APPENDIX I.
RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE EVALUATIONS OF AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC) NOMINATIONS

I.1 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) states that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will give priority to the designation and protection of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) in the development and revision of land use plans. Land use plans in the BLM are known as Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and the Moab BLM is currently in the multi-year process of developing such a plan. This RMP will replace an RMP that was approved in 1985.

The 1985 Grand RMP did not consider any ACECs**.** As a part of this new planning cycle for the RMP, the BLM accepted ACEC nominations (including three that had been proposed in 1999 and one proposed in January of 2003) and evaluated all nominations that had been received by March 30, 2004.

This report summarizes the relevance and importance evaluations for 35 nominated ACECs located on lands administered by the BLM's Moab Field Office (MFO). Many of the nominations covered similar geographical areas, although each nomination proposed a unique boundary. These evaluations have been completed in accordance with guidance provided in BLM regulations at 43 CFR part 1610.7-2 and *BLM Manual 1613-Areas of Critical Environmental Concern*, which identify relevance and importance criteria that must be met for a nominated area to be considered as a potential ACEC. After reviewing the 35 nominations, BLM has determined that 14 areas meet the relevance and importance criteria. These 14 potential ACECs (which are oftentimes compilations of various ACEC nominations) will be studied further in the RMP to determine whether they warrant designation as an ACEC.

I.2 WHAT IS AN ACEC?

FLPMA defines an ACEC 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." Therefore, private lands and lands administered by other agencies are not included in the boundaries of ACECs.

ACECs differ from some other special management designations in that designation by itself does not automatically prohibit or restrict other uses in the area. The special management attention is designed specifically for the relevant and important values, and therefore varies from area to area. The one exception is that a mining plan of operation is required for any proposed mining activity that would create surface disturbance greater than casual use within a designated ACEC (43 CFR 3809 Regulations). The ACEC designation is an administrative designation that is accomplished through the land use planning process. It is unique to BLM in that no other

agency uses this form of designation. The intent of Congress in mandating the designation of ACECs through FLPMA was to give priority to the designation and protection of areas containing unique and significant resource values.

I.3 THE ACEC DESIGNATION PROCESS

There are several steps in the identification and evaluation of ACECs. These steps include the nomination of areas that may meet the relevance and importance criteria, evaluation of the nominated areas to determine if they meet the criteria, and consideration of the potential ACECs in alternative management scenarios which are formulated and effects analyzed in the Draft RMP/EIS. When released, the preferred alternative of the Draft RMP/EIS indicates which potential ACECs are proposed by BLM for designation. Public comment is requested. Public comments are reviewed and considered and adjustments are made as necessary before the Proposed RMP/Final EIS is released. Designation of ACECs then occurs in the Record of Decision approving the RMP. Each of these steps is briefly described below.

I.3.1 IDENTIFICATION/NOMINATION

ACECs can be nominated at anytime, but are only designated through the BLM's land use planning process. Nominations from the public are generally solicited as part of the scoping process during development of a land use plan for a particular area. BLM requested that ACEC nominations to be considered in the Moab planning process be submitted by December 30, 2003. However, ACEC nominations continued to be submitted after this deadline and those received early enough in the process were also reviewed.

I.3.2 EVALUATIONS OF NOMINATIONS FOR RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE

Nominations are evaluated to determine whether they meet the relevance and importance criteria. The relevance and importance criteria are detailed in Appendix A. A nomination must meet one or more of the relevance and importance criteria to be considered a potential ACEC. Potential ACECs are then considered further in the planning process.

I.3.3 CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL ACECS

Potential ACECs are considered as RMP alternatives are developed. Each potential ACEC is proposed for designation in at least one of the management alternatives. The need for special management and the resulting effects from applying such management are assessed in the associated environmental analysis. The Preferred Alternative identifies which potential ACECs are proposed by BLM for designation.

I.3.4 COMMENT ON PROPOSED ACECS

A notice of any areas proposed for ACEC designation is published in the Federal Register along with a Notice of Availability of the Draft RMP/EIS requesting public comment. The public may comment on any aspect of the ACEC analysis at this point in the process. These comments are

then considered in preparation of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. After a 30-day protest period, a Record of Decision is prepared and the plan is approved.

I.3.5 DESIGNATION

In order to be designated as an ACEC, a potential ACEC requires special management attention in order to prevent irreparable damage to the relevant and important values. The need for special management attention may vary by alternative, depending upon what other types of management schemes or resource allocations are being considered for that alternative. Special management attention refers to management prescriptions designed expressly to protect or manage the relevant and important values of an area that would not be necessary and prescribed if the relevant and important values did not exist. These prescriptions are unique to the area involved, outside of standard or routine practices, usually more detailed than prescriptions contained within the plan for other areas, and establish priority for implementation. If analysis determines that special management attention is required, the area may be designated as an ACEC. Designation occurs when the Record of Decision is signed approving the RMP.

I.4 BACKGROUND – MOAB ACEC PROCESS

The Moab Field Office received four ACEC nominations prior to the initiation of the current RMP revision. Three of these were received in 1999, and one was received early in 2003. In addition, ACEC nominations were solicited as part of scoping for the current RMP effort. Scoping for the Moab RMP was initiated with publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on June 4, 2003. In the Fall of 2003, mailings and public meetings were used to solicit ACEC nominations and comments from the public.

Nominators were asked to include a boundary of the nominated area, and information and rationale as to why they believe the area meets the relevance and importance criteria. Written comments were requested by December 30, 2003 for full consideration in the planning process. However, in an effort to be inclusive and to produce a comprehensive plan, nominations that were received early enough in the planning process were also reviewed. As part of the Analysis of the Management Situation, members of the BLM's planning team were also requested to submit internal information for consideration by February 28, 2004.

