

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS AND BLM LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS

Wild and Scenic Rivers

There are two suitable Wild and Scenic Rivers (W&SR) located within the planning area for the MLP. These include segments of the Colorado and the Green Rivers. The Colorado River segments are classified as either scenic or recreational. The entire segment of the Green River within the planning area has been classified as scenic. Scenic rivers are those rivers that may have some development and may be accessible in places by roads or trails. Recreational rivers are almost always accessible by roads and trails, may have more extensive development along their shoreline, and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past. Management of suitable W&SRs is based on the classification of the river segment and is intended to maintain that classification.

National Historic Trails

The Old Spanish National Historic Trail is located in the northwest portion of the planning area. Management associated with National Historic Trails typically involves restrictions on surface disturbing activities and is intended to enhance public enjoyment and understanding of the historic trail.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

An Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is defined as an area within the public lands where special management attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) states that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will give priority to the protection of ACECs in the land use planning process. There is no single management approach for all ACECs; instead management is designed specifically for the relevant and important values for which the ACEC was identified.

Monticello Field Office

- Shay Canyon
- Indian Creek
- Lavender Mesa

Moab Field Office

- Ten Mile
- Highway 279 Corridor/Shafer Basin/Long Canyon
- Behind the Rocks

BLM Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

The Moab and Monticello Field Offices identified 192,220 acres of lands with wilderness characteristics as part of the 2008 Resource Management Plans (RMPs). A decision was made to manage a subset of these lands as Natural Areas to protect and maintain their wilderness characteristics. Subsequent to the 2008 RMPs, the BLM has identified an additional 28,240 acres of lands with wilderness characteristics. The BLM is currently evaluating several new proposals submitted by external groups. The results of these inventories will be incorporated into the Final Environmental Impact Statement.