



CHAPTER 2
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Roadmap to Chapter 2

This chapter describes how alternatives A through D were developed; their components; other alternatives that were considered, but later eliminated from further consideration; and a comparative summary of impacts for each alternative.

2.1 Alternative Formulation (Page 2-2)

2.2 Alternative Components (Page 2-2)

- ◆ Desired Outcomes (Goals and Objectives)
- ◆ Allowable Uses and Management Actions
- ◆ Reasonable Foreseeable Development and Reasonable Foreseeable Action Scenarios

2.3 Alternatives Considered, but Not Carried Forward for Detailed Analysis (Page 2-5)

2.4 Alternatives Considered in Detail (Page 2-8)

- ◆ Alternative A
- ◆ Alternative B
- ◆ Alternative C
- ◆ Alternative D (Proposed RMP)

2.5 Details of Alternatives (Page 2-34)

2.6 Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative (Page 2-113)

CHAPTER 2

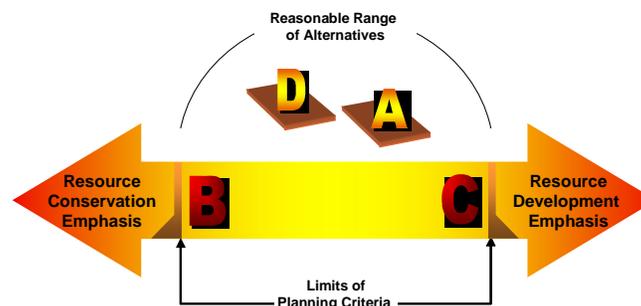
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

This Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluates four resource management alternatives identified by the letters A, B, C, and D. The No Action (Alternative A) represents the continuation of current management direction. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) developed the Action Alternatives B and C with input from the public during scoping, cooperating agencies, and BLM resource specialists. Once developed, the BLM analyzed alternatives A through C to predict their impacts on the environment. The BLM used the impacts analysis of alternatives A through C, along with knowledge of specific issues raised throughout the planning process; recommendations from cooperating agencies and BLM resource specialists; consideration of planning criteria; and resolution of resource conflicts to select Alternative D, the Proposed RMP. After careful consideration of both public and internal comments received on the Draft RMP and EIS, the BLM adjusted and clarified Alternative D. As modified, Alternative D is presented as the Proposed RMP. Each alternative provides a different emphasis for managing public lands and resources within the Kemmerer Field Office planning area (planning area), and each Action Alternative represents a complete and reasonable land use plan that meets the purpose and need described in Chapter 1.

This EIS evaluates the No Action and three Action Alternatives (four alternatives).

The BLM manages public lands and resource values according to the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Given these principles and the inherent conflicting nature of resource conservation and resource development, alternative formulation occurs within the limits of planning criteria that address the needs of present and future generations, while remaining flexible for periodic adjustments. This approach results in a reasonable range of alternatives that vary by their emphasis on allowable uses and management actions that affect conservation and development. For example, restrictions on oil and gas development in and around occupied greater sage-grouse leks may exclude or constrain one land use (e.g., oil and gas development) to protect another (e.g., special status species – wildlife). Of course, not all resources and resource uses are mutually exclusive, but rarely do actions beneficial to one resource benefit all the other resources and resource uses that the BLM must manage. The multitude of resources within the planning area coupled with the diversity of planning issues and the requirement to manage for multiple use and sustained yield naturally leads to developing alternatives across a continuous spectrum from resource conservation to resource development. For example, overall, Alternative B places more emphasis on resource conservation, whereas Alternative C places more emphasis on resource development. The remaining alternatives (A and D) fall in between B and C on the continuous spectrum, as shown in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1. Reasonable Range of Alternatives for the Kemmerer Planning Area



The BLM formulated each Action Alternative to meet the purpose and need of this Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision. Although the No Action Alternative does not meet the purpose and need for all resources, Council on Environmental Quality regulations require its inclusion and consideration. The alternatives differ primarily with respect to their emphases on resource conservation or resource development and the degree to which they address the major planning issues and planning criteria identified in Chapter 1. Action Alternatives or their components (e.g., allowable uses and management actions) that did not fall within the planning criteria, did not meet the purpose and need, or that are already part of an existing plan or administrative function that will continue under the revised RMP were considered, but not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EIS.

2.1 Alternative Formulation

The BLM conducted a series of four workshops in the Kemmerer Field Office with an Interdisciplinary (ID) Team comprising BLM staff and cooperating agencies. During the initial workshop, the ID Team shared their respective knowledge and expertise and collaborated to identify goals and objectives (desired outcomes) representing a full range of alternatives for each resource. The second workshop narrowed the scope of alternatives to a reasonable range bounded by the planning criteria.

The BLM formulated four Action Alternatives from the information gathered during the first two workshops; the ID Team reviewed these Action Alternatives during the third workshop. The BLM analyzed the potential impacts of the four Action Alternatives and the No Action Alternative. Based on this analysis, the similarity among alternatives became apparent and BLM therefore eliminated two of the four Action Alternatives prior to the fourth workshop. During the fourth workshop, the ID Team considered the No Action (A) and the two remaining Action Alternatives (B and C) and provided the BLM with recommendations for selecting the Preferred Alternative (D).

After careful consideration of both public and internal comments received on the Draft RMP and EIS, Alternative D was modified, and is now presented as the Proposed RMP. Compared to current management, the Proposed RMP increases conservation of physical, biological, and heritage resources. Alternative D also emphasizes moderate constraints on leasing for oil and gas and other solid leasable minerals. The Proposed RMP also:

1. Satisfies statutory requirements.
2. Reflects the best combination of decisions to achieve BLM goals and policies.
3. Represents the best solution to the purpose and need.
4. Provides the best approach addressing key planning issues.
5. Considers public input and cooperating agencies and BLM specialists' recommendations.

The BLM conducted a series of four workshops in the Kemmerer Field Office with an Interdisciplinary (ID) Team comprising BLM staff and local, state, and federal cooperating agencies

2.2 Alternative Components

Alternatives described in this chapter represent approaches to addressing key planning issues (see Chapter 1) and to managing resources and resource uses in the planning area. Each alternative comprises two categories of land use planning decisions: (1) desired outcomes (goals and objectives) and (2) allowable uses and management actions. These two categories, as well as the Reasonable Foreseeable Development (RFD) scenario for oil and gas and Reasonable Foreseeable Actions (RFAs), are discussed below.

2.2.1 Desired Outcomes (Goals and Objectives)

Goals and objectives provide overarching direction for BLM actions in meeting the agency’s legal, regulatory, policy, and strategic requirements. Goals and objectives initially were identified during the first workshop and subsequently refined through collaboration with cooperating agencies. Goals are broad statements of desired outcome, but generally are not measurable. Objectives are more specific statements of a desired outcomes that may include a measurable component. Objectives generally are anticipated to achieve the stated goals.

2.2.2 Allowable Uses and Management Actions

Allowable uses and management actions comprise the second category of land use planning decisions and are anticipated to achieve the desired outcomes (goals and objectives). Alternatives were refined to address planning issues, resolve resource conflicts, improve consistency, and ensure resource-specific decisions for the following categories in the RMP revision process: (1) Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources; (2) Resource Uses and Support; and (3) Special Designations.

Management actions are proactive measures or limitations intended to guide BLM activities in the planning area.

Allowable uses identify where land uses are allowed, restricted, or prohibited on all BLM-administered surface and federal mineral estate in the planning area. Alternatives may include specific land use restrictions to meet goals and objectives and may exclude certain land uses to protect resource values. For example, alternatives considered for this RMP revision prohibit surface occupancy (i.e., no surface occupancy [NSO]) by oil and gas development to protect special status plant species. In addition, because the alternatives may restrict where particular land uses are allowed, restricted, or prohibited, allowable uses often include a spatial (e.g., map) component.

Management actions are proactive measures or limitations intended to guide BLM activities in the planning area. Two types of management actions are included in the alternatives. The first is *management actions common to all alternatives*, which will apply regardless of which alternative is selected. The second is *management actions by alternative*, which represent the range of choice(s) considered across alternatives.

Although anticipated to achieve desired outcomes, the components described above may not be achieved during the planning period due to limitations in funding or staffing, changing policies or priorities, or new information. These factors also could affect the rate of RMP implementation. It is important to note that the RMP is strategic in nature, and, while it provides an overarching vision for addressing planning issues and managing resources in the planning area, it must also be flexible to changing priorities, information, and circumstances.

2.2.3 Reasonable Foreseeable Development and Reasonable Foreseeable Action Scenarios

The BLM projected the RFA scenario for each resource program under each alternative (see Appendix M). Using trend data, the RFAs project actions (and associated surface disturbance acreage) for each resource program. For example, RFAs for the livestock grazing program projects the number of infrastructure developments (e.g., springs, wells, pits, reservoirs, fences, and pipelines) and estimated surface disturbance acreage for each alternative over the life of the plan. For oil and gas, the prediction is referred to as an RFD scenario. An RFD is a long-term projection (scenario) of oil and gas exploration, development, production, and reclamation activity. The RFD covers oil and gas activity in a defined area for a specified period of time. The RFD projects a baseline scenario of activity assuming all potentially productive areas can be open under standard lease terms and conditions, except those areas designated as

Alternative Components

closed to leasing by law, regulation, or executive order. The baseline RFD scenario provides the technical basis to analyze the effects that discretionary management decisions have on oil and gas activity. The RFD also provides basic information analyzed in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document under various alternatives. Instruction Memorandum No. 2004-089 Policy for Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario for Oil and Gas (BLM 2004e) guided the preparation of the RFD. Together, allowable uses, management actions, RFAs, and the RFD form the basis for the impact analysis of alternatives described in Chapter 4.

The Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) Reauthorization of 2000, Public Law 106-469, directed the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an inventory of oil and natural gas resources beneath federal lands. The EPCA also directed the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI) to identify the extent and nature of any restrictions to resource development. As a result, the USDI, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Energy released the report, *Scientific Inventory of Onshore Federal Lands' Oil and Gas Resources and Reserves and the Extent and Nature of Restrictions or Impediments to Their Development* (referred to as the "EPCA Inventory"), in January 2003. In addition to EPCA, the final RMP will help to address the provisions of the National Energy Policy Act of 2005, including oil and gas development, by identifying areas within the planning area suitable for energy development.

The BLM is integrating the results of the EPCA Inventory into this RMP revision; therefore, the EPCA findings are common to all alternatives in this EIS. The oil and gas resource inventory data are integrated into the RFD baseline scenario for oil and gas that is used to predict future oil and gas exploration and development within the planning area for both the constrained (as by management-imposed restrictions that could affect future activity levels) scenario and the unconstrained (areas without restrictions that are open for leasing) scenario. Taking into account various land use constraints (e.g., NSO stipulations) associated with allowable uses and management actions, operator expertise, and industry knowledge, the RFD projects the number of wells that might be developed under the constrained scenarios for each alternative (Appendix M). BLM policy requires the RFD baseline scenario be adjusted under each alternative to reflect varying levels of administrative designations, management practices, and mitigation measures (BLM 2004e). Output from RFD technical analysis includes a projection of the number of wells, infrastructure and associated surface disturbance for the unconstrained (baseline) and alternative scenarios development and analysis. For example, allowable use restrictions that exclude oil and gas leasing differ by alternative relative to the size of area excluded. The spatial difference in the area excluded and the underlying mineral development potential correspond to a difference in the potential number of wells and infrastructure, e.g., processing plants, access roads, compressor stations, etc., projected for each alternative. Moreover, because the drilling of oil and gas wells requires surface disturbance, the acreage of surface disturbance will likewise vary by alternative. The number of wells projected in the RFD does not equate to a limit on the number of wells or surface disturbance that could occur under each alternative. Rather, the RFD serves as a tool for analyzing the effects discretionary management decisions have on oil and gas activity and provides basic projection information and data for analyzing each alternative.

The BLM is integrating the results of the EPCA Inventory into this RMP revision; therefore the EPCA findings are common to all alternatives in this EIS.

The RMP identifies and documents the constraints on fluid mineral exploration and development in the form of stipulations. Lease stipulations are provisions that modify standard lease rights and are made part of the lease. Many of the decisions from the existing Kemmerer RMP have been implemented. In some cases, implementation of these decisions established valid existing rights or other obligations that are important considerations in preparing the revised Kemmerer RMP. For example, many of the oil and gas resources in the planning area are leased. The presence of these valid existing rights influences, and sometimes limits, management choices. Specific to the oil and gas program, the alternatives in this

Proposed RMP address the availability and allocation of lands for future oil and gas leasing, potential lease stipulations, and additional mitigation to be considered and applied during the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) process. Oil and gas lease stipulations may be modified or eliminated using the exception, modification, or waiver criteria outlined in Appendix F or through more site-specific environmental analysis. The BLM's authorized officer could modify those stipulations determined to be either too restrictive or too lenient relative to desired outcomes.

2.3 Alternatives Considered, but Not Carried Forward for Detailed Analysis

Many of the alternatives described in this section are actually components of alternatives and were considered, but not carried forward for detailed analysis because (1) they did not fulfill requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (43 United States Code [USC] § 1701 et seq.) (FLPMA) or other existing laws or regulations; (2) they did not meet the purpose and need as described in Chapter 1; (3) they were already part of an existing plan, policy, or administrative function; (4) they did not fall within the limits of the planning criteria; or (5) they were not comprehensive alternatives, addressing all resource programs, planning criteria, and key planning issues. A brief description of alternatives considered and the rationale for not carrying forward for detailed analysis are provided below.

- *Suspend existing federal minerals leasing and development operations and cancel existing oil and gas leases.* The BLM must, by law, recognize all valid existing rights. However, the BLM can impose reasonable limits on the manner and pace of development.
- *Emphasize the protection of resources by removing most, if not all, human uses.* Management actions including closure or prohibition of various resource uses over portions of the planning area are included in the alternatives.
- *Prohibit or exclude parts or all of the planning area from wind-energy development, oil and gas leasing, all-terrain vehicles/off-highway vehicles (OHV) use, and livestock grazing.* FLPMA requires the BLM to manage public lands and resources according to the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Alternatives inconsistent with BLM's multiple use mandate were not carried forward. The BLM recognizes conflicts exist between resources and resource uses and considered these conflicts during development of the alternatives.
- *Adopt or modify policies to favor specific resources or resource uses.* Consideration was given to modifying policies for specific resources and resource uses. In some cases, adopting recommended policies would preclude the flexibility the BLM requires to manage resources or resource uses and did not meet planning criteria. FLPMA requires the BLM to manage public lands and resources according to the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Alternatives inconsistent with BLM's multiple use mandate were not carried forward. The BLM recognizes conflicts exist between resources and resource uses, and considered these conflicts during the development of the alternatives.
- *Prohibit all surface water disposal of coalbed natural gas (CBNG) wastewater.* The BLM considered this alternative to respond to issues about potential impacts to aquifers, soils, and the quantity and quality of surface water in and downstream of disposal of CBNG-produced water. Under this alternative, all produced water would be captured and re-injected into an underground stratum. The feasibility of an all-re-injection alternative is limited. The BLM could not require industry to implement this alternative since discharge of produced water is under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Wyoming State Engineer's Office and (or) the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. In addition, much of the planning area involves nonfederal minerals and nonpublic surface over which the BLM has no jurisdiction.

An all-reinjection alternative also would limit the use of CBNG-produced water for beneficial purposes.

- *Initiate land-tenure adjustments to protect resources, resource uses, or private property rights.* The BLM is required by law to recognize existing valid rights on public lands and to manage public lands in accordance with existing laws, including, but not limited to, the General Mining Law of 1872 and the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970. Land-tenure adjustments within the planning criteria for this RMP revision are included in the alternatives analyzed in detail.
- *Prohibit or require use of specific technology.* Specific technological mitigations are appropriate to project level analysis. Some technologies are not feasible in all locations in the planning area or under all circumstances of a project. Moreover, technologies will evolve over the life of the plan. Blanket technology restriction or requirement limits BLM's flexibility to manage projects based on their unique circumstances.
- *Conduct cultural resource inventories.* Cultural resource inventories are conducted in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Inventories would be required by federal regulation or leasing stipulations in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA and would continue to be incorporated.
- *Conduct wildlife and special status species surveys and (or) perform conservation measures.* Surveys and conservation measures currently required for wildlife and special status species according to leasing stipulations, biological opinions, or regulations would continue under all alternatives. New survey or conservation measure requirements would be determined during subsequent site-specific actions and, as appropriate, consultation with USFWS may be required.
- *Designate or apply special management to specific areas or resources, including Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) or Wilderness.* Additional requests for broad designations were received for riparian areas, big game wintering areas, migration and ecological corridors, various wildlife habitat values, threatened and endangered species habitats, archeological sites, National Historic Trails (NHTs), and paleontological sites. The BLM determined that some of the proposed areas overlap and are already protected by existing laws, executive orders (EOs), or policy. Some proposed areas are considered in detail for other management as part of the alternatives. Nominations for the following special designations were received during the planning process:

Transcontinental Railroad ACEC – Sierra Club: During scoping, the Sierra Club requested that lands along the original transcontinental railroad be designated as an ACEC to protect historic remnants of the line and to educate the public on the importance of the route. The original route of the 1868 railroad crosses approximately 105 miles in the planning area, of which only 22 miles (21%) cross BLM sections. The 22 miles that cross BLM-administered lands are dispersed in small parcels across the 105 miles that the railroad crosses in the planning area. The BLM is extremely limited insofar as management of lands through which the railroad passes; this precludes the ability to manage them as an ACEC because BLM does not control what happens on the other 79 percent of private and state lands. Where the original line exists on public land, cultural resource stipulations and requirements protect the remnant portions.

