

JMH CAP Record of Decision

JMH CAP FACTS Cultural Resources

BACKGROUND:

Management focuses on places of interest to Native American tribes and protecting archaeological and historical sites. Management for these resources is guided by the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Scenic and Historic Trails Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act and the Native American Graves Repatriation Act.

SPECIFICS:

- **National Historic Trails and associated sites and landscapes**
 - The South Pass Historic Landscape Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) was designated in the Green River Resource Management Plan to recognize and manage the South Pass area. This is where four National Historic Trails (the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express Trails) cross the Continental Divide.
 - The ACEC encompasses more than 54,000 acres. Approximately 27,000 acres of the historic landscape are visible from the trails.
 - ACEC management is focused on preventing and mitigating visual intrusions that would impair visitor appreciation of the historical setting of South Pass.
- **West Sand Dunes Archaeological District**
 - This Special Management Area is designated to protect stabilized sand dunes and places where buried sediments hold archaeological materials and is located in the vicinity of Killpecker Sand Dunes.
 - Some of the sites are more than 10,000 years old and hold evidence about the earliest humans in North America.
 - Management in this area is focused on ensuring the archaeological information is properly recovered before it is impacted by public land uses.
 - The management intent is for scientific research, but other uses will be considered if they can be structured to fit the research mandate
- **White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC**
 - This heavily visited Native American rock art site is located near Boar's Tusk. The petroglyphs are an important site to the Shoshone, Arapaho and Ute Tribes and have been studied by several internationally recognized rock art experts.
 - Management will be focused on visitor management and protecting the viewshed in the foreground of the petroglyphs.
- **Indian Gap Trail and Other Native American Concerns**
 - The Indian Gap Trail, located between Steamboat and Essex Mountains, was used by tribal people to travel between the Wind River and Fort Duchesne Reservations.
 - Representatives of four Native American tribes identified several places of concern including stone cairns, stone alignments and rock art sites.

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- Management of these areas involves consultation with Native American elders concerning actions that may affect these sites and management of the surrounding viewshed to minimize visual intrusions.
- Management focuses on conducting research and mapping the Indian Gap Trail and developing an interpretation strategy in consultation with the tribes.