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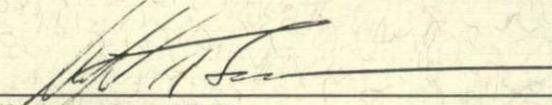
Glade Run
Trail System

Recreation Area Management Plan
and
Environmental Assessment NM070-95-3220

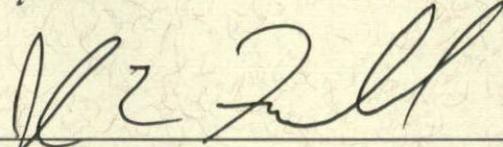
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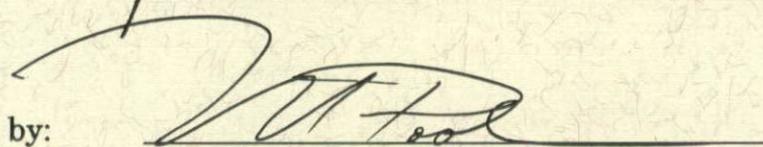

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Part I. INTRODUCTION

Location and Setting

The Glade Run Trail System (GRTS) is located in northwestern New Mexico immediately north of the city of Farmington (see Maps 1 and 2 in Appendix A). The designated boundaries of the area are within Townships 30 and 31 North, and Ranges 12 and 13 West.

There are approximately 33,800 acres within the GRTS. Of this, approximately 27,400 acres (81%) are public land, 3,150 acres (9%) are state land, and 3,250 acres (10%) are private land. Most of the area is drained by the Farmington Glade, an ephemeral arroyo that empties into the San Juan River in Farmington. The northwestern side of the area is dominated by several small ephemeral tributaries of the La Plata River, and the southeastern portion is the watershed of Farmington Lake (also known as Beeline Reservoir). Within the area can be found a wide variety of topography, from rolling hills to sandy arroyo bottoms to sandstone slickrock. Vegetation is sparse, primarily consisting of common grasses, rabbitbrush, sagebrush, and juniper and piñon. The area is criss-crossed with powerlines, barbed-wire fences, and oilfield pipelines and roads.

Background Information

As a result of over 30 years of riding by local motorized trail bike and other off-road vehicle (ORV) users, and in response to the rapidly growing sport of mountain biking, the Glade Run Trail System was designated as a Special Management Area (SMA) in the 1988 Farmington Resource Area Management Plan (RMP).

An Off-Highway Vehicle Amendment to the RMP (OHV Amendment) is offered concurrently with this Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP). The current OHV designation for the GRTS, "Open," has led to an increased number of conflicts as the number of trail users has dramatically increased in the last few years. In addition, populations of Aztec gilia (*Gilia formosa*), a category 2 candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act, and cultural sites are at risk by continuing this designation. The OHV Amendment therefore proposes limiting vehicle traffic on approximately 22,800 acres of the approximately 27,400 acres of public land within the GRTS. This RAMP presupposes approval of the OHV Amendment.

This RAMP fulfills the obligation of the RMP to complete a site-specific plan for development and maintenance of the GRTS as prescribed in BLM Manual #8322. It also establishes written management objectives and policies which guide development. Finally, the RAMP identifies actions to achieve these objectives and to comply with the intentions of the governing regulations. It will be revised as dictated

by significant changes in resource conditions, management direction, or public demand.

Portions of the OHV Amendment that would normally also appear in the RAMP are eliminated in this document, and the reader is directed to the relevant portions of the OHV Amendment.

A record of public involvement in the formulation of the RAMP can be found on pages 25-26 and in Appendix C (page 37) of the OHV Amendment.

Resources in the Management Area

The physical resources pertinent to recreation in the GRTS can be found in the OHV Amendment on pages 11-14. They include the presence of over 120 cultural sites, a Category 2 candidate species (Aztec gilia), suitable habitat for another Category 2 candidate species (Bisti fleabane), 5 grazing allotments, and almost 50 oil and gas leases with over 280 associated wells and pipelines.

Recreation Use in the Management Area

The GRTS is widely used by a diverse range of recreationists. These include motorized trailbike riders, users of small ORVs, four-wheel drive enthusiasts, equestrians, mountain bicyclists, pedestrians, target shooters, hunters, rock climbers, and those who use the area for partying. Recreation use in the GRTS is detailed in the OHV Amendment on pages 14-16.

Major Issues

A public meeting to scope out concerns of users of the Glade Run Trail System was held in the Farmington Civic Center on April 13, 1994. A summary of issues raised is presented in Table 1 on page 3 of the OHV Amendment. In addition, representative members of various user groups met in April through June to discuss issues, propose solutions, and reach common understanding on a desired future for the GRTS (see OHV Amendment Appendix C). As a result, the major issues in the GRTS have been grouped in the following categories:

- Law Enforcement & Public Education
- Safety
- Conflict Among Recreationists
- Conflict with Non-Recreationists
- Land Status

**Degree of Development
Resource Protection**

These issues are delineated in the OHV Amendment on pages 3-8.

Part II. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND CONSTRAINTS

Recreation Management Objectives

As prescribed in the RMP, the GRTS will be managed to maintain a range of trail recreation opportunities. Management will be geared toward individuals and small groups; large groups and competitions will be allowed under the controls of Special Recreation Permits. This overall objective will require:

1. Maintaining diversity in trail surface, terrain, physical challenge, and trail uses.
2. Removing or reducing risks not inherent in trail recreation.
3. Coordinating with the City of Farmington's parks and recreation, open space, and transportation planning.

Recreation Management Constraints

While meeting the objectives noted above, the following limits will be observed during planning and implementation of the GRTS RAMP:

1. The GRTS will remain "open to [oil and gas] leasing with a controlled surface use stipulation" as stated in the Albuquerque District Resource Management Plan Amendment for Oil & Gas Leasing and Development (1991).
2. Livestock grazing will continue within the boundary of the GRTS.
3. Management prescriptions and proscriptions in the RAMP are applicable only on public land. State and private lands within the GRTS are not subject to the planning decisions made in this RAMP.
4. Easements, exchanges, or purchases of State and private land will be negotiated only if the State or landowner are willing to consider such a proposal.

III. MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Land Tenure Adjustment & Easements

Land status within the GRTS is represented on Map 3 in Appendix A. Legal descriptions of parcels mentioned below can be found in Appendix B of the OHV Amendment, pages 34-36. Management actions that will be taken are:

- ◆ BLM will not exchange away land within the GRTS, with the possible exception of T. 30 N., R. 13 W., Sec. 34: NE¼NW¼, which will be dependant upon the ability of BLM to acquire through exchange the adjoining private parcels.
- ◆ Private and state land within the GRTS will receive a high priority for exchange. These exchanges will be pursued only on a voluntary basis. BLM can offer exchanges only on fair market value. The priority of exchanges within the Glade SMA boundary based on how critical the parcel is to the recreational activities in the area and the likelihood of completing the exchange. The priority is:
 - (a) Brown Spring
 - (b) private parcels on the Glade arroyo, from southwest to northeast
 - (c) private parcels in SW corner
 - (d) State in SW corner
 - (e) remaining private parcels north of Farmington Lake
 - (f) remaining State sections
- ◆ Easements will be sought from the State of New Mexico for multiple-use, single-track trail (i.e., motorcycles, mountain bikes, horse, foot). BLM will re-route trails on public land if these easements are unobtainable.
- ◆ The sections of trail, now re-routed, that formerly crossed private property will be rehabilitated and signed closed at the expense of the BLM with the assistance in labor of user groups.
- ◆ The BLM will work with the City of Farmington to gain easements through Sec. 18 from the end of Foothills Blvd. as access for a primitive (undeveloped) parking lot and trailhead (see Map 5 in Appendix A).