Citizen's Proposal Raymond Mountain Wilderness Expansion – Wyoming Wilderness Association: A citizen's proposal was received that requested expansion and inclusion for wilderness consideration of an additional 18,313 acres of mixed BLM/state/private lands adjacent to and east of the current Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). This area was reviewed in 1984 for the original WSA, but was not considered to be eligible at that time. Since the time of the 1986 RMP, the described lands have undergone additional modern changes and

improvements that further remove it from wilderness eligibility. Much of this area also is covered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department proposed ACECs. The BLM's authority to designate WSA's has expired. The BLM evaluated the area to determine if wilderness characteristics are present. If present, the BLM could, through the RMP, make a decision to manage the area to protect those characteristics. However, BLM found that the area does not possess wilderness characteristics. More specifically, BLM found the following:

1. Imprint of man unnoticeable. There are several modern improvements and structures that exist in the proposal area. The most distinctive of these is a modern communications facility with related modern structures, approximately 16 miles of upgraded crowned and ditched roads, and approximately 10 miles of established two-track routes. Other notable improvements and disturbances in the proposal area are barbed-wire fences, fenced enclosures, spring developments, a bridge structure, and several areas where bladed surface disturbance has occurred.
 2. Has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive, unconfined type of recreation. Although there are some portions of the proposed area that may allow for this, there are also many roads in the area that prevent total solitude and prevent truly primitive conditions. To change this condition, closure and reclamation of the roads would be necessary.
 3. Has at least 5,000 acres or sufficient size to make practical designation. The suggested area meets this criterion.
 4. May also contain ecological, scenic, historic, archeological, and geologically unique qualities. No known special or unique features exist in the requested expansion area. This area is very similar to most of the remaining area outside the current WSA.
 5. Is protected and managed to preserve its natural condition. A problem with management may occur due to parcels of state and private lands located within the suggested boundary. BLM has been unsuccessful in exchanging state and private inholdings in the current WSA, although this has been pursued.
- *NSO lease stipulation in areas administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing under the Proposed RMP.* In response to comments received on the Draft RMP and EIS, the BLM considered allowing new fluid mineral leasing with an NSO restriction within portions of the Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide areas and areas of large, contiguous blocks of federal land containing sagebrush, mountain shrub, and aspen habitat. All new leases, including those that expire in these areas, would be offered with an NSO restriction.
 1. The BLM focused a preliminary analysis on key resources and resource uses that could be impacted by this potential new alternative, called Alternative B1, including Air Quality, Soil, Water, Leasable Minerals – Oil and Gas, Vegetation – Forests, Woodlands, and Forest Products, Vegetation – Grassland and Shrubland Communities, Vegetation – Riparian and Wetland Communities, Fish and Wildlife Resources – Wildlife, Special Designations (Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide), Social Conditions, and Economic Conditions. Based on the results of this preliminary analysis, included in Appendix Q, the BLM determined that Alternative B1 would not be implemented as part of the RMP or analyzed in detail. The BLM believes the Proposed RMP provides the best balance for resource protection and use over the life of the plan. In addition, this alternative does not meet the purpose and need of the RMP revision as it does not achieve the established goals and objectives nor does it enable reaching desired outcomes.

2.4 Alternatives Considered in Detail

This section summarizes the four alternatives (A through D) considered in the EIS in detail. A description of the alternatives considered includes (1) a narrative to describe *what* decisions each alternative will establish and, in some cases, (2) maps to show *where* each decision will occur. With 70 maps and multiple special designations, resource uses, goals, objectives, and management actions for more than 30 individual resources and resource uses, an exhaustive narrative description of each alternative would result in a lengthy and potentially confusing document. Only select meaningful differences among alternatives are summarized in this section, specifically those with the most potential to affect resources. Table 2-1 and Table 2-2 highlight the meaningful differences among alternatives relative to what they establish and where they occur. Acreages provided throughout this document were calculated electronically from Geographic Information System (GIS) layers, also used to create the maps. The maps from Volume 2 can be used to visualize these alternatives more effectively. Following these tables, a narrative description of each alternative is provided under the following headings.

Only select meaningful differences among alternatives are summarized in this section, specifically those with the most potential to affect resources.

- Overview of the Alternative
- Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources
- Resource Uses and Support
- Special Designations

Other than *Overview of the Alternative*, the above headings reflect categories through which program-specific guidance for land use planning decisions must be applied (BLM 2005a). Table 2-1 summarizes meaningful differences among alternatives for the first two categories: Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support.

Table 2-1. Comparative Summary of Proposed Land Use Decisions for Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support by Alternative in the Kemmerer Planning Area

(All numbers in this table represent acreage unless otherwise noted.)

Topic	Acreage Type	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources					
Restrictions on Areas of Highly Erosive Soils	BLM-Administered Surface	Comply with standard practices and mitigation guidelines	Prohibit surface disturbance	Apply best management practices	Same as Alternative C
Forestlands/Woodlands Treated Annually	BLM-Administered Surface	Not identified	50/50	150/100	75/75
Annual Allowable Probable Sale Quantity (CCF/MBF)	BLM-Administered Surface	Must not exceed annual sustainable yield capacity	444/200	1,333/600	667/300
Greater Sage-Grouse Occupied LekS – ¼-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	28,599	0	28,599	0
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	30,442	0	30,442	0

Table 2-1. Comparative Summary of Proposed Land Use Decisions for Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support by Alternative in the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

(All numbers in this table represent acreage unless otherwise noted.)

Topic	Acreage Type	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources					
Greater Sage-Grouse Occupied Leks – 0.6-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	0	132,002	0	132,002
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	0	140,765	0	140,765
Greater Sage-Grouse Nesting and Early Brood Rearing Habitats – 2 mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	702,360	0	702,360	0
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	745,623	0	745,623	0
Greater Sage-Grouse Nesting and Early Brood Rearing Habitats – 3 mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	0	1,016,791	0	1,016,791
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	0	1,085,856	0	1,085,856
Raptors – ½-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	3,769	0	3,769	0
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	3,065	0	3,065	0
Raptors – ¾-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	37,689	0	37,689	37,689
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	40,878	0	40,878	40,878
Raptors – 1-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	74,599	0	74,599	74,599
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	71,531	0	71,531	71,531
Raptors – 1½-mile buffer	BLM-Administered Surface	0	245,978	0	0
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	0	249,154	0	0
Protected Cultural Sites	BLM-Administered Surface	100	132	100	132
Resource Uses and Support					
Withdrawn from Locatable Mineral Entry	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	Existing withdrawals	Existing withdrawals plus 940,220 (includes overlap with existing withdrawals)	Remove existing withdrawals	Existing withdrawals plus 1,985 (includes some overlap)

Alternatives Considered in Detail

Table 2-1. Comparative Summary of Proposed Land Use Decisions for Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support by Alternative in the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

(All numbers in this table represent acreage unless otherwise noted.)

Topic	Acreage Type	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Cokeville Meadows Proposed Withdrawal from Locatable Mineral Entry	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	Not identified	3,056 (overlaps the 940,220 acres above)	0	427 (overlaps with 1,985 acres above)
Administratively Available for Oil and Gas and Other Leasables with Standard Stipulations	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	337,076	7,718	360,472	62,036
Administratively Available for Oil and Gas and Other Leasables with Moderate Constraints	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	783,218	118,071	776,850	797,504
Administratively Available for Oil and Gas and Other Leasables with Major Constraints	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	354,266	643,515	337,238	537,341
Administratively Unavailable for Oil and Gas Leasing	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	104,802	810,058	104,802	182,481
Areas Acceptable for Further Consideration for Coal Leasing	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	3,963	0	3,963	3,963
Areas of No New Leasing for Other Solid Leasables	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	32,808	981,110	32,808	32,808
Areas of No New Mineral Material Sales	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	0	970,953	0	34,374
Lands Identified for Disposal	BLM-Administered Surface	59,181	0	59,181	35,500
Lands Identified for Retention	BLM-Administered Surface	1,364,824	1,424,005	1,364,824	1,388,505
Areas Suitable for Wind-Energy Development	BLM-Administered Surface	Not identified	176,109	1,376,607	780,714
Rights-of-Way Exclusion Areas ¹	BLM-Administered Surface	0	452,208	0	109
Pine Creek Canyon SRMA	BLM-Administered Surface	0	4,801	4,801	4,801
Raymond Mountain SRMA	BLM-Administered Surface	0	32,807	32,807	32,807

Table 2-1. Comparative Summary of Proposed Land Use Decisions for Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support by Alternative in the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

(All numbers in this table represent acreage unless otherwise noted.)

Topic	Acreage Type	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Oregon-California National Historic Trail SRMA	BLM-Administered Surface	0	63,313	63,313	63,313
Dempsey Ridge SRMA	BLM-Administered Surface	0	33,445	33,445	33,445
Travel Management (Open)	BLM-Administered Surface	0	0	2,791	159
Travel Management (Seasonal Closure)	BLM-Administered Surface	287,160	599,175	0	287,160
Travel Management (Designated)	BLM-Administered Surface	0	0	0	4,506
Travel Management (Closed)	BLM-Administered Surface	32,787	33,896	32,787	33,037
Travel Management Snowmobile Use (Limited)	BLM-Administered Surface	291,653	569,609	0	258,851
Travel Management Snowmobile Use (Closed)	BLM-Administered Surface	26,115	32,802	26,115	32,802
Visual Resource Management - Class I	BLM-Administered Surface	0	32,807	32,807	32,807
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	0	32,807	32,807	32,807
Visual Resource Management - Class II	BLM-Administered Surface	129,771	678,733	51,694	392,719
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	176,511	814,210	75,515	475,352
Visual Resource Management - Class III	BLM-Administered Surface	378,979	383,225	241,728	347,214
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	415,026	411,284	261,544	427,952

Alternatives Considered in Detail

Table 2-1. Comparative Summary of Proposed Land Use Decisions for Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources and Resource Uses and Support by Alternative in the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

(All numbers in this table represent acreage unless otherwise noted.)

Topic	Acreage Type	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Visual Resource Management - Class IV	BLM-Administered Surface	878,411	330,939	1,096,917	654,724
	BLM-Administered Mineral Estate	940,765	322,104	1,195,244	645,843
National Historic Trails Viewshed	BLM-Administered Surface	68,143	405,268	120,370	175,400

¹This acreage accounts for all types of ROW exclusions, including pipeline and wind energy.

Notes: Restrictions on resource uses (e.g., administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing) apply to the life of the RMP, but can be changed by amending the RMP. Acreages were calculated from Geographic Information System layers.

- 0 No acreage identified under this alternative
- BLM Bureau of Land Management
- CCF hundred cubic feet
- MBF thousand board feet
- RMP Resource Management Plan
- ROW rights-of-way
- SRMA Special Recreation Management Area

Table 2-2 summarizes meaningful differences among alternatives for Special Designations. Viewed in conjunction with the narrative for each alternative, Table 2-1 and Table 2-2 highlight select meaningful land and resource use decisions each alternative would establish. To avoid redundancy, the narrative descriptions of the Action Alternatives emphasize meaningful differences compared to Alternative A.

Table 2-2. Comparative Summary of Proposed Special Designations by Alternative for the Kemmerer Planning Area

Name	Emphasis	Acreage Type	Alternative A		Alternative B		Alternative C		Alternative D (Proposed RMP)	
			Existing Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage
Raymond Mountain	Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat and riparian areas	Total Surface	ACEC	12,667	ACEC	12,667	No SD	0	ACEC	12,667
		BLM-Administered Surface		12,667		12,667		0		12,667
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		12,667		12,667		0		12,667
Raymond Mountain Expansion	Bonneville cutthroat trout habitat	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	33,928	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		27,026		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		28,430		0		0

Table 2-2. Comparative Summary of Proposed Special Designations by Alternative for the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

Name	Emphasis	Acreage Type	Alternative A		Alternative B		Alternative C		Alternative D (Proposed RMP)	
			Existing Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage
Special Status Plant Species Habitat	SSS populations/habitat	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC/ RNA	907	No SD	0	ACEC CBC	907
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		774		0		774
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		793		0		793
Cushion Plant Communities	SSS communities	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC/ RNA	62	No SD	0	ACEC CBC	62
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		62		0		62
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		62		0		62
Bridger Butte	Cultural, historical, Native American values, and rare plant species	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	1,127	No SD	0	ACEC	727
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		1,127		0		727
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		1,127		0		727
White-tailed Prairie Dog Complexes	White-tailed prairie dog habitat	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	30,913	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		30,913		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		28,739		0		0
Dry Fork Watershed	Critical wildlife and fisheries habitats	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	4,690	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		3,172		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		4,054		0		0

Table 2-2. Comparative Summary of Proposed Special Designations by Alternative for the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

Name	Emphasis	Acreage Type	Alternative A		Alternative B		Alternative C		Alternative D (Proposed RMP)	
			Existing Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage
Upper Tributary Watershed	Critical wildlife and fisheries habitats	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	5,595	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		4,291		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		4,924		0		0
Lower Tributary Watershed	Critical wildlife and fisheries habitats	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC	1,371	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		1,351		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		1,359		0		0
Fossil Basin	Preservation and research of fossil resources	Total Surface	No SD	0	ACEC/MA	451,452	No SD	0	No SD	0
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		201,660		0		0
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		250,146		0		0
Rock Creek/Tunp	Critical wildlife habitats, cultural values, and SSS plant habitat	Total Surface	No SD	0	MA	63,278	No SD	0	MA	45,863
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		63,278		0		45,863
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		63,278		0		45,863
Bear River Divide	Critical wildlife habitats, cultural values paleontology resources, and SSS plant habitat	Total Surface	No SD	0	MA	146,322	No SD	0	MA	74,954
		BLM-Administered Surface		0		146,322		0		74,954
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		0		147,156		0		74,258
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Wild and scenic values	Number of segments recommended suitable for inclusion in WSR system	No SD	0	WSR	13	No SD	0	WSR	2

Table 2-2. Comparative Summary of Proposed Special Designations by Alternative for the Kemmerer Planning Area (Continued)

Name	Emphasis	Acreage Type	Alternative A		Alternative B		Alternative C		Alternative D (Proposed RMP)	
			Existing Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage	Proposed Designation	Acreage
Raymond Mountain Wilderness Study Area	Wilderness values	Total Surface	WSA	32,880	WSA	32,880	WSA	32,880	WSA	32,880
		BLM-Administered Surface		32,880		32,880		32,880		32,880
		BLM-Administered Mineral Estate		32,880		32,880		32,880		32,880
Emigrant Springs Back Country Byway	Scenic Values	BLM-Administered Surface	No SD	0	BCB	4.5 miles primitive two-track; 11.0 miles crowned and ditched gravel road	No SD	0	No SD	0

ACEC Area of Critical Environmental Concern
 BLM Bureau of Land Management
 CBC case-by-case
 BCB Back Country Byway
 RNA Research Natural Area

SD Special Designation
 MA Management Area
 SSS Special Status Species
 WSA Wilderness Study Area
 WSR Wild and Scenic River

The Details of Alternatives section in this chapter and the maps in Volume 2 provide extensive details regarding each alternative. The Details of Alternatives section describes the goals and objectives for each of eight resource topics (e.g., physical, mineral, biological, etc.). Each alternative under the eight resource topics describes the different allowable uses and management actions as potential decisions under those topics. Goals and objectives (desired outcomes) are not described in the alternative narrative because they do not differ among alternatives.

Decisions made by this RMP revision are anticipated to be subsequently implemented. Restrictions on resource uses (e.g., areas administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing) apply to the life of the RMP, unless changed through an RMP amendment and public involvement. The timing and degree of implementation will depend on available budget, staffing, and agency priorities. Actions taken or authorized by the BLM during RMP implementation would comply with standard practices, best management practices (BMPs), and guidelines for surface-disturbing activities (refer to the Glossary). Therefore, these practices and guidelines are considered part of each alternative.

Due to the general strategic nature of alternatives for an RMP revision, site-specific mitigation is not identified in this document. The range of alternatives reflects the degree of mitigation built into each alternative in the form of avoiding, minimizing, and compensating for adverse impacts. During the implementation stage, additional environmental analyses will be conducted, as appropriate, for site-specific actions, and the BLM will determine on a case-by-case basis what, if any, site-specific mitigation is required at that time.

2.4.1 Alternative A

2.4.1.1 Overview of the Alternative

Alternative A (No Action Alternative) represents the continuation of current management of BLM-administered lands in the planning area. Resources and resource uses on lands administered by the BLM within the planning area are currently managed under the existing plan (BLM 1986a), as amended (including currently authorized activity plans [e.g., allotment management plans, habitat management plans]). Existing designations, allowable uses, and management actions for the planning area will continue under Alternative A. In general, Alternative A focuses on analyzing proposed activities on a case-by-case basis to manage resources and resource uses in the planning area.

In general, Alternative A focuses more on analyzing proposed activities on a case-by-case basis rather than relying on absolute decisions to manage resources and resource uses in the planning area.

2.4.1.2 Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources

Physical resources are managed under Alternative A to conserve air, water, and soil resources and to support resources and resource uses. The Kemmerer Field Office works cooperatively with the Wyoming DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency to maintain ambient air quality in the planning area. To conserve water and soil resources within the planning area, the BLM complies with standard practices and Wyoming BLM mitigation guidelines for surface-disturbing activities on BLM-administered public lands; restricts oil- and gas-related activities on slopes greater than 25 percent; prohibits surface occupancy (i.e., NSO) for fluid minerals on slopes greater than 40 percent; avoids surface-disturbing activities within 500 feet of 100-year floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, or perennial streams; prohibits use of fire suppression chemicals within 200 feet of surface water; considers lining of reserve pits on a case-by-case basis; and reviews all proposed methods to dispose of produced water to ensure compliance with local, state, and federal laws and regulations. To protect water quality, disposal of water produced from CBNG wells is currently evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may require a soils analysis of the downstream area, as well as additional information necessary to determine compliance with current laws.