In all, 35 ACEC nominations were evaluated for relevance and importance. It is important to note that many of these nominations were for essentially similar areas, although various proposals from various groups had differing boundaries. Each proposal was reviewed by a BLM interdisciplinary team in conjunction with the cooperating agencies. Where appropriate, nominations were combined and boundaries drawn that best reflect the area where relevant and important values exist. The complete list of nominations is summarized in Appendix B.

I.5 THE ACEC TEAM

Nominations were evaluated for relevance and importance by Moab BLM interdisciplinary staff, with assistance from cooperators, including representatives of Grand and San Juan Counties, as

well as of the State of Utah. The BLM review team was comprised of the following planning team members and management staff:

- Maggie Wyatt, Field Office Manager
- Brent Northrup, RMP Planning Coordinator
- Pam Riddle, Wildlife Biologist
- Rob Sweeten, VRM Coordinator
- Daryl Trotter, Botanist/Environmental Protection Specialist
- Donna Turnipseed, Archaeologist
- Katie Stevens, Outdoor Recreation Planner/ACEC Coordinator

The following BLM staff members also assisted in the effort:

- Stephanie Ellingham, Riparian Specialist
- Russ von Koch, Recreation Branch Chief
- Bill Stevens, Outdoor Recreation Planner
- Ann Marie Aubry, Hydrologist

Cooperating agencies were represented by the following individuals:

- Ed Scherick, San Juan County Planner
- Evan Lowry, San Juan County Planner
- Jerry McNeely, Grand County Councilman
- Al McLeod, Grand County Councilman
- Judy Bane, Grand County Administrator
- Dave Vaughn, Grand County Road Department
- Val Payne, State of Utah Department of Natural Resources
- Bill Stokes, State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands
- Lavonne Garrison, State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands

The ACEC review team met on February 9, 2004, March 1, 2004, March 4, 2004 and April 19, 2004. Discussion concerning the relevance and importance of resources within the various ACEC nominations occurred at these meetings.

I.6 Relevance and Importance Evaluations

The information provided below is organized in alphabetical order by name of the nominated area. There were 35 nominations, although many of the areas overlap one another. The nominations are listed below in alphabetical order by name of the nominated area. ACECs are depicted on Map 2-14-B for the 14 areas moving forward as potential ACECs. It should be noted that boundaries of these potential ACECs are compilations of the various boundaries proposed by the nominators, and thus vary from what was nominated.

The entire list of nominations includes:

1. Behind the Rocks (The Nature Conservancy)
2. Behind the Rocks (Moab Field Office Internal Nomination)
3. Big Triangle (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
4. Book Cliffs Wildlife Area (Moab Field Office Internal Nomination)
5. Book Cliffs Wildlife (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
6. Canyon Rims (Moab Field Office Internal Nomination)
7. Castle Valley Critical Deer Winter Range (Grand Canyon Trust)
8. Cisco White Tailed Prairie Dog Complex (Center for Native Ecosystems et al.)
9. Colorado River Corridor-Richardson Amphitheater (The Nature Conservancy)
10. Colorado River Corridor-Negro Bill (Stolfa)
11. Colorado River Corridor-Richardson Amphitheater (Carlson)
12. Colorado River Corridor-Cache Valley (MFO Internal Nomination)
13. Colorado River Corridor-Negro Bill and Sand Flats (MFO Internal Nomination)
14. Colorado River Corridor-Fisher Towers (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
15. Colorado River Corridor – Arches (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
16. Cottonwood-Diamond Watershed (MFO Internal Nomination)
17. Dead Horse Point, including Shafer Basin (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
18. Dolores Triangle (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
19. Gemini Bridges/Poison Spider (Carlson)
20. Greater Moab: Behind the Rocks/Negro Bill/Mill Creek (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
21. Hatch Wash (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
22. Highway 279 Corridor/Shafer Basin/Long Canyon (MFO Internal Nomination)
23. Labyrinth/Horsethief (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
24. Labyrinth Canyon (MFO Internal Nomination)
25. Mill Creek Canyon (Mill Creek Partnership)
26. Mill Creek Canyon (MFO Internal Nomination)
27. Ten Mile Wash (Carlson)
28. Ten Mile Wash (MFO Internal Nomination)
29. Upper Courthouse (The Nature Conservancy)
30. Upper Courthouse (MFO Internal Nomination)
31. Westwater (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)
32. Westwater Canyon (MFO Internal Nomination)
33. White Wash (MFO Internal Nomination)
34. White Wash (Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

35. Wilson Arch (MFO Internal Nomination)

The 14 areas that were found to meet the relevance and importance criteria and will go forward as potential ACECs are:

1. Behind the Rocks
2. Book Cliffs Wildlife Area
3. Canyon Rims
4. CiscoWhite Tailed Prairie Dog Complex
5. Colorado River Corridor
6. Cottonwood Diamond Watershed
7. Highway 279 Corridor/ Shafer Basin/Long Canyon
8. Labyrinth Canyon
9. Mill Creek Canyon
10. Ten Mile Wash
11. Upper Courthouse
12. Westwater Canyon
13. White Wash
14. Wilson Arch

The 35 nominations have been organized into 19 nominated areas which are discussed in turn below. Note that multiple nominations were often received for a particular area. Size calculations were made only for those areas or portions of areas that were determined by BLM to meet the relevance and importance criteria, and are thus potential ACECs.

I.6.1 BEHIND THE ROCKS

(Nominated by Nature Conservancy and BLM staff; also included in SUWA's "Greater Moab")

Description of Area: Behind the Rocks is located west of the city of Moab and east of Kane Creek Canyon. It is an area of sandstone fins and deeply entrenched canyons, with arches and other features. Various boundaries were proposed by the several nominators**.** From these, BLM crafted the boundary of the potential ACEC to include all of the relevant and important cultural, wildlife, plant and scenic resources of the area.