Visitor and Resource Protection

Problems with enforcement of existing laws, let alone proposed regulations, were among the top concerns of citizens. In such a large and easily accessible area, visitor

and resource protection will not be easy to assure. To improve protection, the following management actions will be taken:

- ◆ BLM will increase law enforcement patrols.
- ◆ The BLM will coordinate with San Juan County Regional Medical Center and AirCare 1 to establish safe helicopter landing zones for emergency evacuations within the GRTS.
- ◆ There will be coordination between BLM Ranger and various users' clubs on an extensive volunteer patrol effort (see below). In addition, coordination between the BLM Ranger and oilfield personnel/grazing permittees will be worked out.
- ◆ The possibility exists for the use of City of Farmington mountain bike patrols and increased enforcement on their R&PP section (Anasazi Amphitheater area).
- ◆ The BLM will pursue a Cooperative Agreement with County Sheriff (including posse). The BLM will continue to coordinate with area law enforcement and San Juan County to help control dumping in the GRTS.
- ◆ The BLM will promote "adopt-a-section" by users' groups or others (see "Volunteers," below).
- ◆ Firewood gathering, dead and down as well as greenwood, will be prohibited.
- ◆ Overnight camping without a Special Recreation Permit will be prohibited.
- ◆ See also "OHV and Trail Designations" and "Shooting Restrictions," below.

Volunteers

The use of volunteers in assisting in land management is of ever-increasing importance. This is particularly true in the GRTS, where several organized and semi-organized groups have been instrumental in both the use and the care of the area. The BLM will build on the existing good relationship with GRTS volunteers by the following management actions:

- ◆ An extensive volunteer effort will be coordinated with individuals and various users' clubs to aid in resource protection and monitoring. Training of these volunteers will include emphasis on personal safety and liability concerns.

◆ The BLM will pursue Cooperative Management Agreements (CMAs) with users' groups for more detailed assistance in on-site improvements, maintenance, rehabilitation, and management of particular portions of the GRTS. Volunteers will be critical to these actions regardless of the status of any CMA.

◆ An "ad hoc" committee of GRTS users of similar composition to that used in the formulation of this plan (see OHV Amendment, page 25) will be consulted on major additional actions within the GRTS and be asked to participate in monitoring the implementation of this RAMP.

◆ Users' clubs may pursue cooperative agreements with private landowners.

◆ See also "Visitor and Resource Protection," above.

OHV & TRAIL DESIGNATIONS

To preserve a wide variety of trail recreational opportunities, the OHV Amendment divides the GRTS into two parts (see Map 4 in Appendix A). South and west of this line, the Off-Highway Vehicle designation is Open (with exceptions for threatened and endangered species and archaeological site protection). North and east of this line, the Off-Highway Vehicle designation is Limited. This RAMP designates the specific limitations as follows:

◆ Vehicles (including mountain bikes) are restricted to designated trails by width. Travel on single-track trails will be prohibited to any vehicle with more than two wheels.

◆ Vehicles will be permitted off designated routes at the "Archery Trail" (see Map 5 in Appendix A) for parking and placement of targets.

◆ Trails may be designated "one-way." All such trails will be adequately signed.

◆ Not all designated trails will necessarily be signed. Dry washes on public land will be considered routes open to travel by any vehicle not wider than the unvegetated wash bottom. Current maps of designated routes will be maintained by the BLM for public distribution. The Fold-out Maps at the end of this booklet are small-scale first versions of these public distribution maps.

◆ An archery trail will be established in the "Limited" area (see map 4). Vehicles will be limited to the parking area and along the trail to set up and take down targets.

- ◆ Additional trails may be added to the designated system through a supplementary Environmental Assessment. Certain future trails may be permitted "Horse only."

Throughout the trails of the SMA, users are expected to travel slowly enough to avoid collisions with on-coming recreationists. Users will yield right-of-way according to analogous watercraft etiquette: motorized vehicles will yield to human-powered vehicles (i.e., mountain bikes) which in turn will yield to horses. Pedestrians, though permitted, are not a primary use for which the GRTS was established as mentioned in the RMP, and therefore are expected to yield to all other trail users. Having the right of way, however, does not absolve a user from the responsibility of avoiding a collision. All trail users crossing roads will yield to road traffic.

Any portion of the Glade SMA may be fenced and closed at any time to protect Aztec gilia populations (or other threatened or endangered species) and archaeological sites. Protection may also include trail re-routing, to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Site Development

Recreational amenities will be rather limited. The following expected developments will require additional environmental clearances:

- ◆ If easements are acquired, the BLM will construct a primitive (undeveloped) parking area/trailhead near Foothills Blvd. and the present "Kinsey Trail" (see Map 5 in Appendix A).
- ◆ The City of Farmington may proceed with a developed trailhead/parking facility on their R&PP lease near the Anasazi Amphitheater (see Map 5 in Appendix A).
- ◆ Additional developments can be proposed through a supplementary Environmental Assessment.

Information Services

On-site signing, off-site education, and recreational maps for distribution will be necessary for full enjoyment and protection of the GRTS. Specifically:

- ◆ The BLM will post GRTS entry signs at the locations indicated on Map 5 in Appendix A.

- ◆ The BLM will sign the boundary between the "Open" and "Limited" portions of the GRTS (depicted on Map 4 in Appendix A).
- ◆ The BLM will sign all single-track and some two-track and bladed routes for finding users' locations, planning and determining routes, and visitors' safety.
- ◆ The BLM will continue to coordinate with local law enforcement agencies to develop and present educational programs at area schools that emphasize, among other features, proper use of the GRTS.
- ◆ The BLM will produce simple maps for recreational use in the GRTS (see Fold-out Maps). Under a CMA, local user groups may develop their own maps for distribution or sale.

Shooting Restrictions

Casual shooting may be an appropriate use of public land, but it is incompatible with highly used trails or developed recreation areas set aside for other purposes. Therefore:

- ◆ "Discharge" of firearms will be prohibited throughout the GRTS, with the exception of:
 - i. grazing permittees in defense of their livestock;
 - ii. licensed hunters of game birds (shotguns only) during season, north and east of Flora Vista Road, or within approximately ½ mile of the La Plata River north of Jackson Lake Wildlife Refuge (see Map 5 in Appendix A).
- ◆ There will be no prohibition of "carrying" firearms.
- ◆ BLM will coordinate shooting closure on both public and State Lands with New Mexico Game & Fish. Private lands are not included in this closure -- that is up to the individual landowner.

Grazing

The grazing of livestock in a designated recreation area presents problems not encountered on undesignated public lands. To facilitate continued grazing in the GRTS, the following management actions will be undertaken:

- ◆ Water developments and vegetation treatments planned in the Glade area will receive higher priority.

♦ Recreationists' animals will be required to be under control at all times. From November 1 to June 1 (the GRTS grazing season of use), trailheads and key access points will be signed to alert recreationists to the presence of livestock on the range and call attention to proper behavior around grazing animals in the area.

♦ Where trails cross fencelines, cattleguards and gates will be installed at the expense of the BLM with the assistance in labor of user groups.

Minerals

Nothing in this RAMP precludes mineral development within the GRTS. However, proposed locations of wells or pipelines may be moved to accommodate recreational uses.