Fire and Fuels Management under Alternative A follows the Appropriate Management Response in the *Fire Management Plan Southwestern Zone Wyoming BLM 2004* for areas where fire is not desired and for areas where fire can be used as a management tool (BLM 2004f). Prescribed fire, wildland fire use, and chemical, biological, and mechanical treatments, can be used to meet fire and fuels management objectives, improve plant community health, reduce hazardous fuels, and reintroduce fire to its natural role in the ecosystem to meet fire and fuels resource management objectives.

The BLM complies with standard practices and Wyoming BLM mitigation guidelines for land and resource use on BLM-administered public lands.

Biological resources are managed under Alternative A to provide habitat for fish and wildlife, meet public demand for forest products, protect natural functions in riparian areas, control the spread of invasive nonnative species (INNS), and comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and BLM policy for special status plant and animal species. Alternative A does not include specific decisions to conserve large contiguous blocks of habitat, avoid or minimize habitat fragmentation, protect ecological connections between habitat types, identify and manage migration or travel corridors, or retain old growth forests. Alternative A does establish a 500-foot avoidance buffer around wetlands, riparian areas, aquatic habitats, and 100-year floodplains to protect resource values from surface-disturbing activities. Similarly, Alternative A prohibits mixing chemicals within 500 feet of riparian areas, water sources, floodplains, and known special status plant species populations.

Fish and wildlife species conservation under Alternative A generally is supported by the BLM's current management of habitat. Alternative A includes decisions to address key planning issues and requirements existing when the current plan was established, plus those applicable new regulations, statutes, and policies that have been amended to the plan since establishment. For example, Alternative A does not apply seasonal limitations on surface-disturbing activities to protect fish resources, but does require new fence construction to meet fencing standards to accommodate wildlife movement.

Special status plant species are specifically protected in a few cases under Alternative A by constraints on resource uses; otherwise, potential impacts to these species are managed on a case-by-case basis. For example, the existing NSO restriction for fluid minerals protects four populations of *Physaria dornii* and a representative cushion plant community from oil and gas development. In addition, potential habitat areas of special status plant species are considered areas of controlled surface use (CSU) for surface-disturbing activities under Alternative A. Special status plant species locations are considered rights-of-way (ROW) avoidance areas under Alternative A, although the authorized officer can grant exceptions. Livestock salt or mineral supplements and range improvement projects are prohibited in areas of special status plant species.

Special status wildlife species habitats generally are managed to avoid or minimize impacts from surface disturbance and disruptive activities under Alternative A. For example, surface disturbance is prohibited within ¼ mile of occupied greater sage-grouse leks and human activity between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. is avoided between March 1 and May 15 within this buffer. In addition, Alternative A requires avoidance of surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in suitable greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat that is within 2 miles of occupied greater sage-grouse leks. To protect nesting raptors, Alternative A restricts activity or surface disturbance for up to a ¾-mile radius from any active raptor nest in the planning area from February 1 through July 31. The restrictive buffer is extended to a 1-mile radius for ferruginous hawk nests within the Moxa Arch area of oil and gas development and the timing limitation is extended to August 15 for peregrine falcons. Alternative A does not include specific decisions for conserving pygmy rabbit habitats or white-tailed prairie dog complexes. In addition, Alternative A does not require mitigation to prevent birds from perching on overhead powerlines, restrict high-profile structures within sagebrush obligate habitats, or restrict equipment placement to limit noise levels that may impact wildlife or special status species.

Heritage resources generally are protected by evaluation of potential impacts on a project-by-project basis under Alternative A. Inventories of heritage resources are conducted prior to all surface-disturbing activities, and all significant historical, archeological, cultural sites, and paleontological localities are protected or mitigated under Alternative A. In addition, approximately 480 acres of federal mineral estate in the Bridger Antelope Trap have an NSO restriction for fluid minerals to protect heritage resources under Alternative A. The following specific sites receive additional protection under Alternative A: Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, and Alfred Corum emigrant gravesite. Trails are protected from visual intrusion and surface disturbance under Alternative A by a protective corridor extending ¼ mile from either side of NHTs or within the visual horizon of the trail, whichever is closer.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) will continue according to the 1986 VRM maps under Alternative A. The area within the viewshed of the Bridger Antelope Trap lacks specific prescriptions and is managed according to the VRM class for the area under Alternative A.

2.4.1.3 Resource Uses and Support

Mineral resource uses are managed by identifying BLM-administered lands and mineral estate within the planning area suitable for exploration and development of leasable, locatable, and salable minerals. Constraints on mineral resource use in the planning area are identified to protect resource values. For

Alternatives Considered in Detail

example, some lands within the planning area are currently withdrawn from locatable mineral entry primarily to protect oil shale, coal, and phosphate resources.

Under Alternative A, 104,802 acres of federal mineral estate in the planning area are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing. The remaining federal mineral estate in the planning areas is administratively available for oil and gas leasing subject to the following constraints: approximately 337,076 acres are subject to standard stipulations, 783,218 acres are subject to moderate constraints, and 354,266 acres are subject to major constraints. In addition, fluid mineral leasing currently is allowed within areas containing NHT trail segments, within potential habitat for plant and animal species protected by the ESA, and within areas set aside for public recreation. New oil and gas leases will not be issued and existing leases are suspended in the Mechanically Mineable Trona Area (MMTA) under Alternative A.

Coal leasing applications in the planning area (outside of the Raymond Mountain WSA) currently are subjected to the coal-screening process described at 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3461. The Haystack Lease by Application was recently screened and all 3,963 acres were determined to be acceptable for further leasing consideration, after exceptions to several unsuitability criteria were applied (BLM 2004b).

Federal mineral estate outside the Raymond Mountain WSA currently is available for leasing for sodium and phosphate. Exploration for sodium is considered on a case-by-case basis under Alternative A. The entire planning area is available for consideration of mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits; however, the Interim Management Policy and Guideline for Lands Under Wilderness Review requires any activity within the Raymond Mountain WSA comply with the nonimpairment criteria (BLM 1995a). The area within the viewshed of the Fossil Butte National Monument, developed campground areas, and areas with special status plant and wildlife species currently are available for consideration of mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits under Alternative A. There are existing withdrawals from locatable mineral entry to protect oil shale, phosphate, and coal resources in the planning area.

Forest use under Alternative A does not specify the acreage of forestlands or woodlands for annual treatment. Alternative A also does not specify the annual allowable probable sale quantity; however, current management restricts the annual volume of timber removal to not exceed the annual sustained yield capacity of the land. Alternative A does not specify any type of management action for old growth forests.

Disposal of BLM-administered lands may occur under Alternative A for those lands identified for disposal in the existing plan. Lands may be identified for disposal because they are relatively small in area and isolated from large tracts of other BLM-administered lands and, therefore, difficult for the BLM to manage. Most of the areas currently identified for disposal do not occur near communities within the planning area. Although Desert Land Entries are unlikely to occur in the planning area due to soil characteristics, salinity issues, irrigation requirements, and the practicability of farming the lands as an economically feasible operating unit, applications are considered on their merits providing the applicant provides evidence of a water right and an acceptable conservation plan.

Livestock grazing under Alternative A is managed in accordance with the Standards for Healthy Rangelands.

ROW corridors were not designated in the 1986 RMP and Alternative A does not identify ROW exclusion areas for the following archeological sites: Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites, Pine Grove emigrant camp, Rocky Gap trail landmark, and Bear River Divide trail landmark. Decisions regarding ROW corridors, communication sites, and renewable energy projects are not specifically identified in the

existing plan and therefore decisions currently are made on a case-by-case basis. Acquisition of access for the Raymond Mountain WSA, Dempsey Basin, Commissary Ridge, and the Bear River Divide areas is identified as high priority under Alternative A.

Livestock grazing under Alternative A is managed according to the *Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Public Lands Administered by the BLM in the State of Wyoming* (BLM 1998a). Other than a few small parcels that currently are not permitted or leased, the entire planning area is available for livestock grazing. For “I” allotments (see Glossary) Alternative A focuses on improvement, whereas for M and C allotments, the focus is on maintenance. Consideration of temporary nonrenewable permits issued for unallotted parcels will continue. The forage allocation of 827 animal unit months (AUMs) associated with the Lost Creek/Ryan Creek land acquisition will continue to be designated for wildlife use only and not available for livestock use under Alternative A. Forage reserves under Alternative A are not considered, developed campgrounds remain unavailable for livestock grazing, and grazing in the Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows is only available as a management tool. Alternative A does not restrict the distance of livestock salt or mineral supplements from water sources, riparian areas, aspen stands, or special status plant species.

Recreational facilities in the planning area are retained under Alternative A. To protect the recreational experience, the existing NSO restriction for fluid minerals within 400 feet of developed campgrounds also is retained. Dispersed camping continues to be allowed throughout the planning area under Alternative A according to recreational use rules.

No Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) are designated under Alternative A. Instead, BLM-administered lands within planning area are managed as an Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). Recreation management objectives for the ERMA are developed to address visitor health and safety, user conflict, and resource protection. Recreation management actions are restricted to these custodial actions. Visitation in ERMAs includes a wide variety of dispersed recreational activities. In addition to other multiple uses, the ERMA is managed for primitive and semiprimitive motorized recreational use, and for dispersed uses that do not require developments or facilities.

Travel Management Areas currently are not delineated in the planning area. Motor vehicle travel in the planning area currently is limited to existing roads and trails, except for the Raymond Mountain WSA, where it is prohibited in most of the area. Existing roads and trails in the planning area are open to mechanized vehicle use (mountain bikes) and OHV use, except in the Raymond Mountain WSA. Motor vehicle travel is seasonally limited (closed January 1 to April 30) in the Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek crucial big game winter range areas. Approximately 23 miles of groomed snowmobile trails exist in the planning area and new trails are considered on a case-by-case basis under Alternative A. Snowmobile use in Pine Creek Canyon currently is limited to the groomed trail. Prior to January 1, snowmobile use may occur in Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek crucial big game winter ranges and the Raymond Mountain WSA. The Raymond Basin is open to snowmobile use. Roads and trails are designated according to a transportation plan.

2.4.1.4 Special Designations

Currently, the only ACEC in the planning area is the Raymond Mountain ACEC (Table 2-2). This area was designated for the protection of watershed resources for Bonneville cutthroat trout in 1983. Surrounding the Raymond Mountain ACEC is the Raymond Mountain WSA. The Raymond Mountain ACEC is retained and no additional ACECs are proposed under Alternative A. In addition, no Research Natural Areas (RNAs), Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs), Back Country Byways, or Other Management Areas (MAs) are either identified, recommended, or proposed for the planning area under Alternative A.

2.4.2 Alternative B

2.4.2.1 Overview of the Alternative

Alternative B addresses the key planning issues identified in Chapter 1 by placing more emphasis on conservation of physical, biological, and heritage resources and more constraints on resource uses compared to Alternative A. Relative to all alternatives, Alternative B identifies the most land area for the protection of physical, biological, and heritage resource values; designates the highest number of ACECs (10); identifies the most land area for other management; places the most restrictions on OHV use; places the most constraints on resource uses; and allows new leasing on the smallest area for oil and gas, coal, and other solid leasable minerals.

Alternative B emphasizes conservation of physical, biological, and heritage resources by placing the most constraints on resource uses.

2.4.2.2 Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources

Physical resources under Alternative B are managed with more of an emphasis toward conserving air, water, and soil resources and less of an emphasis on supporting resource uses compared to Alternative A. For example, under Alternative B, the BLM will enhance existing criteria pollutant and air quality related value monitoring compared to Alternative A. To conserve soil and water resources, Alternative B places additional restrictions on resource uses compared to those described for Alternative A, including prohibiting surface-disturbing activities in areas of sensitive or highly erosive soils with slopes of 10 percent or greater; prohibiting disturbance on fragile soils and soils with chemical or biological crusts, highly erodible characteristics, or low reclamation potential; closing areas within ¼ mile of 100-year floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, or perennial streams to surface-disturbing activities; prohibiting use of fire suppression chemicals within 500 feet of surface water; requiring all reserve pits be lined (when the preferred closed mud systems for handling drill cuttings are unavailable); and prohibiting disposal of produced water to streams or other flow-connected surface features on land administered by the BLM.

Fire and fuels management under Alternative B is similar to that described for Alternative A. However, Alternative B sets acreage thresholds for meeting fire and fuels management objectives and for reintroducing fire to its natural role in the ecosystem.

Biological resources management under Alternative B places more emphasis on conservation of habitat for fish and wildlife, ecosystem management, protection of natural functions in riparian areas, control of INNS, and more constraints on resource uses that may impact biological resources compared to Alternative A. For example, to protect habitat, Alternative B emphasizes the management of large, contiguous blocks of federal land by maintaining or enhancing sagebrush, aspen, and mountain shrub communities and maintaining connections between these vegetation types. Alternative B also restricts habitat fragmentation to no more than 3 percent of available habitats in identified special status species habitats; identifies and preserves migration and travel corridors for big game, migratory birds, and special status species; and retains old growth forests. To protect wetlands, riparian areas, aquatic habitats, and 100-year floodplains, Alternative B extends the current 500-foot buffer prohibiting surface-disturbing activities to ¼ mile. Alternative B also extends the current 500-foot buffer around riparian areas, water sources, and floodplains to ¼ mile for mixing of chemicals. In addition, aerial application of chemicals is not allowed within ½ mile of wetlands, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats and special status plant species under Alternative B.

Fish and wildlife and special status wildlife species habitats under Alternative B are protected by more constraints compared to Alternative A. For example, Alternative B applies seasonal limitations for surface-disturbing activities within the floodplain or within 1,000 feet of fish-bearing streams to protect fish resources. To prevent birds from perching on overhead powerlines, Alternative B requires all new low voltage utility lines be buried and BLM-approved anti-perching devices be installed on all new high

voltage utility lines. Alternative B also removes or modifies all BLM fences to comply with fencing standards that accommodate wildlife movement.

Special status plant species receive increased protection under Alternative B compared to Alternative A. For example, all locations of *Physaria dornii* have NSO restrictions for fluid minerals and all surface-disturbing activities are prohibited in any potential habitat areas of special status plant species under Alternative B. In addition, special status plant species locations are considered ROW exclusion areas under Alternative B compared to avoidance areas under Alternative A. Alternative B increases protection for special status plant species more than Alternative A by adding a ½-mile buffer within which livestock salt or mineral supplements and range improvements are not allowed, unless they benefit these plant species.

Special status wildlife species receive increased protection under Alternative B compared to Alternative A. For example, protection of greater sage-grouse is increased by extending the temporal human activity avoidance buffer to one hour before sunset to one hour after sunrise from March 1 through May 15 on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks. In addition, Alternative B prohibits surface disturbance or surface occupancy on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile radius of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks. Alternative B also prohibits surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in suitable greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat within 3 miles of occupied greater sage-grouse leks or in identified nesting or brood-rearing habitats outside the 3-mile buffer from March 15 through July 15. Unlike Alternative A, Alternative B also protects greater sage-grouse during the winter by prohibiting surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in suitable winter concentration areas from November 15 through March 14. Alternative B increases protection of nesting raptors, by extending the buffer prohibiting surface-disturbing and disruptive activities to 1½ miles of an active raptor nest during the following times.

- February 1 through July 15, or whenever the young have fledged (unidentified raptor nests as well as golden eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk, great-horned owl)
- March 1 through July 31 (short-eared, long-eared, and screech owl, ferruginous hawk, peregrine falcon)
- April 1 through July 31 (osprey, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, kestrel, prairie falcon, northern harrier, Swainson's hawk, Cooper's hawk)
- April 1 through September 15, or whenever the young have fledged (burrowing owl)
- April 1 through August 31 (northern goshawk)

To protect special status mammal wildlife species, Alternative B prohibits surface-disturbing activities in identified pygmy rabbit habitats and prohibits surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in all white-tailed prairie dog colonies or complexes 100 acres or greater in size. To protect special status sagebrush obligate wildlife species, Alternative B prohibits new high-profile structures within 1 mile of occupied sagebrush obligate habitats and prohibits these structures from relying on guy wires for support in these habitats. Also, Alternative B requires location of facilities or use of BMPs to minimize impacts of continuous noise on species relying on aural cues for successful breeding.

Heritage resources benefit from more protection under Alternative B compared to Alternative A. For example, heritage resources are researched and tribes are consulted proactively to identify all sensitive sites within the planning area under Alternative B. All significant historical, archeological, cultural sites, and paleontological localities are protected or mitigated under Alternative B. In addition, surface-disturbing activities, OHV use, prescribed burns, and vegetation treatments are prohibited in approximately 640 acres of federal mineral estate encompassing the Bridger Antelope Trap. Alternative

Alternatives Considered in Detail

B also protects specific cultural sites by prohibiting establishment of ROW corridors, wind-energy projects, surface-disturbing activities, OHV use, prescribed burns, and vegetation treatments within the boundaries of: Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites, Pine Grove emigrant camp, Rocky Gap trail landmark, and Bear River Divide trail landmark.

Management actions for NHTs are defined for specific classes that are based on the known conditions and degrees of integrity of trail segments (see Section 3.5.1.2 for full definitions of classes). Briefly, Class 1 trails are undiminished trail traces and settings that retain the best National Register qualities of integrity and are provided the highest level of protection. Class 2 trails have traces with good physical integrity and settings that retain some integrity that may or may not be considered contributing to the overall eligibility of the trail, and are afforded moderately restrictive management actions. Class 3 trails retain limited physical integrity with settings that do not contribute to the trail's eligibility, so the management actions are generally focused on preservation of the trail traces and not on the settings. Under Class 4, the trail's physical trace no longer exists because it is known to be destroyed, generally precluding the need for consideration of settings, so no special management actions are proposed. Under Alternative B, the physical evidence of NHTs receive additional protection by extending the surface-disturbing activities buffer on either side of the trails to 1 mile for Class 1 segments, ½ mile for Class 2 segments, and ¼ mile for Class 3 segments.