Size: 17,836 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: The area contains significant cultural resources, including rock art and habitation sites. The scenic values are outstanding in the area, with slickrock domes and fins present on a grander scale than in Arches National Park. There are also several large natural arches in the area. The area contains habitat for several special-status wildlife species, including the peregrine falcon, southwest willow flycatcher, spotted bat and big free-tailed bat. Three special-status plant species occur in the area: the Canyonlands biscuitroot, alcove rock daisy and alcove bog orchid. The area is one of only three major population centers (and of these, the least

imperiled) for the Canyonlands biscuitroot. Two narrowly distributed plants, the western hop-hornbeam and alcove death camas also occur. In addition, there are relict plant communities within the area which are valuable for scientific study.

Importance Criteria: Within the area, cultural sites are distinctive and of special worth. Scenic values are nationally significant; Behind the Rocks is the best example of Navajo sandstone fins in the world, and provides the scenic backdrop to the town of Moab. The rare and endemic plants are fragile, rare and irreplaceable. Behind the Rocks is one of only 12 known areas with occurrences of the alcove rock daisy, and one of three areas in which the Canyonlands biscuitroot is found. The area also contains plant communities and soils that have been little disturbed or altered, providing an uncommon remnant of the presettlement landscape.

Findings: This nomination meets both the relevance and importance criteria for threatened and endangered plants, scenery and cultural values. It will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.2 BIG TRIANGLE

(Nominated by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

Description of Area: The area is commonly called the Dolores Triangle, and includes Coates Creek, Renegade Creek, and Ryan Creek

Size: Not calculated

Relevance Criteria: Big Triangle does meet relevance criteria in that it is important wildlife habitat, and has riparian natural systems.

Importance Criteria: This nomination does not meet the importance criteria for wildlife or riparian resources. The area does contain wildlife and riparian habitats, but they are not more than locally significant when taken in the context of the entire region. While the area is critical deer and elk winter range, there are other instances of winter range throughout the Field Office. The bat habitats in the Big Triangle are widespread throughout the Field Office. There are no inventoried populations of TES (Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive) species in the area; the TES habitat is merely potential habitat. While there were some historical sage grouse populations, there are currently no permanent populations of sage grouse.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance criteria for wildlife and riparian resources. This nomination does not meet the importance criteria for either of these values. This nomination will not be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.3 BOOK CLIFFS WILDLIFE AREA

(Nominated by Moab Field Office staff and Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

Description of Area: The Book Cliffs Wildlife Area ACEC is located on the southern flanks of the Book Cliffs from the Green River to Hay Canyon and from the Book Cliffs terraces north to

the Moab Field Office boundary. (The boundary proposed by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance differed from that of BLM staff. BLM staff adjusted the boundary of the area with the assistance of data from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources).

Size: 304,252 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: The Book Cliffs Wildlife Area nomination meets the relevance criteria for wildlife and cultural values. The Book Cliffs area contains habitat essential for maintaining species diversity, including that of endangered, threatened and Utah sensitive animal species. In addition, the Book Cliffs provides important habitat for the following big game species: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, mountain lion and black bear. Crucial fawning and calving grounds and critical winter ranges for elk and deer are within the area. Two threatened plants do not occur in the area, the clay reed mustard and the Jones cycladenia. The Book Cliffs are essentially a natural system with riparian systems encompassing unfragmented, contiguous habitat for a great diversity of plant and animal communities. The area is also rich in cultural resources, and includes rock art, camp sites, cave excavations and brush structures.

Importance Criteria: The Book Cliffs wildlife habitat is of more than local significance. There are no areas in the Western United States (outside of Alaska) that offer such a large, contiguous, unfragmented, and undisturbed habitat for such a large variety of animal species. This extensive habitat promotes biological and genetic diversity that is unavailable in most wildlife habitat areas. The remote areas of the Book Cliffs are important scientific reference sites. Human disturbance and/or development would permanently alter the unfragmented, remote and undisturbed nature of this wildlife habitat. This makes the Book Cliffs proposed ACEC highly vulnerable to adverse change. The habitat is also irreplaceable, exemplary and unique due to the rareness of large, unfragmented and undisturbed habitat for both plants and animals.

In addition, cultural sites within the Book Cliffs have special worth because their remoteness has left them largely undisturbed, and thus of great importance to scientific study.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for wildlife, natural systems (riparian plant communities), and cultural values and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.4 CANYON RIMS

(Nominated by Moab Field Office staff)

Description of Area: The Canyon Rims ACEC nomination consists of the western rims of the Canyon Rims Recreation Area. This encompasses Needles, Anticline, Canyonlands and Minor Overlooks, which are developed recreation sites within the recreation area.

Size: 23,400 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: The scenic values of the western portions of the Canyon Rims Recreation Area are outstanding in quality and due to location, highly visible to the recreating public.

Importance Criteria: The scenic values of the western portions of Canyon Rims are important to regional, national, and international visitors who view this area from developed overlooks. The Canyon Rims views are some of the most spectacular in the Western United States. They have special worth and consequence to many visitors, many of whom comment that the views are "more spectacular than the Grand Canyon".

The threats to these scenic resources include oil and gas development and off highway vehicle use, making them subject to adverse change.

Findings: The rims of Canyon Rims Recreation Area meet the relevance and importance criteria for scenic values, and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.5 CASTLE VALLEY CRITICAL DEER WINTER RANGE

(Nominated by Grand Canyon Trust)

Description of Area: The area is located in the upper portion of Castle Valley, 20 miles east of Moab, Utah.

Size: Not calculated

Relevance Criteria: The area nominated is important deer winter range for the LaSal mountain herd, and thus meets the relevance criterion for wildlife values.

Importance Criteria: The nomination does not meet the importance criterion for the wildlife values, because the area is of no more than local significance for wintering deer. The nominated area is only a very small portion of the LaSal mule deer herd's winter range. Protecting this area would not improve overall winter range conditions for this one deer herd (which is only locally significant).