**IV. MANAGEMENT ACTION IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
(Prioritized)**

	<u>Management Action</u>	<u>page</u>	<u>responsibility</u>	<u>target FY</u>	<u>est. cost</u>
1.	State easements	5	Realty	96	1 WM
2.	Increase law enforcement patrols	6	Ranger	↔	1 WM
3.	Trail signs	8	Recreation	96	.75 WM \$ 2500
4.	Recreation maps	8	Recreation	96	.25 WM \$ 500
5.	OHV Boundary signs	8	Recreation	96	.25 WM \$ 1300
6.	Trail cattleguards *	9	Recreation	96	.5 WM \$ 2000
7.	Shooting closure *	9	Recreation	96	.1 WM
8.	CMA with County Sheriff	6	Ranger	96	.5 WM
9.	Coordinate shooting closure with State	9	Recreation	96	.25 WM
10.	Brown Spring exchange	5	Realty	97	1 WM
11.	Rehabilitate old trails on private lands *	5	Recreation	96	.5 WM \$ 100
12.	Glade arroyo private parcels exchange	5	Realty	98	2 WM
13.	Grazing season signing	9	Recreation	↔	.1 WM \$ 200
14.	Coord. with City for easement through Sec. 18	5	Recreation	96	.5 WM
15.	"Kinsey" trailhead development *	8	Recreation	97	1 WM \$ 5000
16.	Volunteer patrols	6	Recreation	↔	.5 WM
17.	CMA with 4-wheel drive group	6	Recreation	96	.25 WM

Glade RAMP PROPOSED

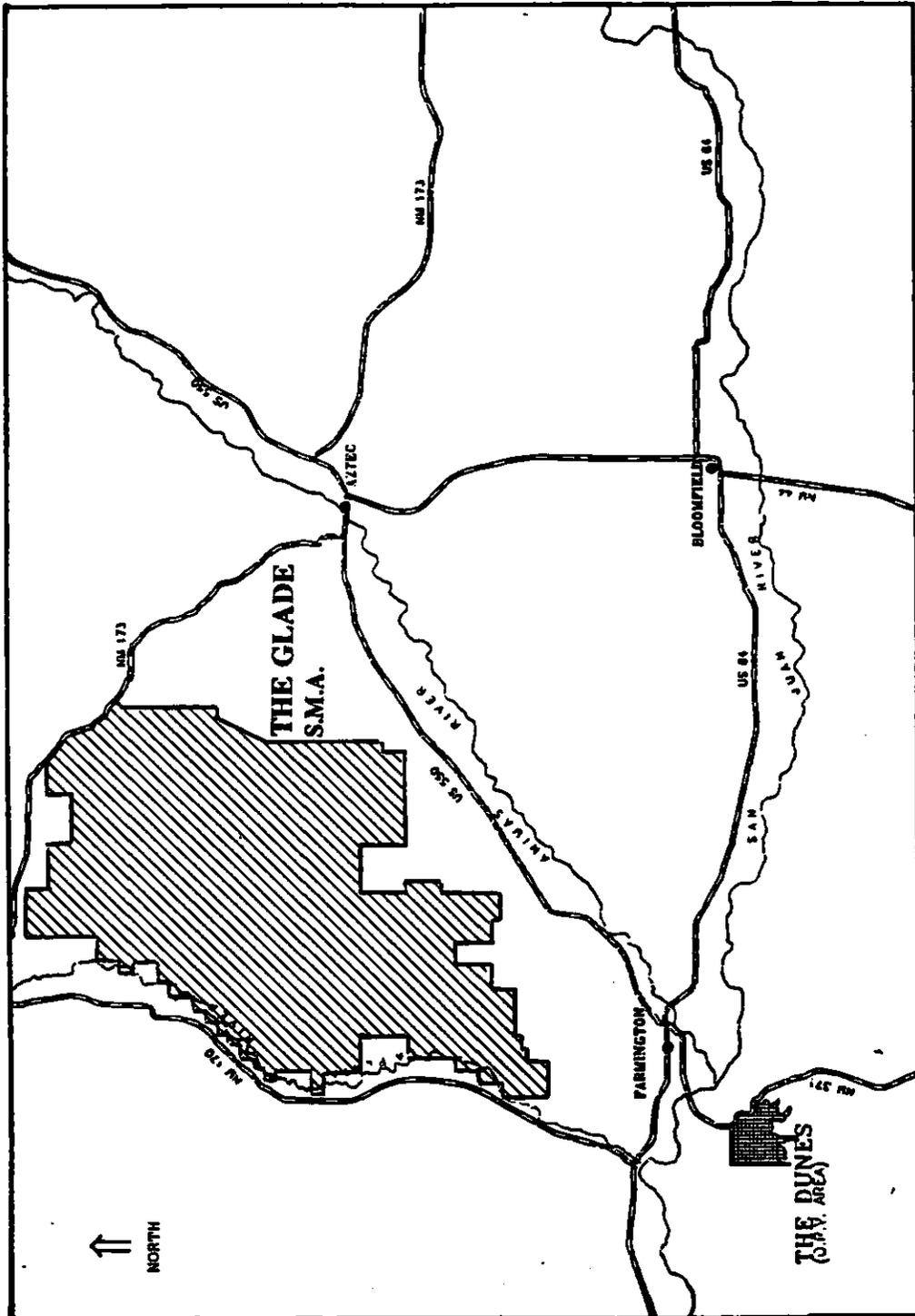
18.	CMA with bike group	6	Recreation	96	.25 WM
19.	Educational programs	8	Ranger	↔	.25 WM
20.	Firewood gathering closure	6	Recreation	96	.1 WM
21.	Overnight camping closure	6	Recreation	96	.1 WM
22.	Entrance signs *	8	Recreation	96	.5 WM \$ 3800
23.	Helicopter landing zones	6	Recreation	96	.75 WM
24.	"Adopt-a-section" promotion	6	Recreation	96	.25 WM
25.	Coordination with City on "Anasazi" trailhead *	8	Recreation	97	.5 WM
26.	City mountain bike patrols	6	Ranger	↔	.25 WM
27.	SW corner private parcels exchange	5	Realty	99	2 WM
28.	SW corner State parcel exchange	5	Realty	00	1 WM
29.	North of Farmington Lake private parcels exchange	5	Realty	04	2 WM
30.	Remaining State parcels exchange	5	Realty	06	2 WM

↔ denotes an ongoing action.

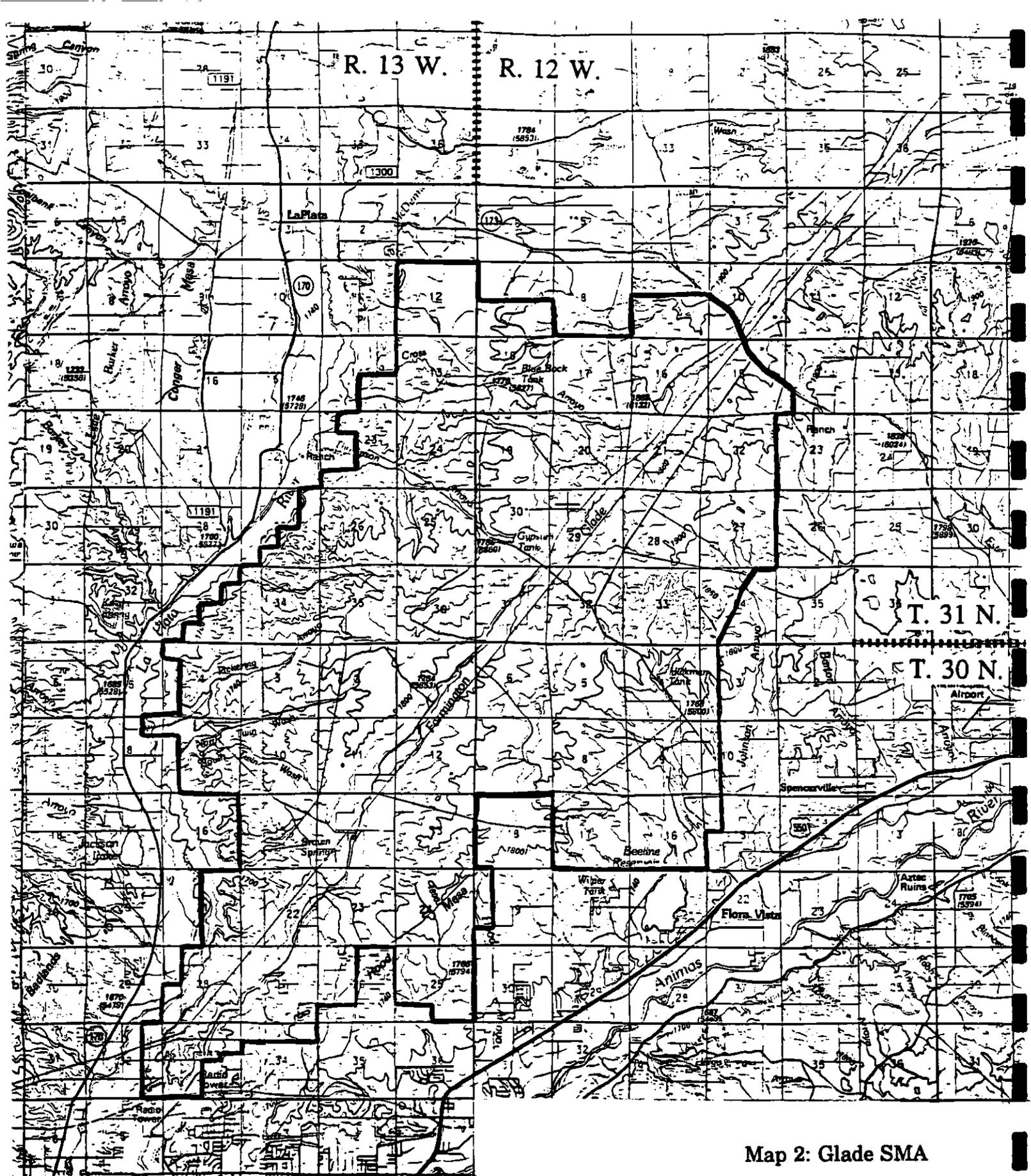
* denotes physical developments whose locations can be found on Map 5 in Appendix A.

