

LEARS CANYON ACEC

Objective

Retain the area's present natural Douglas fir-mountain browse and pinyon-juniper communities as a comparison or control area and to provide/set aside an area in a late to climax ecological stage for research and/or educational purposes within this vegetation community type.

Management Levels

- Level 1 - Relict vegetation (100%)
- Total Federal Acreage - 1,400 acres
- Refer to Map 3-2

Management Prescriptions

Cultural.

LC01 Consult with the Ute Tribe for protection of areas and items of traditional lifeways and religious significance.

Fire.

LC02 Maintain the natural role of fire within the relict vegetation community. Large scale fires will not be allowed to kill more than 50% of the pinyon-juniper community or more than 40% of the Douglas fir-mountain browse over the life of this plan. Outside of the ACEC, allow fire to burn under prescribed conditions to support stated resource values of a vigorous, healthy, vegetation community. Support critical soil management goals and critical wildlife habitat management goals.

Fish and Wildlife.

LC03 Do not allow activities that would result in adverse impacts to wintering deer from December 1 through April 30 on crucial deer winter range.

Lands and Realty.

LC04 Establish a right-of-way exclusion area covering the entire ACEC.

LC05 Recommend protective withdrawals that preclude entry under the 1872 General Mining Law, and the agricultural entry laws, as amended or revised.

Livestock.

LC06 Do not allow livestock grazing within the ACEC. Occasional one-day livestock trailing could be authorized through the area, to afford proper livestock distribution elsewhere on the involved grazing allotment.

LC07 Develop range improvements to prevent livestock from moving or drifting onto the ACEC.

Minerals.

LC08 All 1,400 acres are Category 3 (NSO) leasable minerals.

LC09 All 1,400 acres are open to geophysical activities with no significant disturbance.

LC10 All 1,400 acres are Category 4 (closed) for mineral material disposal.

LC11 Until a protective withdrawal is in place and in force, any mining activity other than casual use will require a mining plan of operations. Operations would be restricted by stipulations designed to protect the vegetation community in the area within the operating parameters of the 1872 General Mining Law and FLPMA, as amended or revised.

Recreation.

LC12 The area is closed to OHV use due to the clear dominance of the primitive/natural qualities of the area. This does not apply to permitted BLM activities or authorized administrative uses.

LC13 Should riparian values exist within the ACEC, allow new surface-disturbing activities within 330' of riparian zones only when it can be shown there is no practical alternative, that long-term impacts are fully mitigated, or that the construction is an enhancement to the riparian area.

Riparian.

- LC14 Should riparian values exist within the ACEC, allow new surface-disturbing activities within 330' of riparian zones only when it can be shown there is no practical alternative, that long-term impacts are fully mitigated, or that the construction is an enhancement to the riparian area.
- LC15 Provide sufficient herbaceous forage biomass to meet requirement of plant vigor maintenance, bank protection, and sediment entrapment.

Soil and Water.

- LC16 Allow new surface-disturbing activities on critical soils within level 3 areas of the ACEC if watershed values are maintained.

Vegetation.

- LC17 Retain the vegetative compositions in their present late to climax ecological stages.
- LC18 Allow biological or chemical control of noxious weeds and insect infestations within the ACEC, with restrictions to protect the existing desired

plant communities and watershed values. Do not allow mechanical control in the ACEC.

- LC19 In the event revegetation following a major surface disturbance, such as wildfire, is deemed necessary to protect watershed and visual resource values, only site-adapted native species are used. On small surface-disturbed areas (less than five acres) within the pinyon-juniper community, where other resource values would not be adversely affected, consider allowing natural revegetation to accomplish the vegetation community's natural recovery.

Visual.

- LC20 Allow only short-term or mitigable visual intrusions on VRM Class II lands.

Woodlands.

- LC21 The ACEC is closed to the sale and/or harvesting of woodland products.

Support Needs

- LC22 Develop an activity plan for the ACEC.

Lears Canyon ACEC Diamond Mountain RMP

50 Ft. Contour ————
Section Lines - - - - -
Roads ————
ACEC Bounds ————

Scale 1:35000

BLM, Vernal District Office
Diamond Mountain Resource Area
Fall, 1994