Findings: The nomination meets the relevance, but not the importance criteria for wildlife values. It will not go forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.6 CISCO WHITE TAILED PRAIRIE DOG COMPLEX

(Nominated by Center for Native Ecosystems et al.)

Description of Area: The ACEC boundary proposal from the Center for Native Ecosystems has been refined with the help of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources data to include public lands on both sides of I-70 from the Colorado State Line to the Cisco area.

Size: 125,620 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: The area meets the relevance criterion for wildlife values. White tailed prairie dog is a Utah sensitive species, and has been nominated as threatened under the

Endangered Species Act. UDWR has mapped historic and current prairie dog towns and their habitat. The habitat within this area is essential for maintaining this species.

Importance Criteria: White tailed prairie dogs are a Utah sensitive species (a decision on whether to list this species will be made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by October, 2004.) The population of this candidate species is declining throughout the West, including the area managed by the Moab Field Office. Large tracts of land are needed to maintain populations of this animal and of the predator species which depend on it. White tailed prairie dog habitat is fragile and very sensitive to OHV abuse, overgrazing, drought and oil and gas disturbance.

Findings: The nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for wildlife values and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.7 Colorado River Corridor (Including Richardson Amphitheater, Negro Bill, Cache Valley, Greater Moab, Fisher Towers and Arches area)

(Nominated in parts by The Nature Conservancy, Stolfa, Carlson, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Moab Field Office staff)

Description of Area: The Colorado River Corridor area lies along Utah Highway 128 east of Moab, Utah. It includes the entire Richardson Amphitheater (including Fisher Towers, Onion Creek and Castle Rock), the canyon of Negro Bill and the Slickrock Bike Trail on the south side of the Colorado River. On the north side of the river, Dry Mesa, Cache Valley and other lands east of Arches National Park are included. (Boundary proposals by various nominators were adjusted by BLM staff and cooperators to determine the potential ACEC boundary.)

Size: 50,483 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: This area meets the relevance criteria for scenic, fish and wildlife, and rare and endangered plants. The scenery in the area is of outstanding quality**,** and as it is traversed by Utah State Scenic Byway 128, the scenery is accessible to all types of visitors. The area contains such scenic western icons as Fisher Towers, the Colorado River and Castle Rock.

The potential ACEC includes critical habitat for mule deer and desert bighorn sheep. It includes critical bighorn lambing and rutting areas for desert bighorn sheep (particularly in the lands east of Arches National Park). The Colorado River is home to the razorback sucker, bonytail chub, humpback chub and the Colorado pikeminnow, all endangered species. Several birds on the state sensitive list, including yellow-breasted chats and Lewis woodpeckers, have known occurrences within the potential ACEC. State sensitive animals occurring in the area include river otter, spotted bat and big free-tailed bat.

Three rare plants occur within the Richardson Amphitheater section of the area: the Jones cycladenia (Threatened), the Shultz stickleaf (Sensitive), and the Dolores rushpink (Sensitive). Relict plant communities also occur in the proposed ACEC. Two state sensitive rare plants (cave primrose and alcove bog orchid) occur in Negro Bill Canyon. The Alcove rock daisy (listed) has also been found in this canyon. In addition, the endemic alcove columbine is also found. The

hanging gardens of Negro Bill in which these plants are found range in size from a few meters square to huge classic alcoves. The Colorado River corridor is rich in rare and endangered plants.

Importance Criteria: This area meets the importance criteria for scenic, fish and wildlife and rare and threatened plants. The entire area possesses Class A scenery of widely recognized value. It is internationally renowned for scenery, and has been the location site for 88 film permits from 1998-2002. This area has some of the most significant, internationally recognized scenery in the Western United States. People throughout the world recognize the scenic resources contained within the area. The visual resources in this area are very rare, and do not exist anywhere else in the world. At the same time, the area is subject to intense visitation, making the area susceptible to inadvertent damage.

The wildlife habitat in the area is of more than local significance, and is rare and irreplaceable. The very presence of the Colorado River provides wildlife habitat that is unique in the arid West. The rare and endangered fish in the Colorado River (razorback sucker, bonytail chub, humpback chub and the Colorado pikeminnow) are unique and irreplaceable. Lands crucial to desert bighorn sheep lambing and rutting (in Cache Valley east of Arches National Park) are similarly unique and vulnerable to adverse change. Several birds on the state sensitive list, including yellow-breasted chats and Lewis woodpeckers, have known occurrences within the proposed ACEC. State sensitive animals occurring in the area include river otter, spotted bat and big free-tailed bat.

The potential ACEC contains the only known location in the world of the sensitive Schultz stickleaf. Although only on the BLM state sensitive plant list (and not on the endangered species list), the Schultz stickleaf grows no where else in the entire world but in the proposed ACEC because of the special combination of soils in the area. The potential ACEC also contains about one quarter of all threatened Jones cycladenia plants. This makes the area of special worth and consequence to these rare species. Although it is only listed as sensitive, the population of Shultz stickleaf plants is unique and irreplaceable as it is known to grow nowhere else in the world; the presence of other special species, both plant and animal, make the area unique and exemplary.

The rare plants found in the hanging gardens of Negro Bill Canyon area also rare, fragile and exemplary. The cave primrose, alcove bog orchid, alcove columbine and alcove rock daisy are of far more than local significance, given their rarity.

The heart of Negro Bill Canyon was designated an Outstanding Natural Area in the 1985 Grand RMP to protect both scenery and these sensitive plants. The scenery is of more than local significance, both in the canyon, and from the Slickrock and Porcupine Rim Trails above it.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for scenery, fish and wildlife and natural systems: rare plants resources. It will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.8 COTTONWOOD-DIAMOND WATERSHED

(Nominated MFO Staff)

Description of Area: This area is located in the Cottonwood-Diamond drainage of the Book Cliffs area. The area to be considered in this ACEC proposal is the area that was severely burned in 2002.