Appendix A

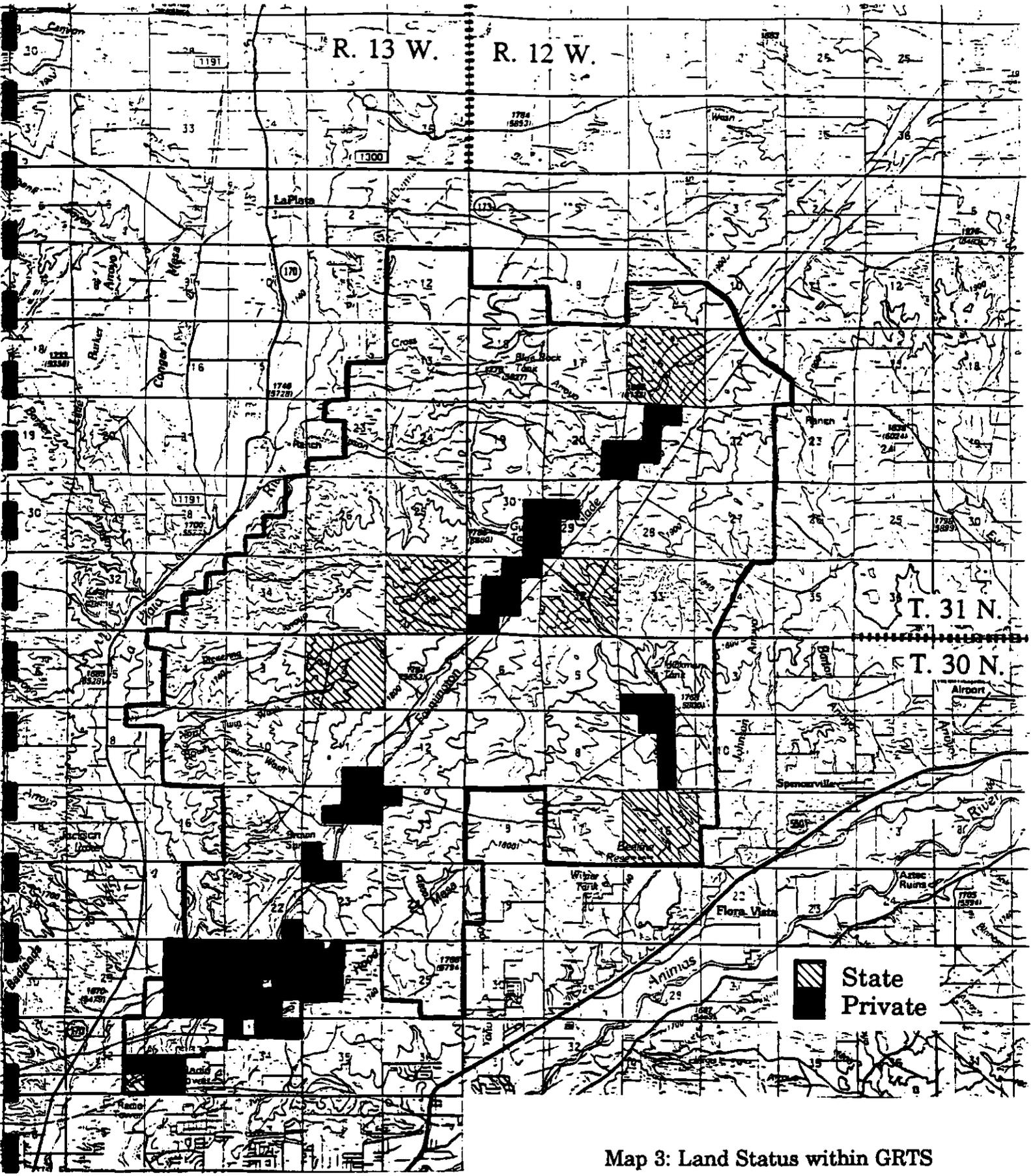
Maps



Map 1: General Area

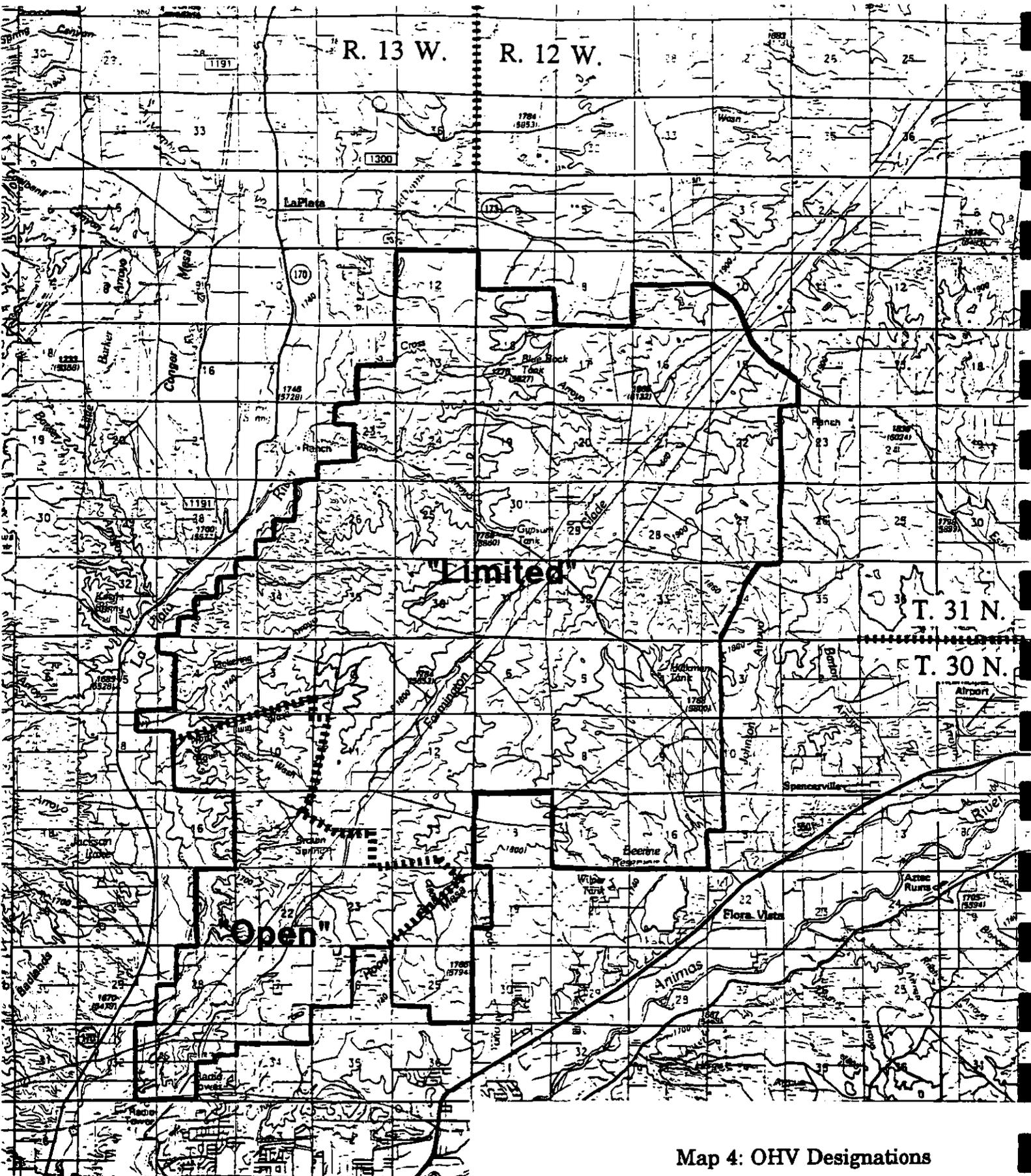


Map 2: Glade SMA

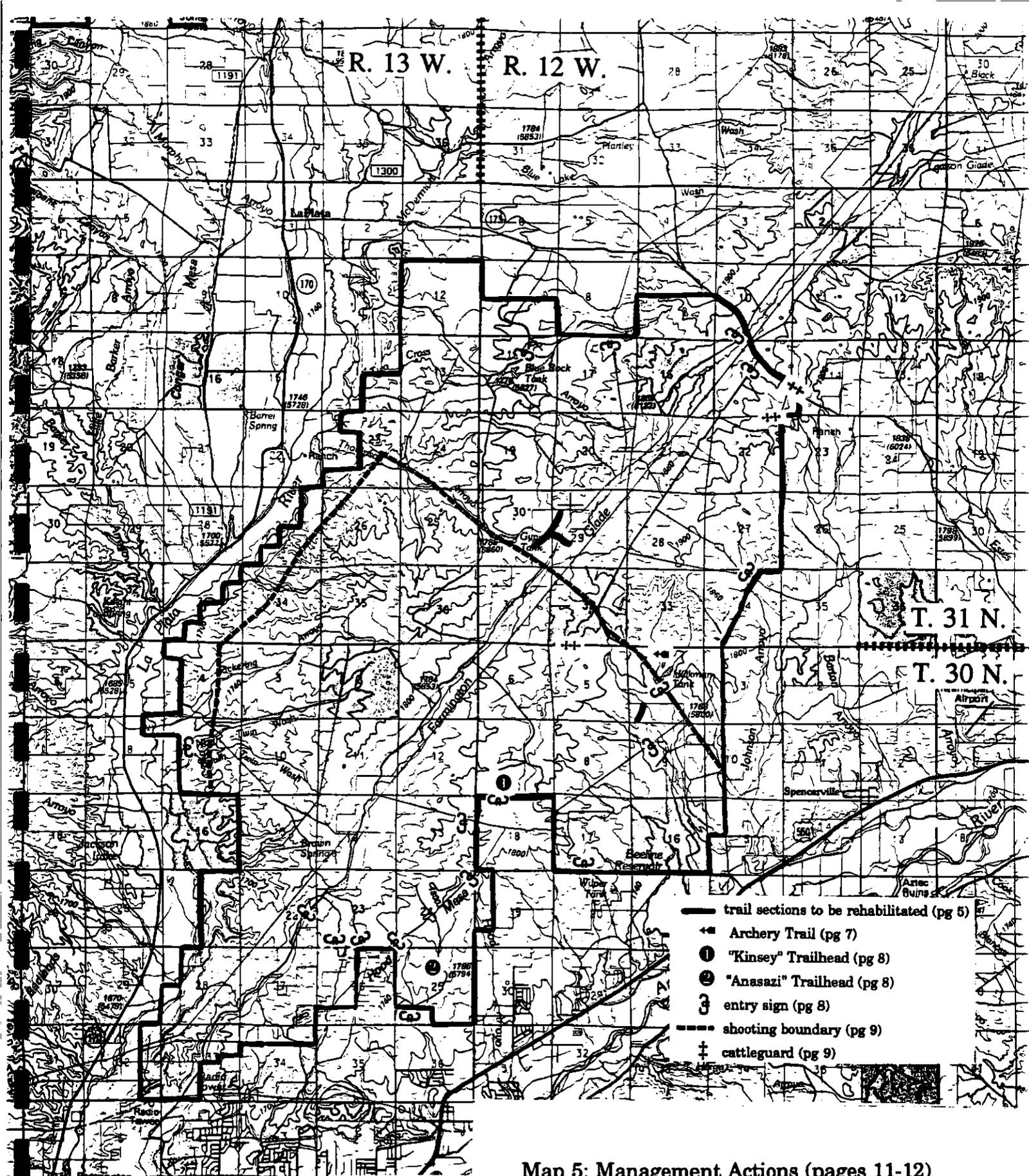


Map 3: Land Status within GRTS

Glade RAMP PROPOSED



Map 4: OHV Designations



Appendix B.

Summary of Alternatives

<u>Management Action</u>	<u>issue</u>	<u>adopt?</u>	<u>rationale (page referenced)</u>
Land exchanges	L*	Y*	To maintain consistent opportunities for recreation in the GRTS, it is necessary that the BLM maintain control over the land. The order of exchange priority has changed with the re-routing of trails off private parcels and the unwillingness of one of the major private landowners in the southwest corner to exchange to the BLM. (5)
Trail easements across Private	L	N*	It was feasible to re-route trails around private land onto BLM, resulting in savings of both workload and money.
Single-track trail easements across State	L	Y	It would be very difficult to re-route trails around State land onto BLM. However, if State easements are not granted, trails will be re-routed. (5)
Non-motorized trail easements across State	L	N	Though the State has indicated that this type of easement would be easier to obtain, it would be both unfair and difficult to enforce on a trail system managed for both motorized and non-motorized single-track recreationists.
Rehabilitating old trails on private land	CN*	Y	Since these trails were established by recreationists without the permission of landowners, it is appropriate that BLM rehabilitate the land with these recreationists' assistance. (5)
Develop new Foothills trailhead	D*,L	Y	This is the most popular access point to the single-track trails in the GRTS. Current parking at the end of Foothills Blvd. is both inadequate and inappropriate. (5,8)
Develop current Foothills trailhead	D,L	N	Current trailhead parking area is in residential area. Trail access over private land is for non-motorized vehicles only (see comment under "Non-motorized trail easements across State," above.
Increased law enforcement patrols	EE*	Y	Lack of enforcement has been identified as the number one concern of GRTS users. (6)