VRM under Alternative B updates the planning area management classification as: Class I – Raymond Mountain WSA; Class II – 3-mile buffer around all sensitive roads, NHTs, campgrounds, towns, and sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); Class III – Pine Creek Ski Area and Lion's Club Park Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) leases; and Class IV – areas of high human disturbance and low visual stimulation. The rest of the planning area is managed as Class III under Alternative B. Overall, Alternative B provides more protection of the viewshed compared to Alternative A. For example, Alternative B protects the viewshed within 10 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap juniper fence, Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites, Pine Grove emigrant camp, Rocky Gap trail landmark, Bear River Divide trail landmark, and Gateway petroglyphs by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the site. Viewsheds of NHT segments are increased under Alternative B to 10 miles (Class 1 segments), 5 miles (Class 2 segments), and ½ mile (Class 3 segments).

2.4.2.3 Resource Uses and Support

Mineral resource uses are constrained more under Alternative B compared to Alternative A. For example, in addition to existing withdrawals for locatable minerals, Alternative B withdraws developed campgrounds, federal mineral estate encompassing the Bridger Antelope Trap, areas with known locations of special status species (plants and wildlife), and the Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) from operation of the mining laws.

Mineral resource uses are constrained more under Alternative B compared to Alternative A.

Under Alternative B, 810,058 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing. The remaining federal mineral estate in the planning area is administratively available for oil and gas leasing subject to the following constraints: approximately 7,718 acres are subject to standard stipulations, 118,071 acres are subject to moderate constraints, and 643,515 acres are subject to major constraints. In addition, to protect resource values, Alternative B does not allow new fluid mineral leasing on currently unleased areas within large contiguous blocks of federal land containing sagebrush, mountain shrub, and aspen habitat, potential habitats for plant and wildlife species protected by the ESA, within 5 miles of Class 1 trail segments, and within areas set aside for public recreation. Moreover, when

current fluid mineral leases expire they will not be reoffered in these areas under Alternative B. New oil and gas leases will not be issued and existing leases are suspended in the MMTA under Alternative B.

Coal leasing is more constrained under Alternative B compared to Alternative A. No new coal leasing is considered in the planning area.

Federal mineral estate within the planning area is available under Alternative B for sodium and phosphate leasing with the following exceptions: the viewshed of Fossil Butte National Monument and viewshed of incorporated towns and cities. In addition, to protect resource values, areas with special status plant and wildlife species are closed to sodium and phosphate mineral development. Alternative B does not allow mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits within the Raymond Mountain WSA, the viewshed of Fossil Butte National Monument, within ½ mile of developed campground areas, or areas with special status plant and wildlife species.

Forest use under Alternative B restricts the annual treatment (i.e., mechanical methods or prescribed fire) of forestland and woodland to approximately 50 acres each year (500 acres per decade) to manage stocking levels to more historical conditions. In addition, Alternative B restricts the allowable probable sale quantity in the planning area to annually 444 hundred cubic feet (CCF) (200 thousand board feet [MBF]); or per decade 4,440 CCF (2 million board feet [MMBF]). Approximately 3,000 acres of combined forestland and woodland within the Raymond Mountain WSA are managed by fire to simulate natural alteration of vegetation to meet wilderness and healthy forest landscape objectives; however, no mechanical or surface-disturbing activities and no removal of forest products are allowed in this area. Under Alternative B, old growth forest areas are retained in an appropriate proportion to other timber classes, using an adaptive management approach.

Under Alternative B, disposal of BLM-administered lands is not considered, and no BLM-administered lands are available for agricultural entry under Desert Land Entry. ROW exclusion areas are established on BLM-administered lands for the archeological sites identified in Alternative A to protect heritage resource values. To further protect resource values, Alternative B also does not designate corridors through NRHP identified sites or where they are in conflict with NHT management objectives. To minimize surface disturbance, Alternative B limits preferred corridors to ¼-mile wide and requires new intrastate pipelines to link the Jonah Gas/Pinedale Anticline Fields to existing plant sites in the planning area and new interstate pipelines to follow the existing California and Pacific Coast states pipelines. To minimize surface disturbance and habitat fragmentation, Alternative B consolidates communication sites in four areas (Quealy Peak, Medicine Butte, Hickey Mountain, and the BLM Wareyard). Alternative B also prohibits wind-energy projects in areas containing important resource values, including crucial winter range, active raptor nests, raptor migration corridors, potential nesting habitat and leks of greater sage-grouse, within 5 miles of significant cultural sites, the Raymond Mountain WSA, Class A or B scenery areas, or areas of sensitive and highly erosive soils. High priority areas for access identified under Alternative B are the same as described under Alternative A.

Livestock grazing continues to be managed on 224 grazing allotments according to the *Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Public Lands Administered by the BLM in the State of Wyoming* (BLM 1998a) under Alternative B. However, Alternative B imposes more constraints on livestock grazing compared to Alternative A. For example, the planning area is available to livestock grazing on a case-by-case basis under Alternative B, where it does not conflict with other resources. No temporary nonrenewable permits for unallotted parcels are issued under Alternative B. Instead of focusing on livestock and improving or maintaining the grazing allotment categories described in Alternative A, grazing systems and range improvements are managed to enhance watershed, riparian, and wildlife values while reducing livestock conflicts with other resources under Alternative B. Additional sustained yield forage is not allocated for livestock use under Alternative

B. Alternative B manages unallotted public lands containing riparian areas, excluding stock trails, with emphasis on wildlife and watershed objectives, and excludes livestock uses. In addition, under Alternative B, the Christy Canyon Allotment is designated as a forage reserve and developed campgrounds and the Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows are not available for livestock grazing. To protect resource values, Alternative B prohibits livestock salt or mineral supplements within ½ mile of water sources, riparian areas, aspen stands, or special status plant species.

Recreational facilities in the planning area are retained under Alternative B; however, no new facilities will be developed. To further protect the recreational experience, the existing NSO restrictions for fluid minerals within 400 feet of developed campgrounds are expanded to ¼ mile under Alternative B. Under Alternative B, the Pine Creek Canyon, Raymond Mountain, selected BLM-administered lands in the Dempsey Ridge area, and Class 1 segments of the Oregon-California National Historic Trail are designated SRMAs and intensively managed for recreation. Most of the visitors to these areas are from southwest Wyoming and northeast Utah. Pine Creek Canyon SRMA is heavily used during the hunting season for camping and in the winter for snowmobiling. The management goal for the canyon is to enhance recreational opportunities, such as camping and snowmobiling, while protecting riparian areas and wildlife winter ranges. Recreation in the Raymond Mountain SRMA is restricted to wilderness experiences, such as hiking, hunting, primitive camping, and horseback riding. Recreation in the Oregon-California National Historic Trail SRMA primarily is visiting and learning about trail history, and motor vehicle use is restricted to designated roads and trails. The Dempsey Ridge SRMA encourages motorized recreation along the proposed Emigrant Springs Back Country Byway to support learning about NHTs. Remaining acreage in the planning area is designated as an ERMA and management is primarily custodial. Under Alternative B, dispersed camping (in accordance with recreational use rules) continues to be allowed in the planning area; however, riparian areas are closed to camping to protect resource values.

Travel Management Areas are established and travel management plans will be completed under Alternative B following signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Kemmerer RMP. Motor vehicle travel in the planning area under Alternative B has more restrictions than Alternative A. For example, Alternative B limits motor vehicle travel and OHV use to crowned and ditched roads and closes motor vehicle travel from November 15 to April 30 in Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek crucial big game winter range areas. Alternative B also closes Raymond Mountain, Green Hill, the trail to Commissary Ridge, select NHT segments, riparian and wetland areas, and special status plant species populations to motor vehicle use and OHV use. The existing 23 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the planning area remain open under Alternative B; however, no new snowmobile trails will be developed in crucial big game winter range to protect resource values. The current seasonal restriction on snowmobile use in Slate Creek, Rock Creek, Bridger Creek, crucial big game winter ranges, and in the Raymond Mountain WSA is extended from November 15 to April 15 under Alternative B.

2.4.2.4 Special Designations

Under Alternative B, the Raymond Mountain WSA would continue to be managed under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review and the Raymond Mountain ACEC is retained. Nine additional ACECs, including the Raymond Mountain Expansion, are designated (Table 2-2). Under Alternative B, two of the nine proposed ACECs (special status plant species and cushion plant communities) also are proposed for designation as RNAs. In addition, the proposed Fossil Basin ACEC is identified for special management. Other Management Areas (MAs) identified under Alternative B include Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide. Alternative B also recommends 13 waterway segments for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, the most of any alternative. Alternative B also proposes the Emigrant Springs Back Country Byway. In general, Alternative B designates the most acreage in the planning area as ACECs and identifies the most RNAs, MAs, and waterway segments suitable for inclusion in the WSR system compared to all other

alternatives. The designations of ACECs and RNAs, the identification of MAs, and inclusion of suitable waterway segments in the WSR system under Alternative B conserve more physical, biological, and heritage resources and constrain resource uses more than the other alternatives.

2.4.3 Alternative C

2.4.3.1 Overview of the Alternative

Alternative C addresses the key planning issues identified in Chapter 1 by placing more emphasis on resource uses (e.g., energy and mineral development, recreation, and forest products) and by maintaining or reducing constraints placed on resource uses to protect physical, biological, and heritage resource values. Compared to all alternatives, Alternative C conserves the least land area for protecting physical, biological, and heritage resource values; designates no ACECs; identifies the smallest area for other management; is the least restrictive to OHV use; places the fewest constraints on resource uses; and allows the most land area for oil and gas and other solid leasable minerals leasing.

Alternative C addresses the key planning issues identified in Chapter 1 by placing more emphasis on resource uses and by maintaining or reducing constraints placed on resource uses to protect physical, biological, and heritage resource values.

2.4.3.2 Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources

Physical resources under Alternative C are managed with a similar emphasis as Alternative A with respect to conserving air, water, and soil resources and constraining resource uses. For example, under Alternative C, the BLM will retain current management actions for maintaining and monitoring ambient air quality. With the exception of allowing use of fire suppression chemicals near surface water, Alternative C places a similar emphasis on conservation of soil and water resources within the planning area compared to Alternative A.

Fire and fuels management under Alternative C places more emphasis on suppression and less emphasis on conservation of soil, water, and special status species compared to Alternative A. For example, all wildland fires in the planning area are suppressed under Alternative C. Unlike Alternative A, use of prescribed fire, wildland fire, and chemical, mechanical, and biological treatments are not considered in meeting fire and fuels management objectives, to reduce hazardous fuels, or to reintroduce fire to its natural role in the ecosystem under Alternative C.

Biological resources under Alternative C are managed similar to Alternative A; however, additional conservation under Alternative C includes avoiding habitat fragmentation in identified special status species habitat; identifying and developing management for migration and travel corridors for big game, migratory birds, and special status species; and retaining old growth forest areas at appropriate locations and distribution levels. Alternative C reduces the current protective buffer to 100 feet around riparian areas, water sources, and floodplains for mixing chemicals.

Fish and wildlife and special status wildlife species habitats under Alternative C receive similar protection compared to Alternative A. However, Alternative C specifically includes decisions to not require burial of new low-voltage utility lines, or installation of BLM-approved anti-perch devices on new high-voltage utility lines.

Special status plant species generally receive the same or less protection under Alternative C compared to Alternative A. Examples of less protection for special status plant species under Alternative C include removing the current NSO restriction for fluid minerals in four populations of *Physaria dornii* and the

Alternatives Considered in Detail

representative cushion plant community; and removing the CSU limitation on surface-disturbing activities in potential habitat areas of special status plant species.

Special status wildlife species under Alternative C generally receive similar protection compared to Alternative A. For example, protections for greater sage-grouse are the same as Alternative A, except Alternative C also avoids disruptive activities in the ¼-mile buffer around occupied leks. Alternative C provides greater temporal protection (see Alternative B) for nesting raptors compared to Alternative A; however, disruptive activities are prohibited only to ½ mile under Alternative C. Alternative C avoids surface-disturbing activities in occupied pygmy rabbit habitats and continues the lack of limitations on equipment noise levels to protect species relying on aural cues for successful breeding.

Heritage resources under Alternative C are similarly protected compared to Alternative A. Differences under Alternative C include: heritage resources are managed on a project-by-project basis where known site types are encountered, and Class II or III inventories are conducted in areas where impacts from activities are likely; however, inventories are not required in low site-density areas for future projects. Current management of federal mineral estate in the Bridger Antelope Trap continues and all significant historical, archeological, and cultural sites are protected or mitigated. Alternative C provides a narrower corridor compared to Alternative A for protecting the physical evidence of NHT segments. The protective buffer on either side of NHTs under Alternative C depends on the trail segment and includes ¼ mile for Class 1 segments, 500 feet for Class 2 segments, and 100 feet for Class 3 segments.

VRM management classes under Alternative C are designated the same as Alternative A, except the Raymond Mountain WSA is managed as Class I and high potential wind-energy areas are managed as Class IV. Alternative C continues current VRM management of the Bridger Antelope Trap compared to Alternative A. Viewshed protection for NHT segments changes under Alternative C to 1 mile (Class 1 segments), ¼ mile (Class 2 segments), and in accordance with the surrounding VRM class for Class 3 segments.

2.4.3.3 Resource Uses and Support

Mineral resource uses and associated constraints under Alternative C are similar to Alternative A. Alternative C lifts existing locatable mineral withdrawals intended to protect oil shale, coal, and phosphate resources in the planning area. This action allows staking of mining claims in those previously withdrawn areas. No new withdrawals are considered.

Under Alternative C, the same acreage (104,802) is administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing compared to Alternative A. The remaining federal mineral estate in the planning area is administratively available for oil and gas leasing subject to the following constraints: approximately 360,472 acres are subject to standard stipulations, 776,850 acres are subject to moderate constraints, and 337,238 acres are subject to major constraints. Similar to Alternative A, fluid mineral leasing is allowed under Alternative C within areas containing Class 1 trail segments, within potential habitat for plant and wildlife species protected by the ESA, and within areas set aside for public recreation. Alternative C retains the constraints on oil and gas leasing in the MMTA; however, the withholding could be lifted if future technology provides the ability to safely develop the oil and gas leases.

Coal leasing under Alternative C is subject to similar constraints compared to Alternative A. Applications for coal leasing outside the Raymond Mountain WSA are subjected to the coal-screening process, and federal mineral estate within the proposed Haystack Lease By Application is determined to be acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing under Alternative C.

Similar to Alternative A, the planning area outside of the Raymond Mountain WSA is available for leasing solid minerals other than coal, subject to special considerations to protect resource values during

exploration and mineral development. Mineral material sales and (or) free use permits under Alternative C are subject to the same constraints identified for Alternative A.

Forest use under Alternative C restricts the annual treatment (i.e., mechanical methods or prescribed fire) of forestland and woodland to approximately 150 acres and 100 acres, respectively, each year (1,500 acres and 1,000 acres per decade) to manage stocking levels and structure and (or) composition toward historical conditions. In addition, Alternative C identifies an allowable probable sale quantity of 1,333 CCF (600 MBF); or per decade 13,330 CCF (6 MMBF). Under Alternative C, management of 3,000 acres of combined forestland and woodland within the Raymond Mountain WSA is the same as described for Alternative B. Under Alternative C, old growth forest areas are retained at appropriate locations and distribution levels and connectivity of existing or potential old growth areas are adopted whenever feasible.

Disposal of BLM-administered lands under Alternative C are the same as Alternative A and additional parcels are considered on a case-by-case basis. Applications for Desert Land Entry are considered as described for Alternative A.

Disposal of BLM-administered lands under Alternative C are the same as Alternative A and additional parcels are considered on a case-by-case basis.

ROWs and corridors under Alternative C are managed similarly to Alternative A; that is, on a case-by-case basis. Corridor widths are not restricted, communication sites are considered on a case-by-case basis, and placement of corridors is not prohibited in archeological sites under Alternative C. With the exception of the Raymond Mountain WSA and the Bridger Antelope Trap, Alternative C allows for wind and other renewable energy development throughout the planning area. Access across public lands is pursued, as needed, in support of resource programs and with an emphasis on specific areas identified in Table 2-3.

Livestock grazing continues to be managed on 224 grazing allotments according to the *Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Public Lands Administered by the BLM in the State of Wyoming* (BLM 1998a) under Alternative C. Temporary nonrenewable permits for unallotted parcels are issued and grazing is allowed on all public lands in the planning area, including on small isolated tracts currently not permitted or leased for grazing. Grazing system and range improvements are designed to maximize livestock grazing while maintaining other resource values under Alternative C. Additional sustained yield forage is activated for livestock use under Alternative C if monitoring data determine forage is available. The forage allocation of 827 AUMs associated with the Lost Creek/Ryan Creek land acquisition is available for wildlife and livestock use under Alternative C. In addition, the Christy Canyon Allotment is not designated as a forage reserve, developed campgrounds may be available for livestock grazing on a case-by-case basis, and the Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows is available for livestock grazing.