Size: 35,830 acres

Relevance Criteria: The area meets the relevance criteria for natural processes and for natural hazards. Due to severe fire damage in 2002, the functioning of the natural system is at risk. Riparian areas and stable stream channels are the most at risk. The combination of hydrophobic soils and bare, steep uplands make for extreme levels of storm-water runoff. Restoring vegetation is crucial to a functioning natural process. Watershed health is not expected to return for 4 – 10 years, requiring special management in the interim. This area is extremely susceptible to (and has experienced) dangerous flooding and landslides as a result of the large fire of July, 2002. Because of major vegetation loss and damage to soils (hydrophobic), storm runoff is at extreme levels and is causing peak flood levels and massive erosion. This area was identified by the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) team in 2002 as posing significant hazards to life and property.

Importance Criteria: The area meets the importance criteria for natural hazards and natural processes. The Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation report (BAER, 2002) highlights significant hazards from floods, mudflows, and landslides which have already occurred, and are expected to reoccur. The severely burned area has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy concerns about human life and safety. BLM has spent significant amounts of money to date on emergency stabilization (reseeding hydro-mulching and monitoring) to help restabililize the area to reduce these threats to human life and safety.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for natural processes and natural hazards and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.9 DOLORES DRAINAGE

(Nominated by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

Description of Area: The area is composed of two widely separated parcels: the Beaver Creek/Dolores River/Granite Creek area east of the LaSal Mountains, and the East Coyote Creek drainage east of Lisbon Valley.

Size: Not calculated

Relevance Criteria: The area meets the relevance criteria for scenery and wildlife habitat. Scenic values are found in the area, especially along the Dolores River. The area is valuable wildlife habitat, especially for wintering deer and elk.

Importance Criteria: The area does not meet the importance criteria for scenery nor for wildlife habitat. These areas are of no more than local significance for either wildlife or scenery. The scenery, while attractive, is duplicated in numerous places within the Colorado Plateau, and is not fragile or vulnerable. The wildlife habitat includes critical elk and mule deer range, but these ranges are not unique, or rare, nor are they sensitive or fragile. Habitat found in the Dolores Drainage nomination is duplicated in many other areas of the state of Utah.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance criteria, but does not meet the importance criteria. This nomination will not be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.10 GEMINI BRIDGES/POISON SPIDER

(Nominated by Carlson and by SUWA as part of "Greater Moab")

Description of Area: This area includes Gemini Bridges, Poison Spider, and the area to the north of Highway 279.

Size: Not calculated

Relevance Criteria: This area meets the relevance criterion for scenery, as there are many scenic views of redrock, the LaSal Mountains, arches and cliffs. This area is included in most of the guide books for the area. It also meets the relevance criterion for wildlife; desert bighorn sheep inhabit this area.

Importance Criteria: The scenery in the area is attractive, but is of no more than local significance. Similar scenery is found throughout the Colorado Plateau region. The wildlife values are of no more than local significance, as these species are found elsewhere.

Findings: This nomination will not be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.11 HATCH WASH

(Nominated by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

Description of Area: The area includes Hatch Wash and its associated uplands. This area is located within the Canyon Rims Recreation Area in northern San Juan County.

Size: Not calculated

Relevance Criteria: The area meets the relevance criteria for scenery and for wildlife resources. Hatch Wash is a very scenic riparian canyon, surrounded by scenic cliffs. Many wildlife species utilize Hatch Wash for habitat.

Importance Criteria: The area does not meet the importance criteria for either scenery or wildlife resources. Neither value is of more than local significance, nor is the area fragile, sensitive or rare. The scenery in Hatch Wash is found in many of the riparian canyons on the Colorado

Plateau. The wildlife habitat is neither rare, irreplaceable nor exemplary; such habitat is found throughout the region.

Findings: The nomination does not meet the importance criteria for ACEC nomination and will not be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.12 HIGHWAY 279 CORRIDOR/SHAFER BASIN/LONG CANYON

(Nominated by MFO Staff, and by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance as "Dead Horse Point")

Description of Area: The area is a corridor along Utah Highway 279, including the extension of that road into the Shafer Basin. The Shafer Basin provides the viewshed from Dead Horse Point State Park. In addition, Long Canyon to the Dead Horse Mesa is included in this proposal. BLM has modified the boundary of the SUWA nomination to better incorporate the resource values that were found relevant and important in this area.

Size: 13,500 acres

Relevance Criteria: The area meets the relevance criteria for scenic, cultural, plant and wildlife resources. Utah Highway 279 is a state scenic byway; its scenery and ancient rock art is enjoyed by thousands of visitors per year as they drive along the Colorado River. The Shafer Basin provides the spectacular foreground scenery as viewed from the road and from Dead Horse Point State Park. Long Canyon also provides a scenic backcountry drive just off Utah Highway 279. The scenery is classified as Class A.

A Utah BLM sensitive plant, Jane's globemallow, is found in the Shafer Basin. In addition, both the Shafer Basin and Long Canyon are important habitat to the desert bighorn sheep. As a result, the uplands north of Dead Horse Point State Park were found to have relevant values for wildlife and plants.

Importance Criteria: The nomination meets the importance criteria for scenery, cultural, plant and for wildlife values only within the modified boundary. The stunning scenery within Shafer Basin and Long Canyon as viewed from State Scenic Byway 279 and Dead Horse Point State Park is internationally renowned. Highway 279, Shafer Basin and Long Canyon are also venues for many film permits**,** due to their spectacular scenic backdrops.–Thus, these portions of the nominated area were found to meet the importance criterion for scenery and cultural as they have more than local significance.

Jane's globemallow, a BLM sensitive plant species, is rare and unique and is susceptible to harm. The presence of this plant in the Shafer Basin area meets the importance criteria.

