



FACT SHEET

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**Billings and Pompeys Pillar National Monument
 Resource Management Plan Revision**

FACT SHEET: Special Designations

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This Draft RMP/EIS addresses a variety of special designations mandated by a number of laws, regulations, and policies, as well as a range of associated management actions to protect important resource values. Included in this plan are Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), wilderness study areas (WSA), wild and scenic rivers (WSR), National Historic Trails (NHT), and the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range (PMWHR).

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)

Section 202(c)(3) of Federal Land Policy and Management Act mandates that priority be given to the designation and protection of ACECs. These areas are defined in section 103(a) as areas where special management attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important values, resources, systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards. An ACEC is a BLM designation and only applies to BLM public lands. This draft RMP/EIS addresses both existing and new/proposed ACECs, and associated management actions to protect the ACEC values (see Appendix E ACECs).

This table summarizes the number of ACECs and total acres proposed by alternative.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern			
Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Preferred)
9 ACECs 37,896 acres	12 ACECs 181,175 acres	11 ACECs 67,079 acres	11 ACECs 38,786 acres

This table shows each ACEC, relevant and important values, and acres proposed by alternative.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern					
	Relevant & Important Values	Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Preferred)
Pompeys Pillar National Monument and ACEC	Cultural, Historic, Geologic	432 acres			
Bridger Fossil Area ACEC	Paleontological values	577 acres			
Castle Butte ACEC	Cultural values	184 acres			
East Pryor ACEC	Wild horses and wildlife habitat, cultural, paleontological values, and special status plants and animals	29,550 acres	8,301 acres	32,767 acres	11,122 acres

Four Dances Natural Area ACEC	Safety hazards, cultural, historic, and scenic values, peregrine falcon nesting	784 acres			
Grove Creek ACEC	Cultural values and Special Status Plants	0 acres	8,251 acres	9,445 acres	8,251 acres
Meeteetse Spires ACEC	Cultural values and Special Status Plants	965 acres	1,523 acres	2,173 acres	1,523 acres
Petroglyph Canyon ACEC	Cultural values	240 acres			
Pryor Foothills Research Natural Area ACEC	Special Status Plants, rare plant communities, cultural values	0 acres	958 acres	7,401 acres	2,606 acres
Stark Site ACEC	Cultural values	799 acres			
Weatherman Draw ACEC	Cultural values	4,365 acres	4,986 acres	12,277 acres	
Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat ACEC	Protect Greater Sage-Grouse habitat	0 acres	154,140 acres	0 acres	

The table below summarizes other special areas addressed in the draft plan, including Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Trails, and the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range.

Special Designations				
	Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Preferred)
Wilderness Study Areas	4 WSAs 28,631 acres			
National Historic Trails	Nez Perce National Historic Trail: 5 miles Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail: 3 miles			
Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range: Herd Management Area	24,595 BLM surface acres (37,494 acres all ownerships – BLM, USFS, NPS, and private)	23,204 BLM surface acres (31,153 acres all ownerships – BLM, USFS, NPS, and private)	28,622 BLM surface acres (44,855 acres all ownerships – BLM, USFS, NPS, and private)	27,094 BLM surface acres (39,944 acres all ownerships – BLM, USFS, NPS, and private)
Wild and Scenic Rivers	7 eligible river segments (14.08 total miles)	7 eligible and suitable river segments (14.08 total miles)	7 eligible river segments (14.08 total miles)	2 eligible and suitable river segments (3.15 total miles) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crooked Creek (above fish barrier – 1.59 miles) tentative management class would be Wild - Crooked Creek (below fish barrier – 1.56 miles) tentative management class would be Scenic