

Table 2.1.20 Proposed RMP and Alternatives – Special Designations: Wilderness Study Areas

Table 2.1.20 Proposed RMP and Alternatives – Special Designations: Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)					
PROPOSED RMP	Alternative A (Draft RMP/EIS Preferred Alternative)	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D Current Management (No Action)	Alternative E
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS — WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)					
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve the wilderness character of Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) until Congress designates them or releases them. Manage the existing WSAs listed below (53,058 acres) as directed in the Interim Management Policy (IMP) for Lands under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) in a manner that does not impair their suitability for designation as wilderness. Allow temporary uses that create no new surface disturbance nor involve permanent placement of structures. Temporary, non-disturbing activities, as well as activities governed by valid existing rights, may generally continue in WSAs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Cliffs Mountain Browse Natural Area (400 acres) Bull Canyon (600 acres) Daniels Canyon (2,496 acres) Diamond Breaks (3,900 acres) West Cold Springs (3,200 acres) Winter Ridge (42,462 acres) 					
MANAGEMENT COMMON TO THE PROPOSED RMP AND ALL ALTERNATIVES (INCLUDING THE NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)ALTERNATIVE)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSAs are right-of-way exclusion areas. WSAs are closed to oil and gas leasing. Fire activities and projects in WSAs will follow the IMP. 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All WSAs designated as VRM Class I (53,058 acres) Closed to OHV travel. 	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	Same as the Proposed RMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All WSAs managed to a VRM Class I objective (53,058). OHV would be managed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Cliffs Mountain Browse Natural Area - Closed Bull Canyon - Limited Daniels Canyon - Limited Diamond Breaks - Closed West Cold Springs – Limited and Closed Winter Ridge - Open and Limited Where routes would remain available for motorized use within, such use could continue on a conditional basis. Use of the existing routes in the WSAs (“ways” when located within WSAs — see Glossary) could continue as long as the use of these routes does not impair wilderness suitability, as provided by the IMP (BLM 1995). If Congress designates the area as wilderness, the routes will be closed. In the interim, if use and/or non-compliance are found through monitoring efforts to impair the area’s suitability for wilderness designation, the BLM would take further action to limit use of the routes, or close them. The continued use of these routes, therefore, is 	Same as the Proposed RMP.

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SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS — WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)					
				based on user compliance and non-impairment of wilderness values.	
SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS — WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS-IF RELEASED BY CONGRESS					
If any WSA is released by Congress from wilderness consideration and management during the life of the RMP, those lands would be managed with the following prescriptions in this plan until a LUP amendment is necessary.					
BOOK CLIFFS MOUNTAIN BROWSE (400 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	Manage lands in the ISA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category timing and CSU • As part of the Book Cliffs SRMA and Bitter Creek ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class II • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the ISA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • As part of the Book Cliffs SRMA • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class IV • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the ISA according to the following prescription: Same as Alternative A.	Manage lands in the ISA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category no leasing • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class I • Livestock grazing allowed 	If the existing ISA is released from wilderness consideration and management by Congress during the life of the RMP, the released WSA would be managed to protect wilderness characteristics. These lands will be managed in accordance with the following prescriptions: <p>VRM Class I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to OHV use • Closed to oil and gas leasing • Closed to solid mineral leasing • Closed to disposal of mineral materials • Proposed for withdrawal from mineral entry • Retained in federal ownership • Exclusion area for rights-of-way • Closed to permitted commercial and personal-use wood cutting and seed collection • Closed to road construction • Permit maintenance of existing facilities • When compatible with the goals and objectives for management of non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Permit vegetation and fuel treatments using prescribed fire ◦ Permit construction of wildlife waters, livestock facilities, and minimal recreation facilities ◦ Permit excavation of cultural resources sites. ◦ Permit excavation of paleontological resources <p>No actions would be allowed that would</p>

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SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS — WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)					
					degrade the wilderness characteristics of the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics.
BULL CANYON (600 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: Same as the Proposed RMP.	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category D • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class IV • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category D • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class II • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: no leasing • OHV limited to designated routes • VRM Class I • Closed to woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Same as Alternative E under Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA.
DANIELS CANYON (2,496 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: Same as the Proposed RMP.	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class IV • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • Closed to OHV use • VRM Class II • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: no leasing • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class I • Livestock grazing allowed 	Same as Alternative E under Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA.

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DIAMOND BREAKS (3,900 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • As part of the Brown's Park SRMA and ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class II • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • As part of the Brown's Park ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class IV • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: timing and CSU • As part of the Brown's Park SRMA and ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class III • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C • Oil and gas category: no leasing • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class I • Closed to woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Same as Alternative E under Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA.
WEST COLD SPRING (3,200 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category B • Oil and Gas lease category: timing and CSU • As part of the Brown's Park SRMA and ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class II • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category B • Oil and Gas lease category: timing and CSU • As part of the Brown's Park ACEC • OHVs limited to designated routes • VRM Class IV • Available for woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: Same as Alternative A.	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category B • Oil and Gas lease category: no leasing • Closed to OHV use • VRM Class I • Closed to woodcutting • Livestock grazing allowed 	Same as Alternative E under Book Cliffs Mountain Browse ISA.
WINTER RIDGE (42,462 ACRES)					
Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands would be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives,	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C 	Manage lands in the WSA according to the following prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management category C 	Where wilderness characteristics have been lost, due to the exercise of valid existing rights in the Winter Ridge WSA, the following prescriptions would be

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SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS — WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)					
and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM would examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but would defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands would continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis is required to address impacts to the released lands.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas category: timing and CSU As part of the Book Cliffs SRMA OHVs limited to designated routes VRM Class III Available for woodcutting Livestock grazing allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas category: timing and CSU OHVs limited to designated routes VRM Class IV Available for woodcutting Livestock grazing allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas category: timing and CSU As part of the Book Cliffs SRMA and Main Canyon ACEC OHVs limited to designated routes VRM Class II Available for woodcutting Livestock grazing allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas category: no leasing OHVs limited to designated routes VRM Class I Closed to woodcutting Livestock grazing allowed 	<p>applied, if the WSA were released from wilderness consideration by Congress during the life of the RMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage fire as Management Category C Open to oil and gas leasing, subject to timing and CSU Manage as part of the Book Cliffs SRMA Manage as part of the Main Canyon ACEC Limit OHVs to designated routes Manage landscapes by VRM Class II objectives Available for wood cutting Manage for livestock grazing