The wildlife values within the adjusted boundary also meet the importance criteria as the Shafer Basin is primary habitat for desert bighorn sheep, which also utilize Long Canyon. These distinctive animals are unique and of more than local significance. Indeed, it is the Shafer Basin habitat which enabled the dwindling desert bighorn herd to survive. This bighorn herd is one of only two indigenous native desert bighorn herds in the state of Utah, and the Shafer Basin herd

has provided stock for restoring desert bighorns to other environments. The wildlife values in the uplands portion (north of Dead Horse Point) were not found to be of more than local significance, and thus did not meet the importance criterion.

Findings: This nomination, with a modified boundary, meets the relevance and importance criteria for scenic, cultural, plant and wildlife resources and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.13 LABYRINTH CANYON

(Nominated by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and by BLM staff)

Description of Area: Labyrinth Canyon is located along the Green River, and extends from Ruby Ranch to the border of Canyonlands National Park. This proposal is for the eastern side of that canyon. It complements that of the Price Field Office, which has an ACEC proposal for the western side of Labyrinth Canyon. BLM staff has modified the boundary to better incorporate those resource values identified as both relevant and important.

Size: 8,528 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: This nomination meets the relevance criteria for scenic, historic, fish and natural processes. The scenery in Labyrinth Canyon is outstanding, and is enjoyed by many river runners. Historic sites are prevalent along the Green River, and these meet the historic criterion. The Green River is home to four endangered fish species: Colorado pikeminnow, razorback chub, bonytail chub and humpback chub. The upland regions east of the river corridor do not meet the relevance criteria for scenic, historic, fish or natural processes. The wildlife relevance criterion is met for these upland regions, as the area is habitat to many animals, including desert bighorn sheep.

Importance Criteria: The nomination meets the importance criteria for scenery values only in the Green River Canyon corridor. The scenery along the river is of far more than local significance, which give it special worth and meaning. The Green River is nationally and internationally famous for its high cliff walls and outstanding scenery. It is an internationally recognized destination for canoe touring. The importance criterion is also met for fish resources, as the endangered fish species live only in the Colorado River system, and are rare, irreplaceable and unique. The importance criteria for terrestrial wildlife values involving the upland regions east of the river corridor are not met, as these wildlife values are only of local significance. While the river corridor is a unique resource for endangered fish species, the upland regions are duplicated in many places across the Colorado Plateau.

Findings: The portion of the nominated area that meets the relevance and importance criteria for scenery, and for fish resources will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.14 MILL CREEK CANYON

(Nominated by the Mill Creek Partnership, BLM staff and SUWA as part of "Greater Moab")

Description of Area: Mill Creek Canyon is located directly east of Moab. It consists of both the North Fork and South Fork drainages of Mill Creek from the National Forest boundary to Spanish Valley.

Size: 13,501 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: This nomination meets the relevance criteria for scenery, cultural values, fish and wildlife resources and natural systems. Mill Creek Canyon has significant scenic values, with Class A scenery and high sensitivity. The outstanding visual resources of the canyon are stunning, and of rare scenic quality.

Cultural resources (including rock art, campsites, rock shelters, alcoves and special activity areas) are exceptional in the forks of Mill Creek, and have been the subject of several scientific studies. Mill Creek is one of five coldwater trout fisheries in the Colorado River system. Due to its perennial water, many wildlife species depend on Mill Creek. A rare and especially high quality riparian area, Mill Creek's ecological condition requires special management. The Mill Creek watershed is the lifeblood of Moab and Grand County, providing water that sustains the human population.

Importance Criteria: Mill Creek Canyon meets the importance criteria for scenery, cultural resources, natural riparian systems and fish and wildlife values. The scenery in Mill Creek Canyon is of national quality, and is far more than locally significant. Cultural resources are extensive and span the entire prehistoric context, giving these resources special worth and consequence. Both the scenic and cultural values in Mill Creek Canyon are easily damaged and in need of protection. Cultural resources are especially sensitive, irreplaceable and exemplary; similar cultural resources exist no where else. Mill Creek Canyon's cultural resources have also been identified as being of exceptional importance to Native Americans. Protection of these rich archeological areas is a national priority concern. The proximity of Mill Creek to Moab makes the drainage particularly vulnerable to adverse change.

Fish and wildlife values meet the importance criteria, as the stream is one of the few cold water fisheries in the region. The wildlife importance criterion is met, as Mill Creek Canyon provides a migration corridor from the mountain range to the desert; the richness of the Mill Creek riparian habitat provides for a diversity of species not often found in a desert environment. The rarity of this type of habitat gives importance to this value.

The water resource is a significant factor in the municipal water supply; the watershed is crucial to the public welfare of Moab and Grand County.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for cultural, scenic, fish and wildlife and natural systems and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.15 TEN MILE WASH

(Nominated by Carlson, by BLM staff, and by SUWA as part of both White Wash and Labyrinth/Horsethief)

Description of Area: Ten Mile Wash is located northwest of Moab; it drains into the Green River just downstream of White Wash and upstream of Spring Canyon. The nominated area is composed of the Ten Mile drainage from the Green River to two miles upstream of Dripping Spring.

Size: 4,980 acres

Relevance Criteria: Ten Mile Wash meets the relevance criteria for scenic, cultural, wildlife, natural processes and natural hazards. Ten Mile Wash contains high quality scenery related to sandstone buttes, cliffs, side canyons and alcoves; the scenery is enhanced by the presence of a riparian greenbelt. Ten Mile Wash contains significant cultural resources, including important habitation sites and unusual artifacts.

Ten Mile Wash contains perennial and intermittent flows which maintain ecological diversity in upland and riparian/wetlands-dependent wildlife within extremely arid portions of the basin. Ten Mile Wash contains a rich mixture of riparian, wetland and hydrologic resources. Perennial segments support well-developed wetlands which are rare and unusual in arid regions. Ten Mile Wash is subject to extreme flooding, increasing potential safety hazards to vehicle and camping activities. The potential for flooding is great because the Ten Mile Wash watershed basin drains 175,185 acres, making it the second largest tributary drainage in the Moab Field Office.