Helicopter landing zones	S*	Y	Occasional serious accidents could be more effectively aided by helicopter evacuation. (6)
Volunteer patrols	EE	Y	Increased BLM presence in the GRTS cannot be accomplished without the use of volunteers. (6)
Coordination with City of Farmington	D,EE	Y	The City's R&PP lease contains the second most popular access point to the single-track trails as well as the starting and finishing lines of the Road Apple Rally. The City's assistance in both patrolling and trailhead development will enhance the recreational experience for many GRTS users. (6,8)
Coordination with County Sheriff	EE	Y	Increased law enforcement within the GRTS cannot be accomplished without the cooperation of San Juan County officials. (6)
Firewood gathering prohibited	RP*	Y	Trees are scarce and slow-growing in the GRTS. They can not regenerate fast enough to keep up with firewood harvesting, and off-road travel to find trees is illegal in much of the Glade. (6)
Overnight camping restrictions	CN	Y	If overnight use were to increase, lack of regulating this activity within the GRTS has the possibility of interfering with livestock grazing. (6)
CMAAs with user groups	CR*,EE	Y	Increased BLM management of the GRTS cannot be accomplished without the use of volunteers. In addition, regulations and user education are much more effective coming from similar users. (6)
Vehicle restriction by width	CR,RP	Y	Segregation of recreational uses by vehicle width preserves single-track experiences and protects cultural sites and Aztec gilia populations adjacent to the trail. (7)
Vehicle restriction: motorized vs. non-motorized	CR	N	Many of the trails in the GRTS were originally developed by motorized use. It is neither fair nor necessary to remove motorized recreationists from these trails.
One-way trails	S	Y	Head-on collisions on single-track trail are occurring with increasing frequency. (7)
Close dry washes to motorized use in "Limited" area	RP	N	Vehicular use of dry washes has been a common and important recreational option in the GRTS. Resource degradation can be minimized by restricting use to vehicles no wider than the unvegetated wash bottom. (7)

