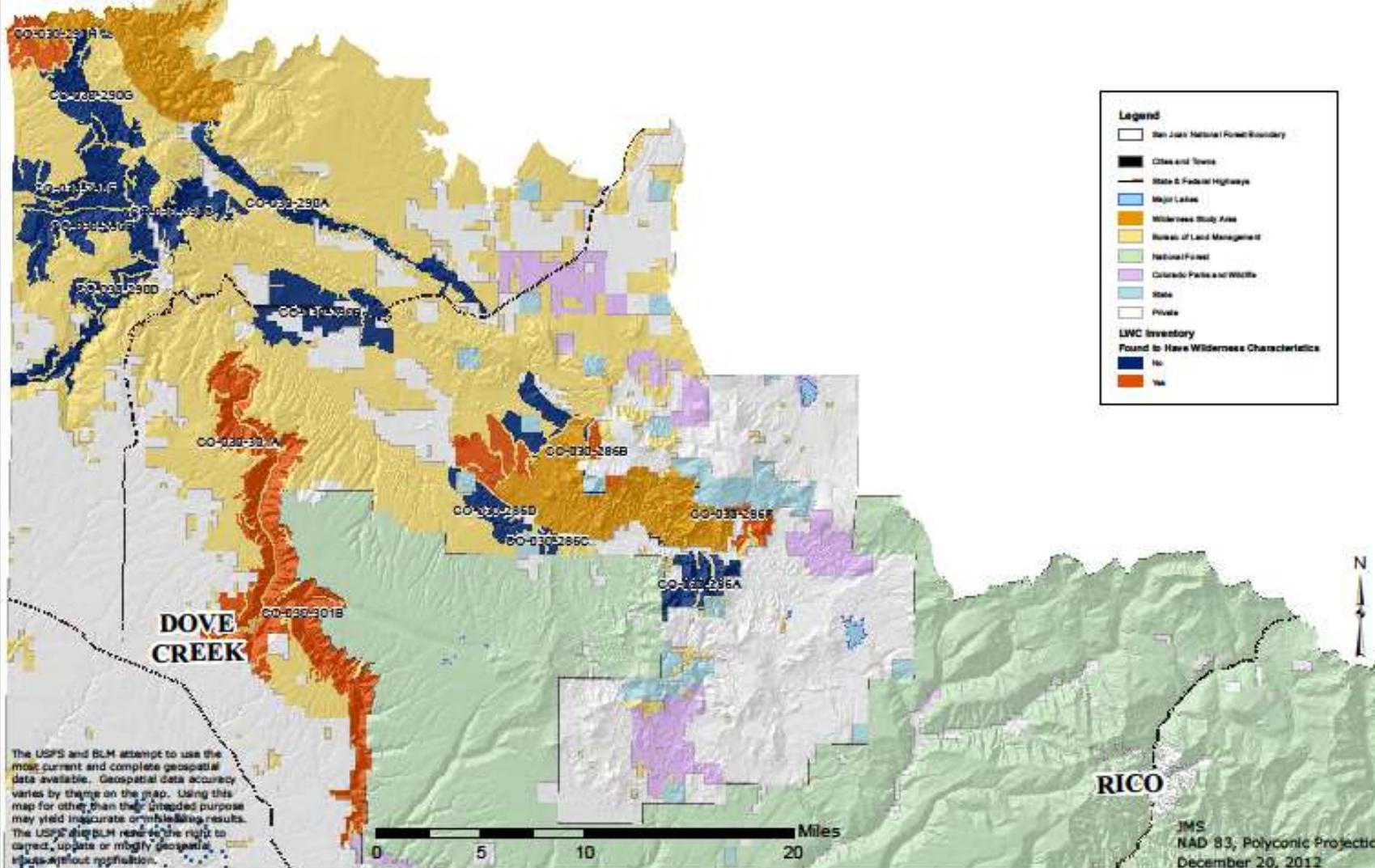
Of the 19 units analyzed --

- 1 unit adjacent to the Weber Menefee WSA (1,157 ac)
- 3 units adjacent to McKenna Peak WSA (9,695 ac)
- 1 unit within the lower Dolores river area (3, 115 ac)
- The entire Snaggletooth unit/area (29,660 ac)

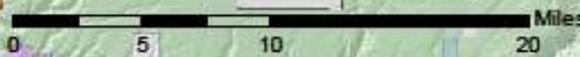


SJNF & TRFO

Inventory of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (Greater than 5,000 Acres or Adjacent to Existing WSA) Northwest