Importance Criteria: This nomination meets the importance criteria for cultural, wildlife values, natural systems and natural hazards. Cultural resources in Ten Mile Wash are of more than local significance, and are fragile, rare and exemplary. Ten Mile Wash is wildlife habitat of extremely important consequence in the driest portion of the Moab Field Office, because it provides water and habitat to wildlife from a large geographic area.

Riparian/wetland resources comprise less than 1% of the 22 million acres of public land within Utah. Within the Moab Field Office area, just over 1,000 acres have been identified with wetland potential, of which Ten Mile Wash contains textbook examples. Riparian/wetland ecosystems in Ten Mile Wash are rare, sensitive resources vulnerable to degradation from surface disturbances. These wetland ecosystems are exemplary and rare; they serve as attractors for wildlife and for human activities, making the wash extremely susceptible to adverse impact. Riparian/wetland ecosystems are a national priority concern, and are managed for health and diversity as required by the Clean Water Act, Floodplain and Wetland Executive Orders, Rangeland Standards and Guidelines, and the National Riparian Area Policy. Ten Mile Wash contains extreme seasonal flooding potentials which warrant special management regarding public access and camping within the drainage.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for cultural, wildlife, natural systems and natural hazards, and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.16 UPPER COURTHOUSE

(Nominated by The Nature Conservancy and by BLM staff)

Description of Area: The area of the Upper Courthouse proposal is immediately south of the Blue Hills Road, 16 miles north of Moab. It includes Courthouse, Mill, Tusher and Bartlett Canyons, as well as the tops of various isolated mesas, including Big Mesa.

Size: 11,529 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: This nomination meets the relevance criteria for historic, cultural, paleontological, natural systems, riparian, and rare plants. Courthouse Springs is a known location on the Old Spanish Trail, a National Historic Trail. This location later became the Halfway Stage Station, a significant historic resource. The area contains significant paleontological resources, and includes deposits of surface dinosaur bone

Two rare plants occur within the area: the stage station milkvetch and Trotter oreoxis, both of which are on the state sensitive list. In addition, several of the mesa tops within the proposed ACEC have been little altered by direct human influences and thus support relict plant communities and well-developed, mature cryptobiotic soil crusts. Big Mesa is the largest of these untouched areas. It has never been grazed, nor has it been driven upon.

Importance Criteria: This nomination meets the importance criteria for historic, rare plant and natural systems. The area has special worth due to the rare plant species and relict plant communities. The area contains almost all of the stage station milkvetch plants known in the entire world. This stage station milkvetch population is unique and irreplaceable, as is that of the Trotter oreoxis. Areas of relict vegetation on the mesa tops are representative of conditions on surrounding lands; these uncommon remnants of the presettlement landscape are extremely vulnerable and valuable for scientific study.

Historical resources in the area (including a known watering spot on the Old Spanish Trail) are distinctive and irreplaceable. Increasing recreation activity in the area makes these resources vulnerable to adverse change. The richness of its paleontological resources are of more than local significance, as the variety of dinosaur bone in the area rivals that found in Dinosaur National Park.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for historic, cultural, paleontological, and natural systems: rare plants. Upper Courthouse will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.17 WESTWATER CANYON

(Nominated by BLM staff and by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance)

Description of Area: Westwater Canyon is along the Colorado River six miles downstream from the Colorado border.

Size: 5,000 acres (approximate)

Relevance Criteria: This nomination meets the relevance criteria for scenery and for endangered fish. The dramatic, scenic canyon is rated as Class A scenery, as well as VRM inventory Class I. Visiting the canyon and viewing the scenery is a highly sought experience. The most dramatic scenery within the canyon is the contrast of jet black Precambrian rock with the red sandstones above. These two rock layers are in rare juxtaposition in Westwater, making the scenic experience unique. In addition, four endangered fish inhabit the Colorado River, the Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, razorback sucker and bonytail chub. The upland regions surrounding Westwater Canyon do not meet the relevance criteria, as they do not have significant values.

Importance Criteria: This nomination meets the importance criteria for scenery and for endangered fish. The inner gorge of Westwater Canyon is visually unique, with the primordial black Precambrian schist layer overlain by the red rocks of the Wingate sandstone. This irreplaceable canyon is a one-of-a-kind visual experience, which visitors from all over the world vie to enjoy. Westwater Canyon is rare, exemplary and unique in terms of its scenic values. Westwater Canyon has been described as the most scenic one day river trip in the entire United States (*Currents* -- magazine of the National Outdoor River Sports organization). The endangered fish which inhabit its waters are also unique and found only in the Colorado River system.

Findings: This nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for scenery and for endangered fish. Westwater Canyon will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.18 WHITE WASH

(Nominated by BLM staff and by SUWA)

Description of area: White Wash is located 30 miles northwest of Moab. It consists of active sand dunes interspersed with cottonwood trees, surrounded by a intermittent wash that drains to the Green River.

Size: 2,988 acres (approximate)

Relevance criteria: White Wash meets the relevance criteria for scenery, wildlife and natural systems. The high quality scenery is related to the active sand dunes, Entrada sandstone buttes and a unique cottonwood riparian ecosystem. White Wash also contains significant sensitive cultural resources.

White Wash contains intermittent and ephemeral flows vitally important to support wildlife diversity within this extremely arid region. A small resident desert bighorn sheep population relies on upper White Wash for habitat and for water. White Wash contains a unique ecological/geological system related to cottonwood riparian woodlands located within the active dune field and supported by localized subsurface moisture. This population of cottonwoods represents a relict ecosystem and is a rare riparian feature.

Importance criteria: This nomination meets the importance criteria for natural systems. Riparian resources comprise less than 1% of the 22 million acres of BLM land within Utah. Riparian resources in similar combination are not known elsewhere within the region. The White Wash Sand Dunes is a unique ecosystem with sensitive soils which are highly mobile and active. This ecosystem is highly unusual, rare, sensitive and vulnerable to degradation from surface disturbances, especially OHV riders using the cottonwood trees as slalom poles, adversely impacting soil and moisture patterns which support the reproduction and sustainability of the riparian ecosystem.