Sign all routes	D	N	Having all routes signed would be both prohibitively expensive and visually degrading. Recreationists should be expected to know when traveling on designated but unsigned routes. All routes with vehicular limitations will be signed. (7)
Trail signs, area signs, and maps	CR,D,EE,S	Y	Adequate boundary and trail signs and maps are necessary to provide information for quality, as well as safe, experiences. Sign and map design and placement will balance cost and visual impacts with information dissemination. Safety will not be compromised. (8,9)
Preclude future trail development	D	N	Additional trails may be necessary to accommodate changing patterns or use. However, any future development will require an additional environmental assessment prior to trail establishment. (7,8)
Archery trail	D,S	Y	This area has been used in the past for a recreational opportunity not regularly available elsewhere in the area. Topographical barriers separate it from other trails or roads. (7)
Recreationists' right-of-way	CR,S	Y	Right-of-way order is determined by ease of control. However, nothing in this order permits an individual from traveling at a speed or in such manner that endangers others or absolves him/her of the responsibility to avoid an accident even with the right-of-way. (7)
Resource protection closures	RP	Y	To protect cultural sites, Aztec gilia populations, or other resource values, small portions of the GRTS may be closed or fenced. Closures, with trail re-routing if necessary, will be determined on a case-by-case basis but will not need an additional environmental assessment. (8)
Shooting restrictions	CR,S	Y	Firearm shooting and trail recreation are largely incompatible. (9)
Total shooting ban	CR,S	N	There are ample opportunities elsewhere in the District for target shooting and large and small animal hunting. However, opportunities for bird hunting are somewhat more limited, and the use of shotguns in the less-used portion of the GRTS during a short season seems a workable compromise. (9)
Ban grazing	CN	N	Grazing and trail recreation use are compatible, and a ban is unnecessary and unwarranted.

Raise priority of range developments	CN	Y	Sharing a grazing area with such high amounts of recreational use may put extra strain on livestock, vegetation, or water resources. (9)
Pet control	CN,CR	Y	Keeping pets leashed may prove hazardous to recreationists since animals can not easily get out of the way when tethered. However, it is necessary that they be kept under control at all times so as to not interfere with either other recreationists or grazing livestock. (9)
Trail cattleguards with gates	CN	Y	Fences exist in the GRTS to separate grazing allotments. Where trails cross these fences, recreationists have taken down wire to permit their passage, thereby allowing livestock to trespass on another's allotment. Experience has shown that gates alone, though necessary for horse use and cheaper, are an unsatisfactory alternative since they are frequently left open by speed-oriented trail recreationists. (9)

* KEY:

CN	Conflict with Non-Recreationists
CR	Conflict Among Recreationists
D	Degree of Development
EE	Enforcement & Education
L	Land Status
N	No
RP	Resource Protection
S	Safety
Y	Yes

Appendix C

Environmental Assessment (NM070-95-3220)

of the

**Glade Run Trail System
Recreation Area Management Plan**

I. INTRODUCTION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to analyze the impacts of implementing the management policies and actions of the Glade Run Trail System Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP).

This EA references EA NM070-95-3219 and the Glade Run Trail System Off-Highway Vehicle Farmington Resource Management Plan Amendment (OHV Amendment). The RAMP's EA presupposes approval of the OHV Amendment, and environmental consequences of the OHV Amendment are addressed entirely in the OHV Amendment EA.

II. PLANNING ISSUES AND CRITERIA

The issues and planning criteria can be found in the OHV Amendment, pages 3-8.

III. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The **PROPOSED ACTION** is the implementation of the Glade Run Trail System RAMP of which this EA serves as Appendix C.

The **NO ACTION alternative** is to implement none of the management actions of the RAMP.

Alternatives not addressed by this EA include management actions considered but not adopted as listed in Appendix B of this RAMP. The rationale for these actions not being adopted serves as well for the rationale for their not being addressed in this EA.

IV. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The affected environment can be found in the OHV Amendment, pages 11-16.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES & MITIGATING MEASURES

Hazardous or Solid Wastes

Under the **PROPOSED ACTION**, dumping will be reduced due to increased patrolling by both law enforcement officials and volunteers, and coordination

with both oilfield personnel and grazing permittees. Under the NO ACTION alternative, dumping -- including the dumping of hazardous wastes -- will continue to be a major problem in the GRTS.

Grazing

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, livestock will no longer escape from allotments because cattleguards will be placed where trails cross fences, fewer pets will harass livestock because of educational signing efforts, and previously damaged private grazing land will be rehabilitated. In addition, water developments and vegetation treatments planned in the GRTS will receive higher priority to compensate permittees for the added difficulty of grazing in a highly-used recreation area. Under the NO ACTION alternative, recreationists will continue to knock down allotment boundary fences, their pets will continue to harass livestock, and private grazing land will not get rehabilitated.

Lands

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, trail use across State lands will be legal, and recreation opportunities will be preserved by exchanging for private inholdings and proscribing exchanging away BLM lands within the GRTS. Under the NO ACTION alternative, recreationists will continue to be in trespass crossing private and State lands. As BLM trades away land and the private lands are developed, users will lose areas for recreation.

Forestry

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, the gathering of firewood -- either dead and down or greenwood -- would be prohibited within the GRTS, allowing the continued presence of the few trees within the area. Under the NO ACTION alternative, firewood collection would continue, leading to increased denuding of the area and proliferation of vehicle tracks (and impacts as discussed in the OHV Amendment) outside of designated routes.

Cultural Resources

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, trails would be re-routed or portions of the GRTS closed to protect newly discovered archaeological sites. Under the NO ACTION alternative, continued recreational use at these sites may lead to their destruction.

Vegetation

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, trails would be re-routed or portions of the GRTS closed to protect populations of Aztec gilia or Bisti fleabane (should it be discovered within the GRTS). Under the NO ACTION alternative, continued recreational use through populations of these Category 2 species may lead to loss of individual plants at what is believed to be the edge of their ranges.

Recreation

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, trail recreationists will have a much improved experience due to signing, availability of maps and reduced conflict with other recreationists (engaged in activities such as rock climbing and partying) and non-recreation users of the GRTS. The trails will be safer due to warning signs near road intersections and steep hills, designation of one-way trails, and the absence of shooting within most of the GRTS. In addition, medical care will be more quickly available with the planning of helicopter evacuation zones and first aid training of volunteer patrollers. There will be adequate access and trailhead facilities, making a visit to the GRTS more pleasant for both the user and the neighboring landowner.

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, target shooters will lose the opportunity to practice in a convenient and popular locale, though conflicts -- and accidents -- with trail recreationists will be eliminated. It is likely that most of these target shooters will be displaced to other nearby public lands. There are shooting ranges in both Farmington and Aztec, but there are few other places as near to Farmington as the GRTS that are suitable for open target practice. Hunters will still be able to use a shotgun to shoot birds in season in the area they are most commonly found, but will lose the opportunity to use a rifle to shoot the few deer and many rabbits that reside within the GRTS.