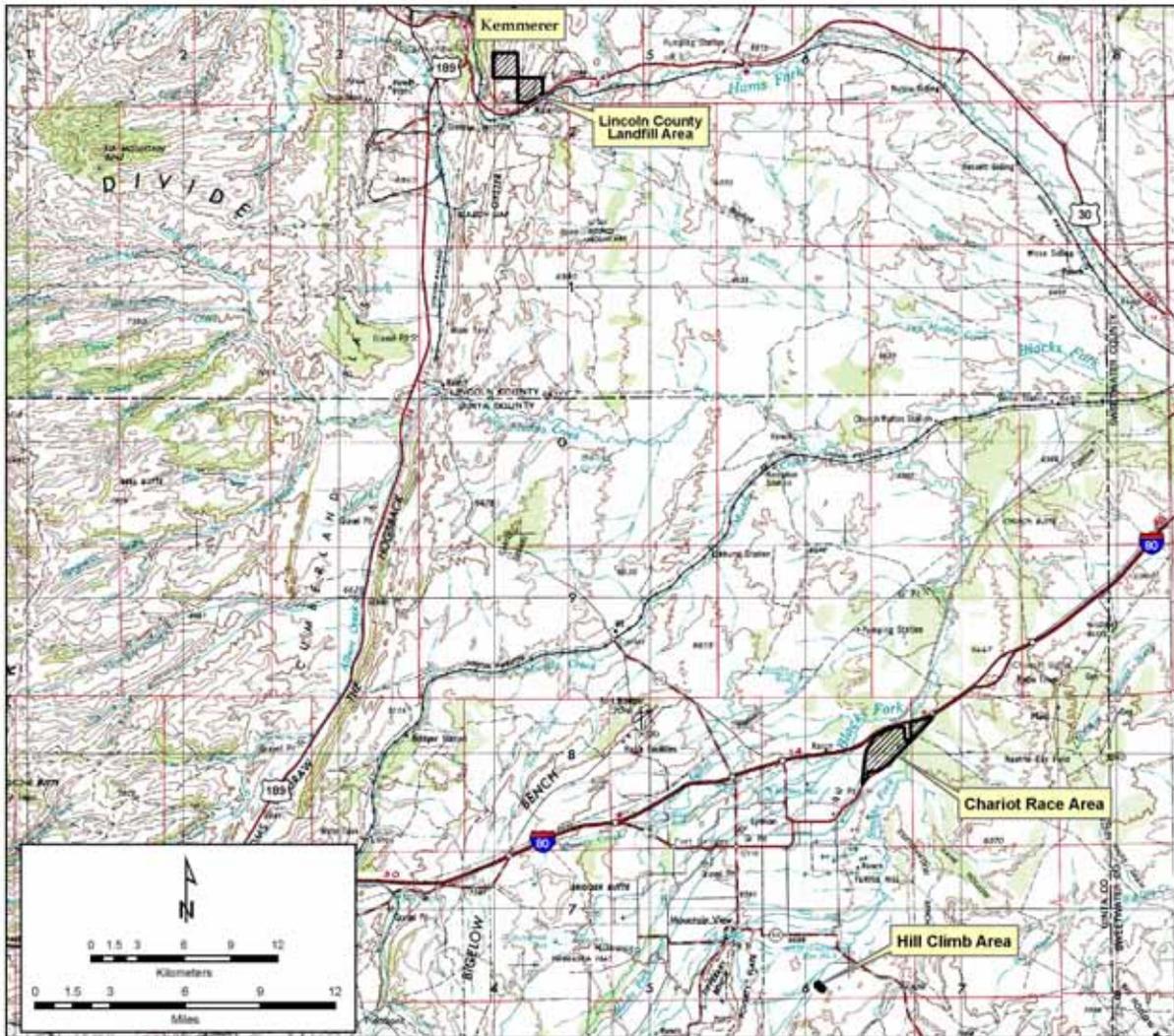
Recreational facilities in the planning area are retained and enhanced and additional recreational facilities are developed, where appropriate, under Alternative C. The current NSO restriction for fluid minerals within 400 feet of developed campgrounds remains under Alternative C. Similar to Alternative B, four SRMAs are designated under Alternative C (Pine Creek Canyon, Raymond Mountain, Oregon-California National Historic Trail, and Dempsey Ridge). All other areas in the planning area not included in an SRMA are managed as the ERMA, where recreation management is limited to custodial actions only. Under Alternative C, dispersed camping (according to recreational use rules) continues to be allowed throughout the planning area.

Travel Management Areas are established and travel management plans will be completed under Alternative C following signing of the ROD for the Kemmerer RMP. Roads and trails are designated according to a transportation plan. Motor vehicle travel in the planning area under Alternative C is limited to existing roads and trails outside of the Raymond Mountain WSA; however, unlike Alternative

Alternatives Considered in Detail

A, no seasonal closures exist and select parts of the planning area are designated open for OHV use under Alternative C (see Map B). The existing 23 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the planning area remain open under Alternative C and new trails are considered on a case-by-case basis. The current seasonal limitations on snowmobile use in Slate Creek, Rock Creek, and Bridger Creek crucial big game winter ranges and in the Raymond Mountain WSA are removed under Alternative C. The Raymond Basin is open to snowmobile use. In addition, the entire Pine Creek Canyon area is available for snowmobile use under Alternative C.

Map B. Off-Highway Vehicle Open Areas in the Kemmerer Planning Area Under Alternative C and (or) Alternative D



Note: Under Alternative C, the Hill Climb, Chariot Race, and Lincoln County Landfill areas are open to off-highway vehicle use. Under Alternative D, the Hill Climb area is open to off-highway vehicle use.

2.4.3.4 Special Designations

The existing Raymond Mountain WSA will continue to be managed under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review, the Raymond Mountain ACEC is not retained, and no new areas are designated or identified as ACECs, RNAs, MAs, WSAs, water segments suitable for inclusion in the WSR system, or Back Country Byways under Alternative C. Compared to all

alternatives, Alternative C designates the least acreage of special designations and identifies the least area (none) for other management. The lack of special designations under Alternative C results in the least constraint on resource uses compared to all alternatives.

2.4.4 Alternative D (Proposed RMP)

2.4.4.1 Overview of the Alternative

Alternative D addresses the key planning issues identified in Chapter 1 by emphasizing a moderate level of protection for physical, biological, and heritage resource values and moderate constraints on resource uses. Alternative D is a balanced approach to land management that the BLM believes best addresses the issues, management concerns, and purpose and need for revising the existing RMP. For these reasons, Alternative D represents the BLM's Proposed RMP.

Alternative D increases conservation of physical, biological, and heritage resources relative to current management.

2.4.4.2 Physical, Biological, and Heritage Resources

Physical resources under Alternative D are managed with more of an emphasis toward conserving air, water, and soil resources and a similar emphasis toward supporting resource uses compared to Alternative A. For example, the BLM will enhance existing criteria pollutant and Air Quality Related Value monitoring on a project-specific or as-needed basis under Alternative D. To conserve soil and water resources, Alternative D places additional restrictions on resource uses compared to those described for Alternative A, including avoiding surface disturbance on slopes of 20 percent or greater on sensitive soil types; avoiding disturbances on fragile soils and soils with chemical or biological crusts, highly erodible characteristics, or low reclamation potential; lining all reserve pits unless other, more effective methods are necessary to prevent impacts; and requiring a BLM-approved disposal plan to dispose of water produced from federal oil and gas wells on BLM-administered land.

Physical resources under Alternative D are managed with more of an emphasis toward conserving air, water, and soil resources and a similar emphasis toward supporting resource uses compared to Alternative A.

Fire and fuels management under Alternative D places more emphasis on protection of soil, water, and special status species compared to Alternative A. Under Alternative D, use of prescribed fire, wildland fire use, and chemical, mechanical, and biological treatments to meet fire and fuels management objectives, to improve plant community health, and to reintroduce fire to its natural role in the ecosystem are based on acreage thresholds.

Biological resources management under Alternative D places more emphasis on conservation of habitat for fish and wildlife, ecosystem management, protection of natural functions in riparian areas, control of INNS, and more constraints on resource uses that may impact biological resources compared to Alternative A. For example, Alternative D manages large, contiguous blocks of federal land by maintaining or enhancing sagebrush, aspen, and mountain shrub communities and by maintaining connections between these communities. In addition, Alternative D avoids habitat fragmentation in identified special status species habitat; identifies and works collaboratively to develop management of migration corridors for big game, migratory birds, and special status species; retains old growth forest areas; and potentially restores other forested areas to old growth conditions.

Fish and wildlife and special status wildlife species under Alternative D are protected by more constraints on resource uses compared to Alternative A. For example, Alternative D applies seasonal limitations for surface-disturbing activities in fish-bearing streams to protect fish resources on a case-by-case basis. To

Alternatives Considered in Detail

prevent birds from perching on overhead powerlines, Alternative D requires burying new utility lines or installing BLM-approved anti-perching devices on all new utility lines within sagebrush and (or) semiarid shrub-dominated habitats. Alternative D relies on impact analysis to determine whether installing anti-perch devices and (or) burying utility lines are necessary. To protect special status wildlife species, Alternative D avoids new high-profile structures within 1 mile of occupied sagebrush obligate habitats unless anti-perch devices are installed on the structures. Alternative D also prohibits these structures from relying on guy wires for support in these habitats; however, exceptions can be granted. Alternative D eliminates or modifies existing fences on a case-by-case basis to reduce conflicts with wildlife movement.

Special status plant species under Alternative D generally receive the same or more protection compared to Alternative A. Examples of more protection include closing known locations of special status plant species to: surface-disturbing activities that could adversely impact the plants or their habitat; mineral material sales; off-road vehicle use; explosives and blasting; and withdrawing select locations from mining claim entry. The current NSO restriction for fluid minerals in four populations of *Physaria dornii* is removed; however, the NSO restriction for fluid minerals is retained relative to all representative cushion plant communities under Alternative D.

Special status wildlife species under Alternative D receive more protection compared to Alternative A. For example, protection of greater sage-grouse described for Alternative A is increased under Alternative D by prohibiting or restricting surface disturbance or surface occupancy on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile radius of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks. In addition, Alternative D adds the requirement to prohibit or restrict surface disturbing activities and/or disruptive activities in suitable greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitat within 3 miles of an occupied greater sage-grouse lek- or in any identified nesting or brood-rearing habitat regardless of distance from a lek from March 15 through July 15. Finally, Alternative D requires prohibiting or restricting surface disturbing and/or disruptive activities in delineated greater sage-grouse winter concentration areas from November 15 through March 14. Prohibiting surface-disturbing and disruptive activities to protect active raptor nests is similar to Alternative A, but with the following spatial and temporal buffers under Alternative D.

- 1-mile buffer for ferruginous hawk nests within the entire planning area; ¾-mile buffer for all other raptors
- February 1 through July 15, or whenever the young have fledged (unidentified raptor nests as well as golden eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk, great-horned owl)
- March 1 through July 31 (short-eared, long-eared, and screech owl, ferruginous hawk, peregrine falcon)
- April 1 through July 31 (osprey, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, kestrel, prairie falcon, northern harrier, Swainson's hawk, Cooper's hawk)
- April 15 through September 15, or whenever the young have fledged (burrowing owl)
- April 1 through August 31 (northern goshawk)

Compared to Alternative A, Alternative D includes specific decisions to protect pygmy rabbits and white-tailed prairie dogs. Alternative D avoids development in occupied pygmy rabbit habitats and avoids disruptive activities that could collapse burrows in occupied white-tailed prairie dog colonies or complexes greater than 200 acres. Alternative D requires that facilities be located or use BMPs to minimize impacts of continuous noise on species relying on aural cues for successful breeding.

Heritage resources benefit from more protection under Alternative D compared to Alternative A. Under Alternative D, the timing and degree of Native American consultation is determined by the presence of known site types and tribal concerns for specific types of projects until such time that zones of high,

medium, and low probability are established. The current Class I overview will be used to proactively identify zones of high, medium, and low probability and Class III inventories will be conducted in zones with the greatest threats to cultural resources. Alternative D protects 640 acres of federal mineral estate containing the Bridger Antelope Trap by implementing an NSO restriction for fluid minerals and by restricting OHV use to established roads in this area. To protect cultural resources from surface-disturbing activities, Alternative D implements an NSO restriction for fluid minerals on newly issued leases, restricts OHV use to established roads, and designates the following sites as ROW exclusion areas: Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites, Pine Grove emigrant camp, Rocky Gap trail landmark, and the Bear River Divide trail landmark. All significant historical, archeological, cultural sites, and paleontological localities are protected or mitigated under Alternative D. Alternative D provides a narrower corridor to protect the physical evidence of NHT segments compared to Alternative A. The protective buffer on either side of NHTs under Alternative D depends on the trail segment and includes ¼ mile for Class 1 segments, 500 feet for Class 2 segments, and 100 feet for Class 3 segments.

VRM management classes under Alternative D are designated differently than Alternative A. Class I under Alternative D is the Raymond Mountain WSA. VRM Classes II, III, and IV comprise specific parts of the planning area as described in Table 2-3. To protect the viewshed within 3 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap juniper fence, Alternative D manages this area to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area. Alternative D also protects the viewshed within 3 miles of select archeological sites (see Table 2-3). Viewshed protection for NHT segments increases under Alternative D up to 3 miles (Class 1 segments), up to ½ mile (Class 2 segments), and in accordance with the surrounding VRM class for Class 3 segments.

2.4.4.3 Resource Uses and Support

Mineral resource uses are constrained more under Alternative D compared to Alternative A. For example, in addition to existing withdrawals, Alternative D withdraws developed campgrounds, the BLM-administered surface of the Bridger Antelope Trap, areas with special status plant species, and a portion of the Cokeville Meadows NWR from operation of the mining laws.

Under Alternative D, 182,481 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing. The remaining federal mineral estate in the planning area is administratively available for oil and gas leasing subject to the following constraints: 62,036 acres are subject to standard stipulations; 797,504 acres are subject to moderate constraints; and 537,341 acres are subject to major constraints. Fluid mineral leasing is similar to Alternative A, except areas set aside for public recreation are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing. New fluid mineral leasing is withheld and existing leases continue to be suspended indefinitely in the MMTA under Alternative D; however, the withholding could be lifted if future technology provides the ability to safely develop the oil and gas leases.

Mineral resource uses are constrained more under Alternative D compared to Alternative A.

Coal leasing under Alternative D is subject to constraints similar to Alternative A. Federal mineral estate within the Haystack Lease by Application area is determined to be acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing.

Under Alternative D, leasing for sodium and phosphate are subject to the same constraints as Alternative A. Areas with special status plant or wildlife species are not closed to sodium or phosphate development under Alternative D. Mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are prohibited within the Raymond Mountain WSA, within developed campgrounds (unless impacts to campground users are minimal), and within actual special status plant species locations.

Alternatives Considered in Detail

Forest use under Alternative D restricts the annual treatment (i.e., mechanical methods or prescribed fire) of forestland and woodland to approximately 75 acres each year (750 acres per decade) to manage stocking levels to more historical conditions (refer to Glossary discussion under Fire Regime Condition Class). In addition, Alternative D identifies an annual allowable probable sale quantity of annually 667 CCF (300 MBF); or per decade, 6,670 CCF (3 MMBF). Under Alternative D, management of approximately 3,000 acres of combined forestland and woodland within the Raymond Mountain WSA is the same as described for Alternative B. Under Alternative D, old growth forest areas are retained in an appropriate proportion to other timber classes, using an adaptive management approach.

Disposal of BLM-administered lands under Alternative D are the same as alternatives A and C, but less acreage is potentially disposed. Additional parcels for disposal are considered on a case-by-case basis. Applications for Desert Land Entry are considered as described for Alternative A.

Preferred utility corridors under Alternative D can be up to 2 miles wide. However, Alternative D prohibits placement of ROW in seven archeological sites identified in Table 2-3 to protect heritage resource values. Consolidated communication sites are considered by type in 23 designated areas; other communication sites are considered on a case-by-case basis. Alternative D identifies preferred areas (see Table 2-3) for wind-energy development and considers renewable energy projects other than wind on a case-by-case basis throughout the planning area. Under Alternative D, legal access across private land is sought if a need is identified in support of resource programs and in areas of emphasis.

Recreation facilities are maintained and enhanced and additional recreational facilities are developed where appropriate under Alternative D.

Livestock grazing continues to be managed on 224 grazing allotments according to the *Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for the Public Lands Administered by the BLM in the State of Wyoming* (BLM 1998a) under Alternative D. The same area available for livestock grazing under Alternative A remains available under Alternative D. The Lost Creek/Ryan Creek acquisition area is managed the same as Alternative A. Issuance of temporary nonrenewable permits for unallotted parcels is a discretionary decision for the BLM under Alternative D. Additional sustained yield forage could be allocated for livestock use on a case-by-case basis if rangelands conditions are appropriate. In addition, under Alternative D, the Christy Canyon Allotment is designated as a forage reserve. Alternative D increases the buffer prohibiting livestock salt or mineral supplements to ¼ mile of water sources, riparian areas, aspen stands, or special status plant species. Range-improvement projects are not allowed on special status plant species populations under Alternative D.

Recreational facilities are maintained and enhanced and additional recreational facilities are developed, where appropriate, under Alternative D. The NSO restriction for fluid minerals would affect areas within ¼ mile of developed campgrounds similar to Alternative B. Also similar to Alternative B, the Pine Creek Canyon, Raymond Mountain, Oregon-California National Historic Trail, and select BLM-administered lands in the Dempsey Ridge area are designated as SRMAs within the planning area under Alternative D. All other areas not included in one of the SRMAs are included in the ERMA and managed as such. Dispersed camping (according to recreational use rules) continues to be allowed under Alternative D.

Travel Management Areas are established and travel management plans will be completed under Alternative D following signing of the ROD for the Kemmerer RMP. Motor vehicle travel in the planning area under Alternative D generally is limited to existing roads and trails, and is more restrictive compared to Alternative A. For example, Alternative D closes Raymond Mountain, Green Hill, the trail to Commissary Ridge, select NHT segments, riparian and wetland areas, and special status plant species populations to motor vehicle use and OHV use. Alternative D opens 60 acres in the Hill Climb area to

OHV use. The existing 23 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the planning area remain open under Alternative D and new trails are considered on a case-by-case basis. Snowmobile use under Alternative D is not allowed in the Raymond Mountain WSA.