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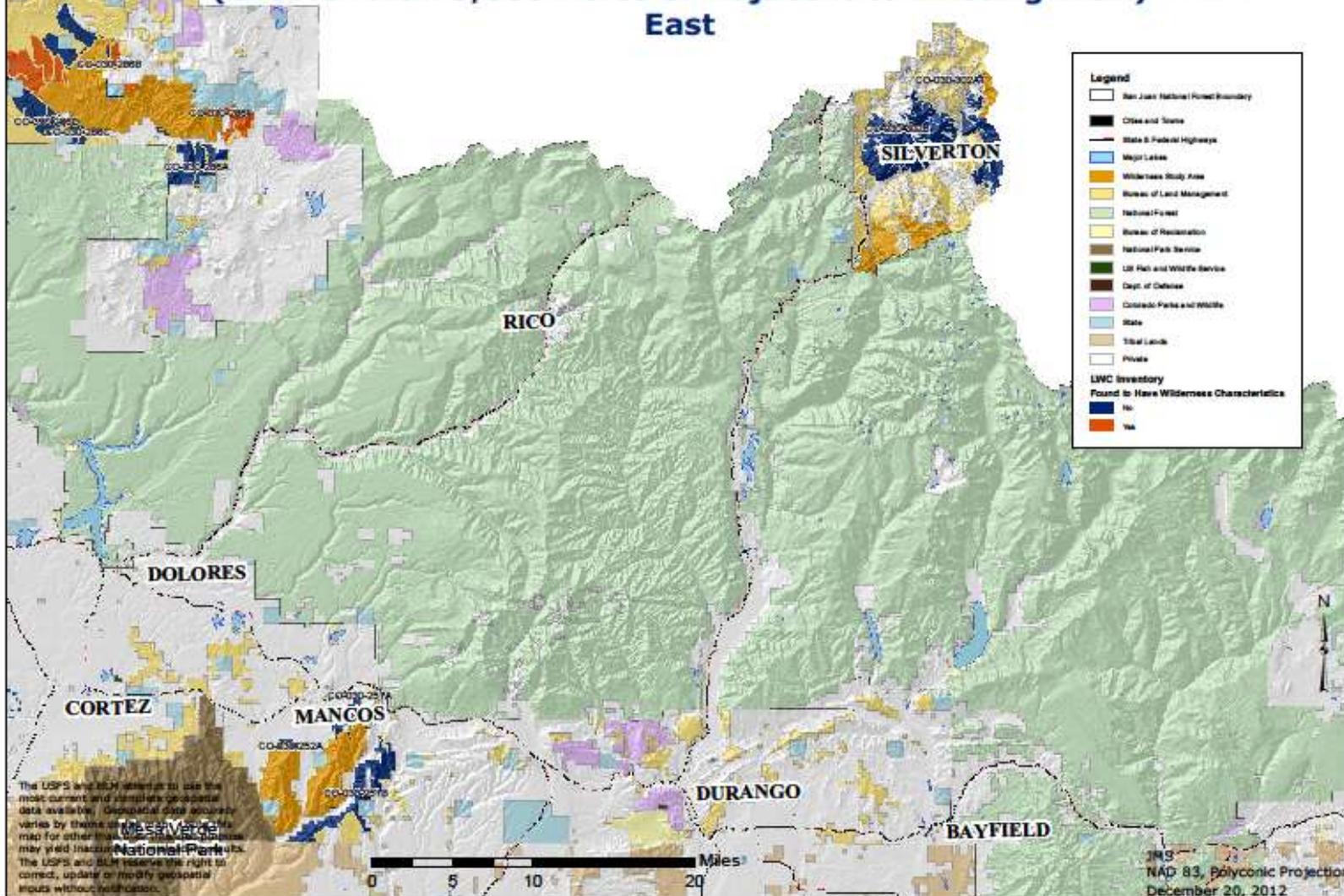
RICO

JMS
NAD 83, Polyconic Projection
December 20, 2012



SJNF & TRFO

Inventory of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (Greater than 5,000 Acres or Adjacent to Existing WSA) East