Under the NO ACTION alternative, trail recreationists will continue to have no map to use on a confusing maze of unmarked routes and roads. Some of these trails will remain unsafe, injuries will become increasingly common, and medical aid continue to be slow in arriving. There will be inadequate parking at popular trailheads, and local residents will have more and more conflicts with recreationists trying to get on the trail system.

Under the NO ACTION alternative, target shooters will continue to have access to a popular area for that activity, and conflicts with trail recreationists will increase. Hunters will still have the opportunity to rifle hunt anything in season. Other non-trail recreationists (such as those engaging in rock climbing

or partying) will not be affected by this alternative.

Other Resources

There are no impacts to floodplains, wetlands, wilderness, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, water or air quality, paleontological resources, prime or unique farmlands, or minerals.

In addition, there are no impacts expected by either RAMP alternative to wildlife, visual resources, or soils. All impacts to these resources in the GRTS are addressed by the OHV Amendment.

VI. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The cumulative effects of the proposed action and no action alternatives are discussed against a background of the resources of the Farmington District and immediately adjacent lands open to the public administered by other offices or agencies.

Due to the limited size and scope of the RAMP, there are no significant cumulative impacts by either alternative to any of the resources except recreation.

The background for the impacts to recreation can be found on page 23 of the OHV Amendment.

Under the PROPOSED ACTION, the GRTS would provide quality trail recreation experiences for local users and live up to its potential -- and designation -- as a recreation destination.

Local rifle hunting would be prohibited on 27,520 acres of public land. Given the scarcity of game in the GRTS, and its small size in comparison to the land available for hunting in the area, this loss is considered negligible. Target shooters would lose 27,520 acres close to the city of Farmington for practice. When added to the current shooting closure areas (Dunes Vehicle Recreation Area and Head Canyon ORV Competition Area), 28,670 of the Districts 1,379,510 acres would be closed to shooting. This closure amounts to 2% of the Farmington District.

Under the NO ACTION alternative, trail experiences would continue to be frustrating and dangerous. Consequently, the GRTS would fail to reach its potential as one of the key trail recreation destinations in the Moab, Durango,

Farmington triangle.

VII. PUBLIC INPUT AND CONSULTATION

Public input and consultation is described in detail in the OHV Amendment (pages 3-4, 25-26, and Appendix C).

The following BLM Farmington District Office resource specialists participated in the preparation of this document:

Chris Barns	Amendment author, Recreation, Visual Resources
Jim Copeland	Cultural Resources
Jerry Crockford	Lands
Bill Falvey	Wildlife, T&E Species
John Hansen	Wildlife
Jeff Russell	Cartography
Ray Sanchez	Grazing
Richard Simmons	Recreation, Cartography
Sterling White	Grazing, Vegetation
Dale Wirth	Soils

**GLADE RUN TRAIL SYSTEM
Recreation Area Management Plan
and
Environmental Assessment NM070-95-3220**

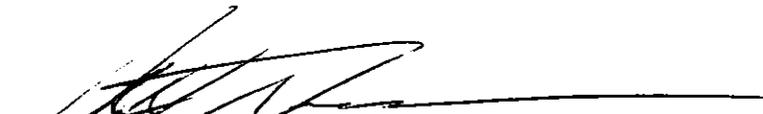
Finding of No Significant Impact

The Proposed Action is to implement the Glade Run Trail System Recreation Area Management Plan.

The Proposed Action will preserve quality trail recreation opportunities for which this Special Management Area (SMA) was established, while at the same time preserving some non-trail recreation opportunities that are not available elsewhere in the Farmington District. It will increase safety, alleviate recreational conflicts and facilitate continued grazing in the Glade Run Trail System. In addition, the Proposed Action is expected to benefit the health of the land in this SMA.

Based upon the analysis in the accompanying environmental assessment, it has been determined that the Proposed Action will not result in any significant impacts to the human environment and an environmental impact statement is not required.

Prepared by:

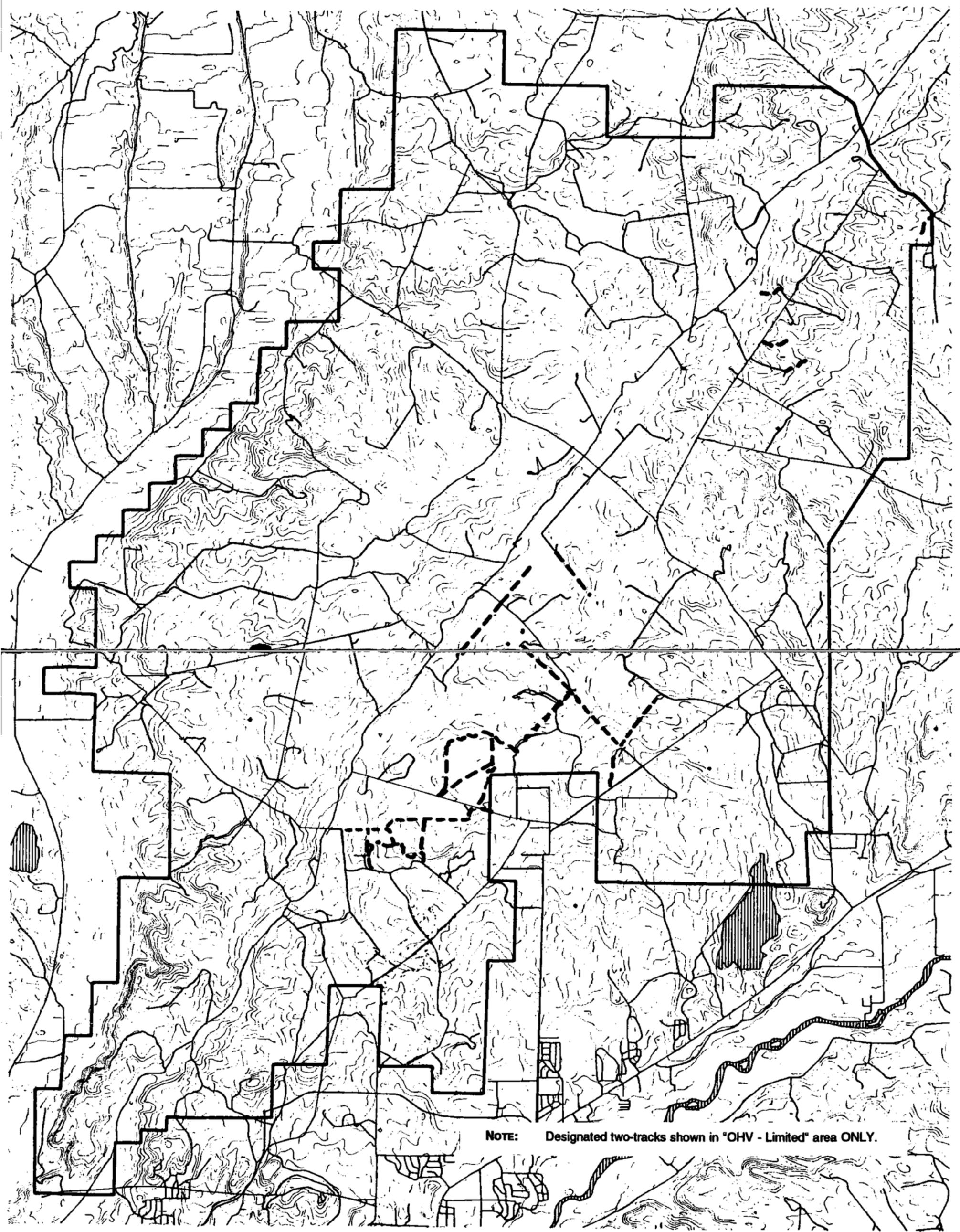

Christopher V. Barns
Outdoor Recreation Planner, Farmington District

Recommended by:


Joel E. Farrell
Assistant District Manager for Lands & Renewable Resources, Farmington District

Approved by:


Mike Pool
District Manager, Farmington District

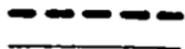


NOTE: Designated two-tracks shown in "OHV - Limited" area ONLY.