2.4.4.4 Special Designations

Under Alternative D, the existing Raymond Mountain WSA will continue to be managed under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review and the ACEC is retained, ACECs for special status plant species habitat and cushion plant communities are considered on a case-by-case basis, the Bridger Butte ACEC is designated, and the Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs are established (Table 2-2). Alternative D also recommends two waterway segments for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, but not the designation of the Emigrant Springs Back Country Byway. Compared to Alternative A, Alternative D retains existing designations and recommends two water segments as suitable for inclusion in the WSR system, two MAs, and one ACEC. Two additional ACECs are considered on a case-by-case basis. The additional designations under Alternative D conserve physical, biological, and heritage resources more and constrain resource uses more compared to Alternative A.

2.5 Details of Alternatives

Table 2-3 identifies goals and objectives, management actions common to all alternatives, and management actions by alternative. These are arranged according to the resource topics below.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resource Topic</u>
1000	Physical Resources (PR)
2000	Mineral Resources (MR)
3000	Fire and Fuels Management (FM)
4000	Biological Resources (BR)
5000	Heritage Resources (HR)
6000	Land Resources (LR)
7000	Special Designations (SD)
8000	Socioeconomic Resources (SR)

The above numbering system and abbreviations for each of the eight resource topics appear as headings and serve to organize this table. Following the headings are the applicable goals and objectives for each resource topic. These goals and objectives apply to all four alternatives under consideration for the entire planning area and would apply for the life of the RMP.

Management actions are anticipated to achieve the goals and objectives identified for each resource topic. Some management actions are constant across all alternatives, whereas others vary by alternative. Management actions that apply to all alternatives are listed for each resource topic under the heading *Management Actions Common to All Alternatives* immediately following the goals and objectives for each resource topic. Management actions that vary by alternative are listed under the heading *Management Actions by Alternative*. If the action is general in nature, it is listed under the resource topic heading (e.g., physical resources, biological resources, etc.). In general, if the action is more specific, it is listed under the individual resource (e.g., wildlife) or in some cases, the resource subcategory (e.g., big game).

The following apply under all alternatives:

- *Wyoming BLM Standard Mitigation Guidelines for Surface-Disturbing and Disruptive Activities* (see Appendix N)
- *Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Wyoming* (www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/grazing/standards_and_guidelines.html)
- Best Management Practices (see Appendix O).

Restrictions on resource uses apply to the life of the RMP, but can be changed by amending the RMP. For example, areas identified as administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing refer to the life of the RMP unless changed through an RMP amendment and public involvement. Moreover, where seasonal or other restrictions or limitations are placed on development, exception, waiver, or modification of these limitations may be approved in writing, including documented supporting analysis, by the authorized officer. This applies to all restrictions and limitations. All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.

Table 2-3 Table of Contents

Resource Topics and Individual Resources/Uses	<u>Page</u>
1000 – Physical Resources	2-37
Air Quality	2-37
Soil	2-39
Water	2-41
2000 – Mineral Resources	2-45
Locatable	2-45
Leasable – Oil and Gas Including CBNG	2-46
Leasable – Coal	2-47
Leasable – Sodium	2-48
Leasable – Other Solid Leasables (Phosphate)	2-48
Salable	2-48
3000 – Fire and Fuels Management	2-50
4000 – Biological Resources	2-52
Vegetation Resources	2-56
Forestry	2-58
Wetland and Riparian Communities	2-59
Fish and Wildlife Resources	2-60
Special Status Species – Plants	2-61
Special Status Species – Fish	2-63
Special Status Species – Wildlife	2-63
Invasive Nonnative Species	2-68
5000 – Heritage Resources	2-69
Cultural	2-69
Paleontology	2-73
6000 – Land Resources	2-74
Lands and Realty	2-74
Livestock Grazing Management	2-80
Recreation	2-83
Travel Management	2-90
Visual Resource Management	2-94
7000 – Special Designations	2-102
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	2-102
Wild and Scenic Rivers	2-108
Wilderness Study Areas	2-19
Back Country Byways	2-109
8000 – Socioeconomic Resources	2-110
Health and Safety	2-110
Social and Economic Conditions	2-111

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives

MANAGEMENT GOALS COMMON TO ALL RESOURCES AND ALTERNATIVES

The BLM Kemmerer Field Office will:

- Manage the public lands within the requirements of all applicable federal laws.
- Manage the public lands within the requirements of all current and applicable federal policy and guidance.
- Use cooperative consultation with all applicable state and local governments to aid in effective cross-jurisdictional management of land and resources.
- Manage public land resources and resource uses in consideration of all other resource values of the applicable lands.
- Manage public land resources within the natural variations and capability of the applicable lands.
- Manage the public lands in the spirit of Communication, Consultation, and Cooperation, all in the service of Conservation.
- Conduct appropriate project level NEPA analysis.
- Provide educational opportunities to the public regarding public lands and the resources that exist on those lands.
- Manage resources to contribute to the economic stability of local communities.
- On-site mitigation will be required consistent with the management objectives of this RMP. Encourage compensatory (off-site) mitigation on a voluntary basis to offset the impacts of projects or actions and to better accommodate other uses temporarily displaced.
- Manage vegetation, soil, landform, water quality, and air quality to maintain, meet, or make substantial progress towards meeting the Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Wyoming (Standards and Guidelines).
- Apply chemicals in accordance with label instructions.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) - AIR QUALITY (see Appendix L for more detail on air quality mitigation)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
		<p>GOAL PR:1 Minimize the impact of management actions in the planning area on air quality by complying with all applicable air quality laws, rules, and regulations within the scope of BLM's authority. Objectives: PR:1.1 Maintain concentrations of criteria pollutants associated with management actions in compliance with applicable state and federal AAQS. PR:1.2 Maintain concentrations of PSD pollutants associated with management actions in compliance with the applicable increment.</p> <p>GOAL PR:2 Implement management actions within the scope of the BLM's land-management responsibilities to improve air quality as practicable. Objectives: PR:2.1 Cooperate with Wyoming DEQ AQD in order to reduce visibility-impairing pollutants in accordance with the reasonable progress goals and timeframes established within the State of Wyoming's Regional Haze SIP. PR:2.2 Cooperate with Wyoming DEQ AQD in order to reduce atmospheric deposition levels below generally accepted LOCs and LACs.</p>			
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
1001	PR:1 PR:2	Work cooperatively with state and federal agencies to develop project-specific Air Quality Assessment Protocols to estimate potential future air quality impacts from project proposals.			
1002	PR:1	Manage prescribed burns to comply with Wyoming DEQ AQD smoke-management rules and regulations.			
1003	PR:1	Establish within 1 year of approval of the RMP ROD, an air quality strategy to define the background air quality associated with federal actions approved under this RMP.			
1004	PR:1	Within one year of establishing the air quality monitoring strategy, cooperatively establish a monitoring system, which fulfills the needs identified in the strategy, to measure the air quality change over time related to federal actions.			
1005	PR:1 PR:2	Work cooperatively to encourage industry and other permittees to adopt measures to reduce emissions.			
1006	PR:1 PR:2	Work cooperatively to estimate potential impacts from potential emission reduction.			
1007	PR:1 PR:2	Ensure that the level of air quality analysis is proportional to the availability of emissions information and public concern for air quality.			
1008	PR:1 PR:2	Perform dispersion-modeling analyses at the project-level to determine the potential impacts of proposed air emission sources and air impact mitigations.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) - AIR QUALITY (see Appendix L for more detail on air quality mitigation)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
1009	PR:1 PR:2	Maintain monitoring on existing ambient air quality and AQRV.	Enhance existing criteria pollutant and AQRV monitoring. Locations of AQRV monitors will be determined through a cooperative process. Suggest Wyoming DEQ AQD consider adding new criteria pollutant monitors.	Same as Alternative A.	Enhance existing criteria pollutant and AQRV monitoring on a project-specific or as-needed basis. Locations of AQRV monitors will be determined through a cooperative process.
1010	PR:1 PR:2	Utilize cooperative process that shares information on proposed emission sources and air quality issues with the public and government agencies, such as the Wyoming DEQ AQD, EPA, USFS, and NPS.	Enhance the existing cooperative process that shares air quality information with agencies, stakeholders, and the public.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
1011	PR:1 PR:2	<p>Allow air quality impacts up to applicable standards and guidelines.</p> <p>The FLPMA and the Clean Air Act prohibit the BLM from conducting, supporting, approving, licensing, or permitting any activity under its jurisdiction that does not comply with all applicable local, state, tribal, and federal air quality laws, statutes, regulations, and implementation plans.</p> <p>The BLM works closely with the Wyoming DEQ AQD to ensure that the BLM's prescribed fire actions comply with applicable smoke-management regulations.</p>	<p>In cooperation with Wyoming DEQ, consider implementing mitigation measures within BLM's authority to reduce emissions from current levels in the planning area.</p> <p>Facilitate discussions with Wyoming DEQ and stakeholders to implement mitigations beyond BLM's authority to reduce emissions from current levels in the planning area, such as:</p> <p>Consider a program to offset emissions proposed by the RMP, and</p> <p>Consider a regional program to reduce emissions from existing sources (by techniques such as use of water and dust suppressant on roads and advanced control technologies for drill rig engines).</p>	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – SOIL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal PR:3 Maintain or improve soil health (chemical, physical, and biotic properties) and prevent or minimize soil erosion and compaction. Objectives: PR:3.1 Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of management practices and (or) treatments applied to protect water and soil resources within the planning area. PR:3.2 Utilize best available science, such as soil management and salinity reduction methods and (or) appropriate predictive models (e.g., WEPP, RUSLE, or MUSLE) to ensure that accelerated soil erosion from BLM actions and permitted activities is minimized.</p> <p>Goal PR:4 Prevent or limit soil loss, minimize degradation of soils, and control sediment transport to receiving waters by identifying, developing, interpreting, and utilizing soil information in management actions. Objectives: PR:4.1 Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of management practices and (or) treatments applied to protect water and soil resources within the planning area. PR:4.2 Utilize best available science, such as soil management and salinity reduction methods and (or) appropriate predictive models (e.g., WEPP, RUSLE, or MUSLE) to ensure that accelerated soil erosion from BLM actions and permitted activities is minimized.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
1012	PR: 3 PR:4	Pursue and support the completion of Level III soil surveys throughout the planning area.			
1013	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	Emphasize the reduction of soil erosion, sediment, and salinity contributions to the Green and Bear River basins throughout the planning area, with a focus on areas with high saline soils and sensitive soils, through management actions.			
1014	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	Avoid surface disturbance when conditions exist that will accelerate or cause soil and (or) watershed damage.			
1015	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	Require interim reclamation on well locations and similar disturbed soils to improve stability and infiltration.			
1016	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	Salvage a minimum of 6 inches of topsoil on all surface-disturbing activities unless the physical and (or) chemical properties of the soil are such that salvage of that amount of topsoil should not be required.			
1017	PR:3.1 PR:3.2 PR:4.1 PR:4.2	Develop and implement rehabilitation plans on newly disturbed areas and for existing disturbances, as needed.			
1018	PR:3.1 PR:3.2 PR:4.1 PR:4.2	Require follow-up seeding and (or) corrective erosion-control measures on areas of surface disturbance that experience reclamation failure.			
1019	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	Apply best management practices (i.e., silt fences, erosion blankets, etc.) in all areas to limit soil erosion and related undesirable conditions, with additional emphasis in areas with sensitive soil characteristics, including, but not limited to, the following: badlands, saline bottomlands, sodic, high pH, calcareous, and highly erodible.			
1020	PR:3.1 PR:4.1	Report spills and releases of chemicals, petroleum products and produced water to Wyoming DEQ to ensure contaminated soils are restored to their natural productivity.			
1021	PR:3.1 PR:3.2 PR:4.1 PR:4.2	Utilize completed soil surveys and site observations to address soil protection and mitigations necessary to minimize damage to soils.	Require soil survey and (or) analysis on all proposals for surface-disturbing activities within the planning area.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – SOIL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
1022	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	<p>Comply with current standard practices for surface-disturbing activities and the Wyoming BLM Mitigation Guidelines for surface-disturbing and disruptive activities.</p> <p>Restrict oil- and gas-related activities on slopes greater than 25 percent. No surface occupancy on slopes greater than 40 percent.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except comply with the following management actions for surface-disturbing activities within areas of highly erosive, fragile, and (or) nonproductive soils:</p> <p>Prohibit surface-disturbing activities in areas of sensitive, highly erosive, and excessively steep slopes of 10 percent or greater unless or until the permittee or designated agent and surface management agency arrive at an acceptable plan for mitigation of anticipated impacts.</p> <p>Ensure protection of the Green River and Bear River basins from increased erosion and sedimentation from BLM actions and permitted activities.</p> <p>Prohibit disturbances on soils with fragile, steep slopes, chemical and biological crusts, and soils with low reclamation potential and highly erodible characteristics.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Same as Alternative A, except comply with the following management actions for surface-disturbing activities within areas of highly erosive, fragile, and (or) nonproductive soils:</p> <p>Avoid surface disturbance on slopes of 20 percent or greater on sensitive soil types. Disturbance of slopes greater than 20 percent requires additional consideration of slope stabilization and erosion control techniques.</p> <p>Ensure protection of the Green River and Bear River basins from increased erosion and sedimentation from BLM actions and permitted activities.</p> <p>Avoid disturbances on soils with fragile, steep slopes, chemical and biological crusts, and soils with low reclamation potential and highly erodible characteristics. Disturbance of soils of these types requires erosion, revegetation, and restoration plans.</p>
1023	PR:3.2 PR:4.2	<p>Reclamation of surface disturbance, including recontouring and seeding to re-establish healthy native plant communities based on preexisting composition (where possible) to begin within 1 year of the abandonment of operations.</p>	<p>Topsoil piles would be seeded or erosion control devices installed on all surface disturbances within 6 months of the initial disturbance. Topsoil piles left exposed longer than 1 year would be no greater than 4 feet deep and seeded with cover crop seed mixes for soil stabilization and maintenance of soil health. Interim and (or) final reclamation will be required within 1 year of completion of drilling activities.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – WATER					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
	Goal PR:5	Maintain compliance with applicable federal and state water quality standards and improve water quality, where practical, within the scope of the BLM’s authority.			
		Objectives:			
		PR:5.1 Protect and improve groundwater quality and quantity through appropriate measures (e.g., predictive modeling, monitoring, and protection of known water recharge areas) during BLM activities and permitted actions over the life of the plan.			
		PR:5.2 Take appropriate actions within State of Wyoming established timeframes to control all causes of impairment and prevent additional listings of impaired waterbodies resulting from BLM actions and permitted activities on watersheds (including, but not limited to, those that contain 303d listed streams, Class 1 waters, Colorado River system streams, and critical watersheds).			
		PR:5.3 Coordinate with appropriate entities to rehabilitate or reclaim functionally compromised reservoirs on BLM-administered surface.			
		PR:5.4 Prevent accelerated channel erosion and adjustments in channel geometry (e.g., width-depth ratio, sinuosity, bank stability, gradient, location of headcuts, and rate of migration) of stream channels as a result of BLM-permitted activities.			
		PR:5.5 Improve important geomorphic parameters (e.g., width to depth ratio, percent eroding bank) where these parameters are impacted by federal actions or are in areas important for water quality.			
	Goal PR:6	Maintain or reestablish proper watershed function to support natural or desired surface water flow regimes.			
		Objectives:			
		PR:6.1 Protect and improve groundwater quality and quantity through appropriate measures (e.g., predictive modeling, monitoring, and protection of known water recharge areas) during BLM activities and permitted actions over the life of the plan.			
		PR:6.2 Take appropriate actions within State of Wyoming established timeframes to control all causes of impairment and prevent additional listings of impaired waterbodies resulting from BLM actions and permitted activities on watersheds (including, but not limited to, those that contain 303d listed streams, Class 1 waters, Colorado River system streams, and critical watersheds).			
		PR:6.3 Coordinate with appropriate entities to rehabilitate or reclaim functionally compromised reservoirs on BLM-administered surface.			
		PR:6.4 Prevent accelerated channel erosion and adjustments in channel geometry (e.g., width-depth ratio, sinuosity, bank stability, gradient, location of headcuts and rate of migration) of stream channels as a result of BLM permitted activities.			
		PR:6.5 Improve important geomorphic parameters (e.g., width to depth ratio, percent eroding bank) where these parameters are impacted by federal actions or are in areas important for water quality.			
	Goal PR:7	Provide for availability of water to support uses authorized on federal lands, where appropriate.			
		Objectives:			
		PR:7.1 Protect and improve groundwater quality and quantity through appropriate measures (e.g., predictive modeling, monitoring, and protection of known water recharge areas) during BLM activities and permitted actions over the life of the plan.			
		PR:7.2 Take appropriate actions within State of Wyoming established timeframes to control all causes of impairment and prevent additional listings of impaired waterbodies resulting from BLM actions and permitted activities on watersheds (including, but not limited to, those that contain 303d listed streams, Class 1 waters, Colorado River system streams, and critical watersheds).			
		PR:7.3 Coordinate with appropriate entities to rehabilitate or reclaim functionally compromised reservoirs on BLM-administered surface.			
		PR:7.4 Prevent accelerated channel erosion and adjustments in channel geometry (e.g., width-depth ratio, sinuosity, bank stability, gradient, location of headcuts and rate of migration) of stream channels as a result of BLM permitted activities.			
		PR:7.5 Improve important geomorphic parameters (e.g., width to depth ratio, percent eroding bank) where these parameters are impacted by federal actions or are in areas important for water quality.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – WATER					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
1024	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.3 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.3 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.3 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Address nonpoint source pollution by maintaining and (or) improving channel geomorphology and vegetative structure of surface water features and controlling dust and other nonpoint sources on BLM activities and permitted actions.			
1025	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.3 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.3 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.3 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding the management and (or) disposal of waters produced by mineral developments.			
1026	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.3 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.3 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.3 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Cooperate with the state as it develops source water and wellhead protection plans to protect drinking water sources.			
1027	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Enforce measures, consistent with BLM’s authority, such as avoiding highly erosive areas, implementing zero runoff programs on large-scale disturbances, and reclaiming all abandoned surface disturbances. Watersheds in the Green River Basin will be sampled to identify salinity problems. Actions with the potential to create surface disturbance will be designed for minimal erosion, as far as practical, to comply with the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act of 1974.			
1028	PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Incorporate requirements and methodology for achieving watershed improvement into activity plans, as necessary. Priority areas include all streams listed on the updated Clean Water Act 303(d) list and areas that have failed to meet Standard #2 of the Standards and Guidelines the BLM will coordinate with state agencies and local governments (e.g., watershed planning committees) on all 303(d) listed stream segments.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – WATER					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
1029	FR:1.1 FR:1.2 FR:1.3	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is not allowed within 200 feet of surface water.	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is not allowed within 500 feet of surface water.	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is allowed throughout the planning area.	Same as Alternative A.
1030	PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	No similar action.	Design land use and surface-disturbing activities to reduce channel erosion, specifically bank erosion and channel incision, which result in loss of riparian habitats and accelerate surface erosion. Restore damaged wetlands.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
1031	PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	On a case-by-case basis, activity plans are prepared to reduce phosphate, sediment, and salt loading to downstream waterbodies.	Design activity and (or) project plans to reduce phosphate, sediment, and salt loading to downstream waterbodies, including Bear Lake and the Flaming Gorge Reservoir.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
1032	PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5 BR:2.1	The area within 500 feet of or within wetlands, riparian areas, aquatic habitats, and 100-year floodplains are avoidance areas for surface-disturbing activities.	The area within ¼ mile of or within wetlands, riparian areas, aquatic habitats, and 100-year floodplains would be exclusion areas for surface-disturbing activities.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
1033	PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5 BR:2.1	No new permanent facilities are allowed in floodplains, riparian areas, or wetlands, except to benefit watershed health or vegetation. Linear watercourse crossings are considered on a case-by-case basis.	No new permanent facilities, including road crossings, are allowed in floodplains, riparian areas, or wetlands. All linear underground facilities crossing watercourses are bored.	New permanent facilities are allowed in floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas, provided there are no practicable alternatives and sufficient mitigation is undertaken so that the action will meet the requirements of EOs 11988 and 11990. Linear watercourse crossings are considered on a case-by-case basis.	No new permanent facilities are allowed in riparian areas or wetlands unless they (1) meet the requirements and intent of EOs 11988 and 11990, (2) there are no practicable alternatives, and (3) appropriate mitigation measures are implemented. Linear watercourse crossings are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