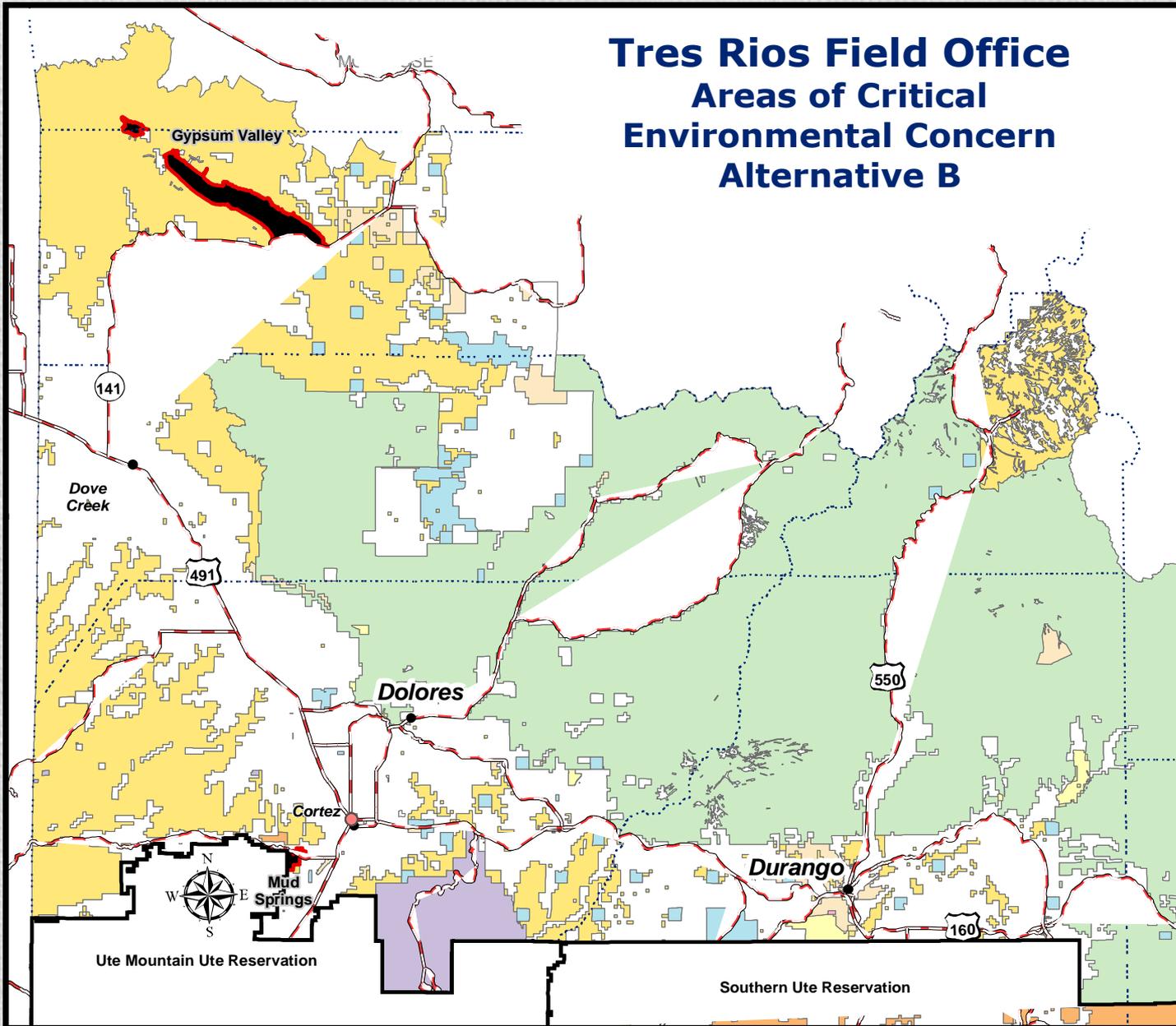
Special Areas

- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)
 - Dolores River Canyon
 - Silverton
 - Mesa Verde Escarpment
 - Perins Peak

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Areas	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Anasazi Cultural (aka Mud Springs)	1,160	941	941	0
Gypsum Valley	0	13,333	13,333	0
Silvey's Pocket	0	0	707	0
Grassy Hills	0	0	420	0
TOTAL	1,160	14,274	15,401	0

Tres Rios Field Office Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Alternative B



Legend

- Cities and Towns
- State & Federal Highways
- ⋯ Counties
- ▭ ACEC - Alternative B
- ▭ Indis eservation
- ▭ Bureau of Land Management
- ▭ Bureau of Reclamation
- ▭ Energy and Defense
- ▭ City or County
- ▭ National Park Service
- ▭ Patented Lands
- ▭ State Lands
- ▭ National Forest

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Vicinity
Map

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Dolores River Canyon

Identifying features and outstanding resources

- aquatic, bird & amphibian habitat, including sensitive species
- unique plant communities & riparian areas
- outstanding scenery
- High scenic quality
- lands with wilderness characteristics
- River recreation
- OHV and mechanized on County road segment

Silverton

Identifying features and outstanding resources

- Alpine Loop National Backcountry Scenic Byway
- Historic Mining District
- Extensive patented mining claims
- Abandoned Mine Lands focusing on additit safety closures, water quality and restoration/clean-up
- Iron fens (groundwater fed)
- Very high year-round recreation use
- Land tenure adjustment opportunities for ownership consolidation and improved management of public lands
- Coordinate management with adjacent FS and BLM offices
- Wilderness Study Areas
- Special Recreation Management Area
- High scenic quality

Mesa Verde Escarpment

Identifying features and outstanding resources

- Very high density of Ancestral Puebloan sites
- Sites in pristine condition because of limited access
- Opportunities to provide for focus on preservation, scientific research / investigation (working museum)
- High scenic value

Perins Peak Wildlife Area

Identifying features and outstanding resources

- Home to breeding populations of peregrine falcon
- Severe winter range for large herds of elk
- Directly adjacent to Durango
- Manage in partnership with CPAW
- Human entry closure from November through July
- No motorized use – increasing interest and pressure for expanding mechanized use
- Opportunity for land ownership consolidation / management for wildlife habitat benefit

Wild and Scenic River Suitability

Portions of the Dolores and Animas Rivers are found to be suitable

Suitable River Miles	Alternative A	Alternative B (Proposed)	Alternative C	Alternative D
Dolores River	72	92	104	0
Animas River	0	3	27	0

Questions?