Riparian/wetland ecosystems are national priority concerns and are managed for health and diversity as mandated by the Clean Water Act, Floodplain and Wetland Executive Orders, Rangeland Standards and Guidelines, and the National Riparian Area Policy.

The area does not meet the importance criterion for cultural, scenery or for wildlife. Cultural sites in the area are not unique; similar wildlife habitat is available across the Colorado Plateau.

Findings: This nomination does not meet the relevance criteria for scenery, cultural, wildlife and natural systems. It meets the importance criterion for natural systems. It will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.6.19 WILSON ARCH

(Nominated by BLM staff)

Description of Area: Wilson Arch is located approximately 25 miles south of Moab on the east side of U.S. Highway 191. The nominated area includes the red rock basin that contains Wilson Arch.

Size: 3,700 acres (approximate)

Relevance criteria: Wilson Arch has significant scenic value.

Importance criteria: Located immediately adjacent to U.S. Highway 191, Wilson Arch is viewed and photographed by many visitors to the Colorado Plateau. This makes the scenic value of the arch more than locally significant, due to its extreme visibility.

Findings: The nomination meets the relevance and importance criteria for scenery and will be carried forward as a potential ACEC.

I.7 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A total of 35 nominated areas (many of which were overlapping with each other in area) were evaluated for relevance and importance as part of the Moab land use planning process. The boundaries of what were to become potential ACECs were crafted by the BLM interdisciplinary team and its cooperators to best incorporate the relevant and important values of each nomination. The proposals included areas previously nominated, nominations received from the

public as part of scoping, and areas nominated, refined, or expanded by BLM staff specialists. As a result of work completed by the BLM ACEC interdisciplinary team and its cooperating agencies, 14 potential ACECs that meet both the relevance and importance criteria have been identified, and will move forward for additional consideration as alternatives for the RMP are developed and analyzed. These 14 potential ACECs are listed in Table 1. Potential ACECs may be designated in the Record of Decision for the RMP if special management is required to protect the relevant and important values.

Table 1. Potential Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Area Name	Values of Concern	Acres
Behind the Rocks (e.g.)	Scenic values, Natural systems: Threatened and Endangered Plants, cultural	17,836
Book Cliffs Wildlife Area	Wildlife values, cultural and natural systems	304,252
Canyon Rims	Scenic values	23,400
Cisco White Tailed Prairie Dog Complex	Wildlife values	125,620
Colorado River Corridor	Scenic, cultural, wildlife, fish, natural systems: rare plants	50,483
Cottonwood-Diamond Watershed	Natural hazards and natural systems	35,830
Highway 279 Corridor/ Shafer Basin/ Long Canyon	Scenery, wildlife, cultural and rare plants	13,500
Labyrinth Canyon	Scenery and fish	8,528
Mill Creek Canyon	Scenery, cultural, wildlife, natural systems, fish	13,501
Ten Mile Wash	Cultural, wildlife, natural systems, natural hazards	4,980
Upper Courthouse	Historic, cultural and paleontological, natural systems, rare plants	11,529
Westwater Canyon	Scenery and fish	5,069
White Wash	Natural systems	2,988
Wilson Arch	Scenery	3,700

APPENDIX A: RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE CRITERIA

RELEVANCE

An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:

1. A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans)
2. A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat for endangered, sensitive or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity)
3. A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relic plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features)
4. Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or other dangers that have been determined through the resource management planning process to have become part of a natural process.

IMPORTANCE

The value, resource, system, process or hazard described above must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the value, resource, system, process or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:

1. Has more than locally significant qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource.
2. Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.
3. Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.
4. Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety and public welfare.
5. Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.

APPENDIX B LIST OF ACEC NOMINATIONS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER– MOAB RMP (NOTE: NOMINATIONS COMBINED BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS)

Nomination	Nominator(s) (Note: nominations vary in acreage)	Acres of public land in proposed boundary	Potential ACEC (Yes/No)	Comments
Behind the Rocks	The Nature Conservancy, BLM staff, SUWA	17,836	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Big Triangle	SUWA	Not calculated	No	
Book Cliffs Wildlife Area	BLM Staff, SUWA	304,252	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Canyon Rims	BLM Staff	23,400	Yes	
Castle Valley Critical Deer Winter Range	Grand Canyon Trust	Not calculated	No	
Cisco White Tailed Prairie Dog Complex	Center for Native Ecosystems et al.	125,620	Yes	
Colorado River Corridor, including Richardson Amphitheater, Negro Bill, Cache Valley and Arches East, Sand Flats, Fisher Towers	The Nature Conservancy, BLM Staff, SUWA, Stolfa, Carlson	50,483	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Cottonwood Diamond Watershed	BLM Staff	35,830	Yes	
Dolores Triangle	SUWA	Not calculated	No	
Gemini Bridges/Poison Spider	Carlson, SUWA	Not calculated	No	
Hatch Wash	SUWA	Not calculated	No	
Highway 279 Corridor/Shafer Basin/Long Canyon	BLM Staff, SUWA	13,500	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Labyrinth Canyon	BLM Staff, SUWA	8,528	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals

Nomination	Nominator(s) (Note: nominations vary in acreage)	Acres of public land in proposed boundary	Potential ACEC (Yes/No)	Comments
Mill Creek Canyon	Mill Creek Partnership, SUWA, BLM Staff	13,501	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Ten Mile Wash	Carlson, SUWA, BLM Staff	4,980	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Upper Courthouse	The Nature Conservancy, BLM Staff	11,529	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Westwater Canyon	BLM Staff, SUWA	5,069	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
White Wash	BLM Staff, SUWA	2,988	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Wilson Arch	BLM Staff	3,700	Yes	