1000 PHYSICAL RESOURCES (PR) – WATER					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
1034	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Requirements for the lining of reserve pits are determined on a case-by-case basis. Lined pits, barrier walls, or closed mud systems may be utilized, as necessary.	Line all reserve pits. Closed mud systems are the preferred method.	Same as Alternative A.	Line all reserve pits unless other more effective methods (i.e., barrier walls, closed mud systems) are needed to prevent infiltration and adverse impacts to groundwater and other resources.
1035	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	Maintain aquifer recharge areas on a case-by-case basis.	Maintain aquifer recharge areas to protect groundwater and surface water quality through maintenance of the vegetative cover and soil structure that contributes to recharge and limitations to surface-disturbing activities.	Same as Alternative A.	Maintain identified aquifer recharge areas to protect groundwater and surface water quality through maintenance of the vegetative cover and soil structure that contributes to recharge.
1036	PR:5.1 PR:5.2 PR:5.3 PR:5.4 PR:5.5 PR:6.1 PR:6.2 PR:6.3 PR:6.4 PR:6.5 PR:7.1 PR:7.2 PR:7.3 PR:7.4 PR:7.5	All federal CBNG well APDs are subject to the standard APD reviews. Water disposal (including, but not limited to, underground injection, discharge into streams, evaporation ponds, infiltration ponds, etc.) is reviewed for meeting all local, state, and federal laws and regulations. No water surface disposals, evaporation ponds, underground injection, or infiltration ponds will be allowed without proper state and federal permits. Appropriate NEPA evaluations are completed at each stage of development.	All federal CBNG well APDs are subject to the standard APD reviews. Prohibit disposal of produced waters to public land streams or other flow-connected surface features. Prohibit disposal of produced waters to public land uplands.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A, except proposed disposal of produced water to streams or other flow-connected surface features on public lands requires a disposal plan (Appendix D) as part of the APD approval process. Disposal of produced water to public land uplands is considered on a case-by-case basis as long as the applicant can demonstrate that a beneficial use of the water will result. Disposal of produced water to public land uplands requires a disposal plan (Appendix D) as part of the APD approval process.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

2000 MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)					
Note: All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal MR:1 Provide opportunities for exploration and developing mineral resources on available public lands.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>MR:1.1 Provide opportunities to explore for, sell and or permit, and develop salable minerals.</p> <p>MR:1.2 Provide opportunities for exploration, and development of locatable minerals, except in withdrawn areas.</p> <p>MR:1.3 Provide opportunities for exploring, leasing, and developing conventional and unconventional oil and gas, CBNG, coal, sodium, phosphate, and other leasable minerals, including, but not limited to, oil shale and geothermal resources.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
2001	MR:1.1 MR:1.2 MR:1.3	Collecting surface rock in commercial quantities requires a mineral material contract. Operations are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.			
2002	MR:1.3	Allow for geophysical exploration on lands throughout the planning area subject to identified conditions of approval.			
2003	MR:1.2	The planning area is available for locatable mineral entry, with the exception of some withdrawn areas.			
2004	MR:1.1	Areas that contain known deposits of oil shale are available for oil shale lease consideration where it is not inconsistent with existing laws and regulations, EOs, and ACECs. Oil shale leasing will not be considered in areas where it would jeopardize the safe operation of existing trona mines.			
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
LOCATABLE					
2005	MR:1.2 BR:2.8 BR:2.9 HR:3 LR:5.3	Some lands within the planning area are currently withdrawn from locatable mineral entry. The withdrawals are primarily for protection of oil shale, coal, and phosphate resources.	<p>Same as Alternative A, except withdraw the following areas from operation of the mining laws:</p> <p>Developed campgrounds (3 acres).</p> <p>The federal section that contains Bridger Antelope Trap (640 acres).</p> <p>Areas with special status plant and wildlife species (acreage unknown).</p> <p>Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (3,056 acres).</p>	<p>Initiate procedures to lift existing locatable mineral withdrawals in the planning area.</p> <p>No new withdrawals are considered.</p>	<p>In addition to existing withdrawals, withdraw the following area from operation of the mining laws:</p> <p>Developed campgrounds (3 acres).</p> <p>The federal section that contains Bridger Antelope Trap (640 acres).</p> <p>Areas with special status plant species (886 acres of federal mineral estate).</p> <p>Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (427 acres).</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

2000 MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)					
Note: All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
LEASABLE - OIL AND GAS INCLUDING CBNG					
2006	MR:1.3	Approximately 337,076 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form only.	Approximately 7,718 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form only.	Approximately 360,472 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form only.	Approximately 62,036 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form only.
2007	MR:1.3	Approximately 783,218 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as moderate constraints.	Approximately 118,071 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as moderate constraints.	Approximately 776,850 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as moderate constraints.	Approximately 797,504 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as moderate constraints.
2008	MR:1.3	Approximately 354,266 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as major constraints.	Approximately 643,515 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as major constraints.	Approximately 337,238 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as major constraints.	Approximately 537,341 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively available to oil and gas leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form, as well as major constraints.
2009	MR:1.3 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.6 SR:2.1	Approximately 104,802 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing.	Approximately 810,058 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing.	Approximately 104,802 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing.	Approximately 182,481 acres of federal mineral estate are administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing.
2010	MR:1.3	Fluid mineral leasing is allowed on areas within potential habitats for federally listed species.	New fluid mineral leasing is not allowed on unleased areas within potential habitats for federally listed species. Expired leases in these areas are not reoffered.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
2011	MR:1.3	Fluid mineral leasing is allowed in areas containing NHT segments.	New fluid mineral leasing is not allowed on unleased areas within 5 miles of Class 1 trail segments. Expired leases within 5 miles of Class 1 trail segments are not reoffered.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
2012	MR:1.3 SR:2.1	Existing oil and gas leases are suspended in the MMTA; new oil and gas leases are not being issued in the MMTA.	Same as Alternative A, except permanently close the MMTA to new fluid mineral leasing.	Same as Alternative A, except the MMTA is administratively unavailable for new fluid mineral leasing until the oil and gas resource can be recovered without compromising the safety of underground miners.	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

2000 MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)					
Note: All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
2013	MR:1.3	Fluid mineral leasing is allowed in areas containing areas set aside specifically for public recreation purposes.	New fluid mineral leasing is not allowed on areas set aside specifically for public recreation purposes.	Same as Alternative A.	Areas set aside specifically for public recreation purposes would be administratively unavailable for oil and gas leasing.
2014	MR:1.3	Fluid mineral leasing is currently allowed on areas within large, contiguous blocks of federal land containing sagebrush, mountain shrub, and aspen habitat.	No new fluid mineral leasing would occur on currently unleased areas within large, contiguous blocks of federal land containing sagebrush, mountain shrub, and aspen habitat. When leases in these areas expire they would not be reoffered. ¹	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
LEASABLE - COAL					
2015	MR:1.3	Process LBAs for new coal leases outside the Raymond Mountain WSA by applying the coal screening process to the application. New competitive coal leases cannot be offered inside the WSA until a final decision is made on the area's suitability as a possible Wilderness Area. The coal screening process results will determine which lands may be available for further consideration for coal leasing and development. Appropriate NEPA analysis would be required prior to leasing. If any of the existing RMP (BLM 1986a) coal-screening management decisions are current and relevant to the application area, they will be applied.	No new coal leasing is considered in the planning area.	Process new coal lease applications by using the coal screening process, as described under Alternative A. Federal land within the proposed Haystack project area is determined acceptable for further consideration for coal leasing and development.	Same as Alternative C and no coal LBAs will be considered for Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs.

¹ Increased acreage of federal minerals administratively unavailable for leasing was added to Alternative B in response to public comments on the Draft RMP and EIS requesting that the BLM consider protection of large contiguous blocks of wildlife habitat on BLM-administered surface.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

2000 MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)					
Note: All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
LEASABLE - SODIUM					
2016	MR:1.3	All public lands (outside of the Raymond Mountain WSA) within the planning area are available for sodium leasing consideration. Exploration for sodium will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Limited surface occupancy criteria contained in the Sodium Mineral Development Environmental Assessment will be applied on a case-by-case basis. No new sodium leases or exploration licenses may be issued on lands within the Raymond Mountain WSA.	Same as Alternative A, except no new sodium exploration and leasing is authorized within the viewshed of the Fossil Butte National Monument or within the viewsheds of incorporated towns and cities. No new sodium exploration and leasing will be considered for Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs. Close areas with special status plant and wildlife species to sodium mineral development.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A and no new sodium exploration and leasing will be considered for Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs.
LEASABLE - OTHER SOLID LEASABLES (PHOSPHATE)					
2017	MR:1.3	All public lands (outside of the Raymond Mountain WSA) within the planning area are available for phosphate leasing consideration. Exploration for phosphate will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative A, except no new phosphate exploration and leasing is authorized within the viewshed of the Fossil Butte National Monument or within the viewsheds of incorporated towns and cities. No new phosphate exploration and leasing will be considered for Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs. Close areas with special status plant and wildlife species to phosphate mineral development.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A and no new phosphate exploration and leasing will be considered for Rock Creek/Tunp and Bear River Divide MAs.
SALABLE					
2018	MR:1.1	Subject to the waiver requirements in 43 CFR 3601.14 on unpatented mining claims, the planning area is available for consideration of mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits.	Same as Alternative A, except, no mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized within the Raymond Mountain WSA (32,880 acres).	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
2019	MR:1.1	The area within the viewshed of the Fossil Butte National Monument is available for consideration of mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits.	The area within the viewshed of the Fossil Butte National Monument is not available for mineral material sales and (or) free use permits.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

2000 MINERAL RESOURCES (MR)					
Note: All withdrawal actions (including mineral withdrawals) are processed in the lands and realty program.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
2020	MR:1.1	Developed campground areas are available for mineral material sales and (or) free use permits.	No mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized within ½ mile of developed campgrounds.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B, unless impacts to campground users are minimal, as determined by NEPA analysis.
2021	MR:1.1	Mineral material sales and (or) free use permits can be authorized in areas with special status plant or wildlife species on a case-by-case basis.	No mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized in areas with special status plant or wildlife species.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A, except no mineral materials sales and (or) free use permits in actual special status plant species locations.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

3000 FIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT (FR)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
		<p>Goal FR:1 Protect human health and safety and resources at risk using fire suppression.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>FR:1.1 Ensure the health and safety of communities and the return of healthy ecosystems after wildfire events.</p> <p>FR:1.2 Implement appropriate fire suppression techniques.</p> <p>FR:1.3 Minimize disturbances to other resources resulting from fire suppression activities on public lands.</p> <p>FR:1.4 Suppress wildland fires in identified priority areas, including those in wildland-urban and industrial interface areas adjacent to private lands and in the areas of campgrounds and significant cultural sites (see Glossary).</p> <p>FR:1.5 Reduce hazardous fuels and implement fuels projects where resources are at risk such as wildland, urban and industrial interfaces, areas adjacent to private lands, campgrounds, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>Goal FR:2 Reduce or modify hazardous fuel accumulations through fuels management.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>FR:2.1 Reduce hazardous fuels and focus fuels projects where resources are at risk, such as wildland, urban and industrial interfaces, areas adjacent to private lands, campgrounds, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>FR:2.2 Implement and maintain a current fire management plan for the Kemmerer Field Office planning area that addresses all issues associated with fire and fuels management for the planning area.</p> <p>Goal FR:3 Restore natural fire regimes and frequency to the landscape, where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>FR:3.1 Implement and maintain a current fire management plan for the planning area, which addresses all issues associated with fire and fuels management for the planning area that includes a focus on restoring natural fire regimes and frequency on the landscape.</p> <p>FR:3.2 In an effort to mimic natural fire regimes and return intervals, move from condition class 3 to condition classes 1 and 2 using fire management and vegetative treatments.</p>			
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
3001	FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Ensure all prescribed burning activities are in compliance with, and meet all state and federal air quality standards.			
3002	FR:1.1 FR:1.3 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Implement the BLM Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation standards located in the DOI Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook and BLM Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook on wildland fires to protect and sustain healthy ecosystems and protect life and property.			
3003	FR:1.1 FR:1.2 FR:1.3 FR:1.4 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Base wildland fire suppression techniques on the AMR in an approved fire management plan for the planning area and consider cost benefits based on resources at risk.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