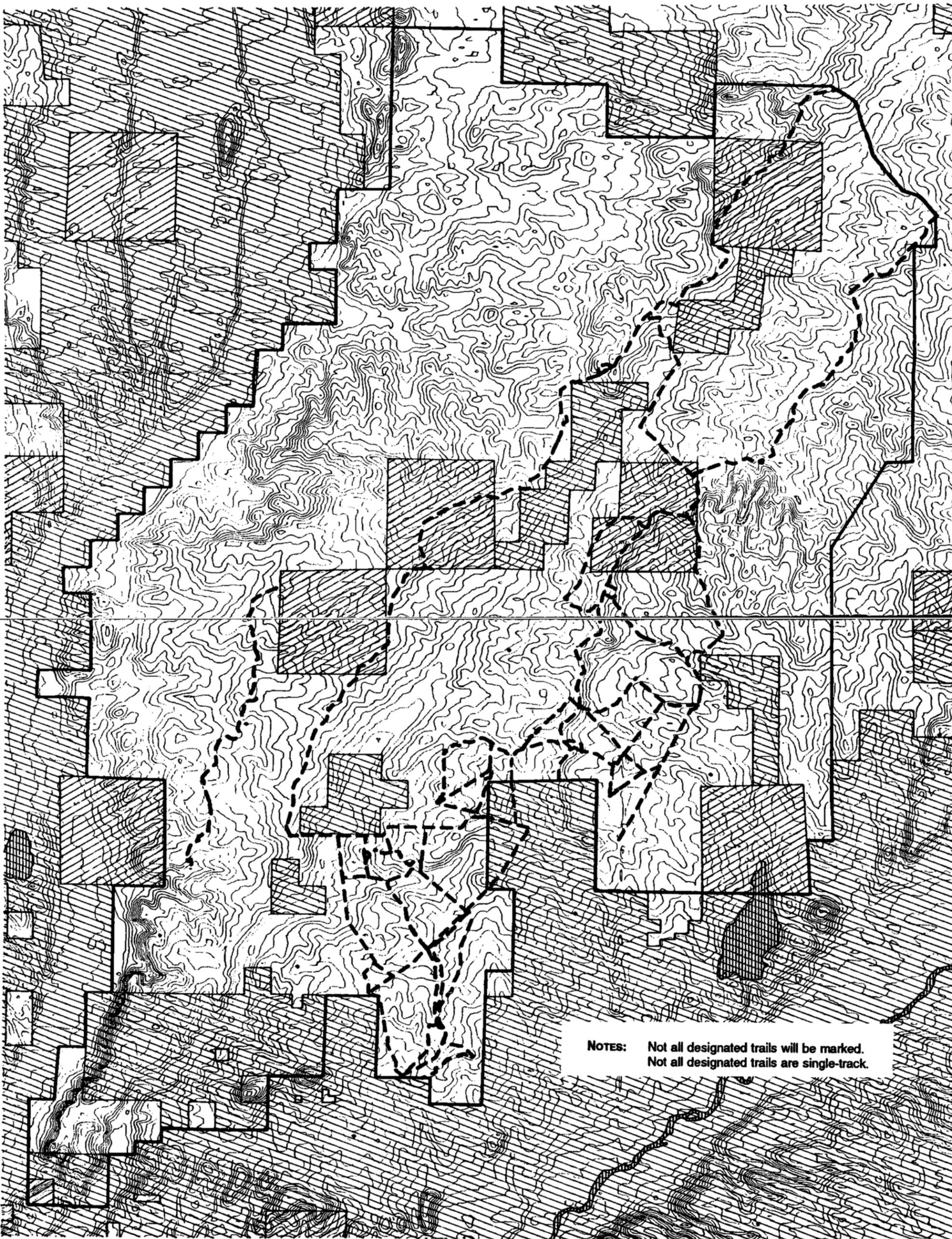
Map A



TWO TRACKS
ROADS



Designated Roads and Two-Tracks



NOTES: Not all designated trails will be marked.
Not all designated trails are single-track.

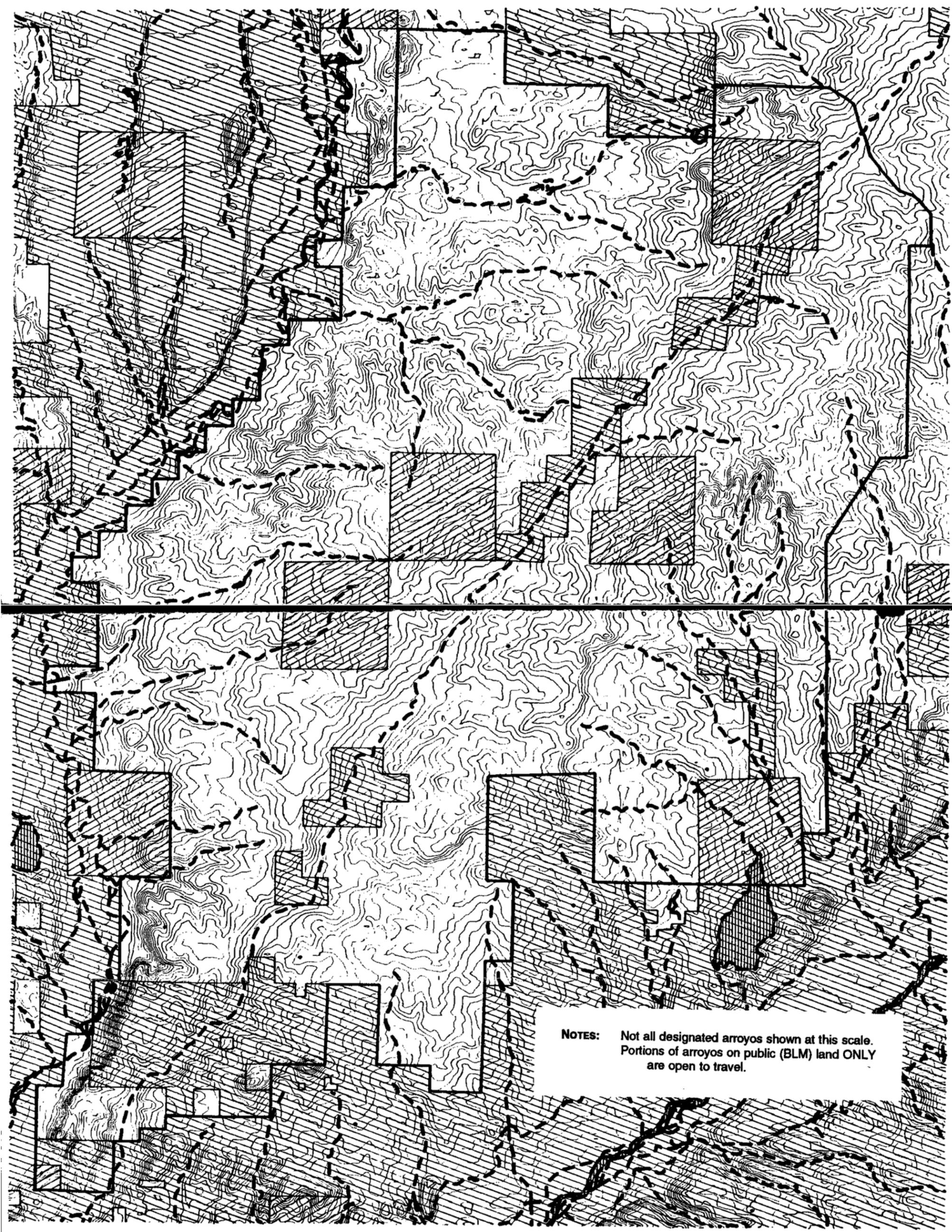
Map B



Designated Trails

BLM
STATE
PRIVATE
TRAILS





NOTES: Not all designated arroyos shown at this scale.
Portions of arroyos on public (BLM) land ONLY
are open to travel.

Map C



BLM
STATE
PRIVATE



Arroyos Designated as Routes of Travel