3000 FIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT (FR)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
3004	FR:1.1 FR:1.2 FR:1.3 FR:1.4 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Wildland fire suppression: AMR in Fire Management Plan is followed for areas identified where fire is not desired, or in areas where fire can be used as a management tool.	Same as Alternative A.	Suppress all wildland fires in the planning area.	In areas of high-density urban and (or) industrial interface with intermingled BLM-administered lands, suppression objectives will follow the AMR in an approved fire management plan for the planning area to provide first for human health and safety, while minimizing loss of property and threats to other surface owners. Generally, wildland fires are suppressed in these areas. In areas of low-density urban and (or) industrial interface where BLM-administered lands occur in large contiguous blocks, fire suppression objectives will follow the AMR in an approved fire management plan for the planning area to provide first for human health and safety, while allowing for achievement of resource objectives.
3005	FR:1.1 FR:1.2 FR:1.3 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	During fire suppression activities, limit soil disturbance from heavy equipment to protect cultural and natural resources.	During suppression activities in the planning area soil disturbance on public lands is not allowed without consent from a Kemmerer Field Office authorized officer (per an approved fire management plan for the Kemmerer Field Office).	No soil disturbance is allowed within the planning area from heavy equipment during suppression unless private or public habitable structures or industrial facilities are at risk.	Same as Alternative B.
3006	FR:2.1 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Prescribed fire, wildland fire use, chemical, biological, and mechanical treatments can be used to meet fire and fuels management objectives, and to improve plant community health and meet other resource objectives.	Same as Alternative A, except management objectives are met based on acreage thresholds and areas found in an approved fire management plan for the planning area.	Prescribed fire, wildland fire use, chemical, mechanical, and biological treatments are not considered in meeting fire and fuels management objectives.	Same as Alternative B.
3007	FR:2.1 FR:2.2 FR:3.1	Prescribed fire, wildland fire use, as well as chemical, biological, and mechanical treatments can be used to reduce hazardous fuels in areas of resources at risk.	Same as Alternative A.	Prescribed fire, wildland fire use, chemical, mechanical and biological treatments are not considered in reducing hazardous fuels.	Same as Alternative A.
3008	FR:2.2 FR:3.1 FR:3.2	Prescribed fire and wildland fire use can be used to reintroduce fire in its natural role back into the ecosystem to meet fire and fuels resource management objectives.	Same as Alternative A, except management objectives are met based on acreage thresholds as found in an approved fire management plan for the planning area.	Prescribed fire and wildland fire use are not used to reintroduce fire to its natural role in the ecosystem.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	
<p>Goal BR:1 Manage vegetation communities to restore, maintain, or enhance vegetation community health, composition, and diversity and to provide a mix of natural successional stages that incorporate diverse structure and composition into each vegetation type.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>BR:1.1 Manage or restore habitat on BLM-administered lands within the planning area to facilitate the conservation, recovery and maintenance of populations of native, desirable nonnative, and special status plant species (BLM sensitive species, USFWS listed, proposed, or petitioned species) consistent with appropriate local, state, and federal management plans.</p> <p>BR:1.2 Manage specific environmental hazards, risks, and impacts in a manner compatible with special status plant species health.</p> <p>BR:1.3 Manage for healthy native plant communities by reducing, preventing expansion of, or eliminating the occurrence of invasive, nonnative species, undesirable, non-native, or noxious weeds (predatory plant pests or disease) by implementing management actions consistent with goals included in “Partners Against Weeds” and consistent with weed management plans.</p> <p>BR:1.4 Forestland would provide a sustainable supply of forest products to the public and commercial uses and up to 19,008 acres of forestland would be available for forest management actions. Woodlands would supply forest products to the public as a by-product with forest health, landscape restoration, and reduction of forest fuels objectives and up to 15,000 acres of woodland would be available for woodland management actions.</p> <p>BR:1.5 Forestlands and woodlands within the Raymond Mountain WSA (3,000 acres) would be reserve managed to meet wilderness characteristics and healthy forest landscape objectives in accordance with management plans and IMP.</p> <p>BR:1.6 Old growth management areas, and the connectivity of the old growth area, would be maintained as appropriate consistent with other management and forest health objectives.</p> <p>BR:1.7 Rangelands would provide a sustainable supply of forage for commercial uses on up to 1,411,071 acres in the planning area.</p> <p>Goal BR:2 Manage riparian and wetland areas to provide the appropriate natural potential combination of vegetation, land form, and large woody debris to: dissipate stream energy associated with high waterflows or energies associated with wind and (or) wave action and overland flow from adjacent sites, reduce erosion and improve water quality, filter sediment, capture bedload, allow for floodplain development, improve flood-water retention and groundwater recharge, develop root masses that stabilize stream banks, islands and shoreline features against cutting action, allow for natural rates of water percolation, and develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>BR:2.1 Riparian areas should, within 10 years, have activity and implementation plans that will allow riparian areas to be maintained at or above, or continue to be improved toward, proper functioning condition.</p>	<p>Goal BR:3 Manage for the biological integrity and habitat function of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems to sustain and optimize distribution and abundance of all native, desirable nonnative, and special status fish and wildlife species consistent with habitat capability.</p> <p>Goal BR:4 Manage or restore forage vegetation and habitat on BLM-administered lands within the planning area to facilitate the conservation, recovery and maintenance of populations of native, desirable non-native, and special status species (BLM sensitive species, WGFD SGCN and NSS 1-4 species, USFWS listed, proposed, or petitioned species) consistent with appropriate local, state, and federal management plans.</p> <p>Goal BR:5 Provide quality habitats to support the expansion in range (i.e., introduction, reintroduction, augmentation, etc.) of identified high priority fish, wildlife, and plant species, as appropriate, on public lands in the planning area throughout the life of the plan.</p> <p>Objectives for Goals 3, 4, and 5:</p> <p>BR:3-5.1 Manage habitats to support WGFD in the attainment of big game herd unit objectives, fish management objectives, and well-distributed, healthy populations of wildlife and fish species consistent with the WGFD’s Strategic Habitat Plan, Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, and strategic population plans, and to achieve the stated purpose of designated Wildlife Habitat Management Areas.</p> <p>BR:3-5.2 Ensure that no greater than 12.5 percent net loss of crucial habitat acres occurs in the planning area over the life of the plan in the absence of voluntary offsite mitigation.</p> <p>BR:3-5.3 Maintain, restore, or enhance fisheries habitats in the planning area so they achieve optimal channel geomorphology and vegetative structure for productivity and biological diversity, and can achieve optimum conditions for desired fish populations during the life of the plan.</p> <p>BR:3-5.4 Identify physical locations, potential conflicts, and other adverse impacts among fish and wildlife and other resources within the planning area and implement management actions and conservation measures to prevent and (or) reduce adverse impacts to desirable wildlife species.</p> <p>BR:3-5.5 Inventory, map, and correlate vegetation types and seral stages within the planning area and develop and implement management actions to provide desirable native and non-native species habitat values, appropriate species’ habitat needs, existing species’ diversity, and livestock grazing use.</p> <p>BR:3-5.6 Capitalize on opportunities to maintain and enhance rangeland conditions and wildlife habitat capability and functionality, and provide adequate habitat, protection from disturbance, and barrier-free movements in identified wildlife migration routes and fish passages within the planning area.</p> <p>BR:3-5.7 Manage for habitat necessary to support well-distributed healthy populations of special status fish and wildlife species by developing habitat management plans, other management documents, or other mechanisms as appropriate to conserve special status species.</p> <p>BR:3-5.8 Strive for no net loss of crucial habitat function occurs in the planning area for any special status species.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	
<p>Goal BR:6 Manage the direct, indirect, and cumulative adverse impacts to wildlife and their habitats such that no unnecessary or undue degradation results from BLM actions and authorized activities.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>BR:6.1 Manage habitat to support WGFD in the attainment of their big game herd unit objectives, strategic population plans, the Strategic Terrestrial Plan and the Aquatic Habitat Plan, and to achieve the stated purpose of designated Wildlife Habitat Management Areas.</p> <p>BR:6.2 Ensure that no greater than 12.5 percent net loss of crucial habitat acres occurs in the planning area over the life of the plan in the absence of voluntary offsite mitigation.</p> <p>BR:6.3 Maintain, restore, or enhance fisheries habitats in the planning area so they achieve optimal channel geomorphology and vegetative structure for productivity and biological diversity, and can achieve optimum conditions for desired fish populations during the life of the plan.</p> <p>BR:6.4 Coordinate with Wildlife Services prior to activities on the planning area to avoid non-target species mortalities and minimize disturbance to fish or wildlife during the life of the plan.</p> <p>BR:6.5 Identify physical locations, potential conflicts, and other adverse impacts among fish and wildlife and other resources within the planning area and implement management actions and conservation measures to prevent and (or) reduce adverse impacts to desirable wildlife species.</p> <p>BR:6.6 Inventory, map, and correlate vegetation types and seral stages within the planning area and develop and implement management actions to provide healthy and stable ecosystems that support wildlife habitat values, appropriate species’ habitat needs, and the existing species’ diversity.</p> <p>BR:6.7 Capitalize on opportunities to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat capability and functionality, and provide adequate habitat, protection from disturbance, and barrier-free movements in identified wildlife migration routes and fish passages within the planning area.</p> <p>Goal BR:7 Manage specific environmental hazards, risks, and impacts to fish, wildlife, and habitats in a manner compatible with native, desirable nonnative, and special status fish and wildlife health.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>BR:7.1 Manage habitat to support WGFD in the attainment of their big game herd unit objectives, strategic population plans, the Strategic Terrestrial Plan and the Aquatic Habitat Plan, and to achieve the stated purpose of designated Wildlife Habitat Management Areas.</p> <p>BR:7.2 Ensure that no greater than 12.5 percent net loss of crucial habitat acres occurs in the planning area over the life of the plan in the absence of voluntary offsite mitigation and ensure no net loss of crucial habitat function occurs in the planning area for any special status species.</p> <p>BR:7.3 Maintain, restore, or enhance fisheries habitats in the planning area so they achieve optimal channel geomorphology and vegetative structure for productivity and biological diversity, and can achieve optimum conditions for desired fish populations during the life of the plan.</p>	<p>BR:7.4 Coordinate with APHIS prior to activities on the planning area to avoid non-target species mortalities, to facilitate pest and predator control, and minimize disturbance to fish or wildlife during the life of the plan.</p> <p>BR:7.5 Identify physical locations, potential conflicts, and other adverse impacts among fish and wildlife and other resources within the planning area and implement management actions and conservation measures to prevent and (or) reduce adverse impacts to desirable wildlife species.</p> <p>BR:7.6 Inventory, map, and correlate vegetation types and seral stages within the planning area and develop and implement management actions to provide healthy and stable ecosystems that support wildlife habitat values, appropriate species’ habitat needs, and the existing species’ diversity.</p> <p>BR:7.7 Capitalize on opportunities to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat capability and functionality, and provide adequate habitat, protection from disturbance, and barrier-free movements in identified wildlife migration routes and fish passages within the planning area.</p> <p>BR:7.8 Manage for habitat necessary to support well-distributed healthy populations of special status fish and wildlife species and develop habitat management plans, other management documents, or mechanisms as appropriate to conserve special status species.</p> <p>Goal BR:8 Manage terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems to provide recreational and educational benefits and opportunities for the public use.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>BR:8.1 Manage habitat to support WGFD in the attainment of their big game herd unit objectives, strategic population plans, the Strategic Terrestrial Plan and the Aquatic Habitat Plan, and to achieve the stated purpose of designated Wildlife Habitat Management Areas.</p> <p>BR:8.2 Ensure that no greater than 12.5 percent net loss of crucial habitat acres occurs in the planning area over the life of the plan in the absence of voluntary offsite mitigation.</p> <p>BR:8.3 Maintain, restore, or enhance fisheries habitats in the planning area so they achieve optimal channel geomorphology and vegetative structure for productivity and biological diversity, and can achieve optimum conditions for desired fish populations during the life of the plan.</p> <p>BR:8.4 Identify physical locations, potential conflicts, and other adverse impacts among fish and wildlife and other resources within the planning area and implement management actions and conservation measures to prevent or reduce adverse impacts to desirable wildlife species.</p> <p>BR:8.5 Inventory, map, and correlate vegetation types and seral stages within the planning area and develop and implement management actions to provide healthy and stable ecosystems that support wildlife habitat values, appropriate species’ habitat needs, and the existing species’ diversity.</p> <p>BR:8.6 Capitalize on opportunities to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat capability and functionality, and provide adequate habitat, protection from disturbance, and barrier-free movements in identified wildlife migration routes and fish passages within the planning area.</p> <p>Goal BR:9 Forest resources would be managed to work toward restoring the forest landscape to historical early settlement period stocking level and structure/composition to meet forest health and reduction of forest fuels goals.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
4001	BR:1 BR:2	Manage vegetative communities in accordance with Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.			
4002	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.3 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:6.3 BR:7.1 BR:7.2 BR:7.3 BR:8.1 BR:8.2 BR:8.3	Choose and implement appropriate mitigation in a timely manner to minimize decreases in habitat function.			
4003	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.3 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:6.3 BR:6.4 BR:7.1 BR:7.2 BR:7.3 BR:7.4 BR:8.1 BR:8.2 BR:8.3	Mitigate impacts as close to the affected area, and for the same or similar impacted species or habitats, as possible.			
4004	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:7.1 BR:7.2 BR:8.1 BR:8.2	Utilize appropriate voluntary offsite compensatory mitigation to reduce impacts. This would be necessary if (1) all onsite mitigation has been accomplished and adverse effects have not been mitigated; or (2) if onsite mitigation is not feasible.			
4005	BR: 1.7 BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.3 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:6.3 BR:6.5 BR:6.4 BR:6.6 BR:6.7 BR:5.1 BR:7.2 BR:7.3 BR:7.5 BR:7.4 BR:7.6 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.2 BR:8.3 BR:8.4 BR:8.5 BR:8.6	Manage siting of facilities to minimize impacts on fish and wildlife habitat function and quality, to minimize impacts on vegetation resources for all uses, and to minimize fish and wildlife mortality during the life of the facility.			
4006	BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.2 BR:7.12 BR:7.13 BR:7.14	Identify distribution, key habitat areas, and special needs to develop management plans and conservation measures upon designation of threatened, endangered, and other special status species.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4007	BR:3-5.7 BR:7.2 BR:3-5.2 BR:7.8	Assist authorized agencies in the restoration, reintroduction, augmentation, or re-establishment of threatened, endangered, and other special status species populations and (or) habitats.			
4008	BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.2 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	Implement all appropriate conservation agreements, conservation measures, and BLM-endorsed management strategies for threatened, endangered, and other special status species. See Appendix A for current list.			
4009	BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.2 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	<p>Apply a "no surface occupancy" restriction to bald eagle winter roosting areas. In addition, a 1-mile buffer zone around bald eagle winter roost sites will be closed from November 1 through April 1.</p> <p>Activities and habitat alterations that may disturb bald eagles will be restricted within suitable habitats that occur within bald eagle buffer zones. Deviations may be made after consultation with the USFWS.</p> <p>Zone 1 (within 0.5 mile, year-round) is intended to protect active and alternative nests. For active nests, minimal human activity levels are allowed during the period of first occupancy to 2 weeks after fledging.</p> <p>Zone 2 (from 0.5 mile to 1 mile from the nest, February 1 through August 15) is intended to protect bald eagle primary use areas and permits light human activity levels.</p> <p>Zone 3 is designated to protect foraging and (or) concentration areas year-round 2.5 miles from the nest.</p>			
4010	BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.1 BR:6.5 BR:7.5 BR:7.8 BR:7.2	Apply a seasonal mountain plover protection stipulation from April 10 through July 10 to protect breeding and nesting habitats.			
4011	BR:7.1	An adaptive management approach will be followed to achieve the minimum goal of proper functioning condition on all riparian-wetland areas. Information gathered from assessments of riparian areas using the Proper Functioning Condition Assessment Methodology (Prichard 1998) will be used to identify attributes and processes that are not in a working order. Site-specific management strategies will be collaboratively designed and implemented to correct these. Monitoring will be conducted to identify any changes in management necessary to establish and maintain an upward trend. Based on this information, refinements in the management strategy will be implemented as necessary and monitoring continued. This iterative process provides the flexibility to ensure that management quickly and effectively responds to resource needs, thus ensuring that resource objectives can be met and maintained even in the face of seasonal, annual, and cyclic events such as fire, insect infestations, disease, weather, and associated hydrologic events that are beyond human control.			
4012	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.4	Avoid disruptive activity in big game crucial winter range November 15 through April 30.			
4013	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.4	Avoid disruptive activity in elk calving areas from May 1 through June 30.			

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – VEGETATION RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4014	PR:3.2 PR:4.2 BR:1.1 BR:1.3 BR:1.7	Reestablish vegetation over disturbed soils within 3 years of initial seeding. If establishment is unsuccessful, follow-up seeding and soil nutrient testing will occur to determine if additional reclamation is necessary.	Reestablish healthy native plant communities based on preexisting composition or other species as identified in an approved management plan. A reclamation plan will be developed and approved prior to any surface disturbing activities being authorized. Reclamation of surface disturbing activities will be required within the first available planting season, as identified the approved reclamation plan. Monitoring of reclamation success would begin during the first growing season after seeding. Performance standards will be based on site-specific objectives for reclamation and will be identified in the approved reclamation plan. If performance standards are not met at any point within the time frames identified in the reclamation plan; additional testing would be completed in order to guide further reclamation efforts necessary to meet the identified performance standards.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
4015	BR:1.1	Manage vegetation resources to comply with the ESA and BLM policy associated with management of special status species.	Manage large, contiguous blocks of federal land by maintaining or enhancing sagebrush, aspen, and mountain shrub communities. Maintain connections between these community types by managing projects to minimize construction disturbance to the smallest acreage possible with considerations for engineering feasibility and safety.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
4016	BR:1.1 BR:1.3	Prescribed fire, wildland fire, and appropriate chemical, mechanical, and biological treatments could be used to meet vegetation management objectives.	Naturally occurring wildland fires and biological treatments would be used to treat vegetation to meet vegetation management objectives throughout the planning area.	Chemical, mechanical and biological treatments could be used to meet vegetation management objectives throughout the planning area.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – VEGETATION RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4017	BR:1.1	A representative cushion plant community is protected with an NSO.	No surface-disturbing activities or surface disturbance of any nature or for any purpose other than for protection or enhancement of the species would be allowed in any cushion plant community.	No restrictions would be applied to any cushion plant community area.	Representative cushion plant communities would be NSO areas.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – VEGETATION RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
FORESTRY					
4018	BR:1.4	The acres of forest resources (forestlands and woodlands) treated annually are not specified; however, volume of timber removed from treated acres must not exceed the annual sustained yield capacity of these lands.	Approximately 50 acres of forestland (“forestland ecosystem management areas”) and 50 acres of woodland (“woodland ecosystem management areas”) approximately are treated annually (per decade, approximately 500 acres of forestland and 500 acres of woodland) by mechanical methods or prescribed fire to reduce stocking levels and structure and (or) composition to more historical conditions.	Approximately 150 acres of forestland (“forestland ecosystem management areas”) and 100 acres of woodland (“woodland ecosystem management areas”) approximately are treated annually (per decade, approximately 1,500 acres of forestland and 1,000 acres of woodland) by mechanical methods or prescribed fire to reduce stocking levels and structure and (or) composition to more historical conditions.	An average of 75 acres of forestland (“forestland ecosystem management areas”) and 75 acres of woodland (“woodland ecosystem management areas”) approximately are treated annually (per decade, approximately 750 acres of forestland and 750 acres of woodland) by mechanical methods or prescribed fire to reduce stocking levels and structure and (or) composition to more historical conditions.
4019	BR:1.4	Approximately 19,008 acres of forestland are managed to meet public demand. Existing forestlands are perpetuated and increased as they are treated. No annual allowable probable sale quantity is specified; however, sale quantities must not exceed the annual sustained yield capacity of the forestlands.	Approximately 19,008 acres of forestland would be actively managed and called “forest ecosystem management areas,” with an annual allowable probable sale quantity of 444 CCF (200 MBF); or per decade, 4,440 CCF (2 MMBF).	Approximately 19,008 acres of forestland would be actively managed and called “forest ecosystem management areas,” with an annual allowable probable sale quantity of 1,333 CCF (600 MBF); or per decade, 13,330 CCF (6 MMBF).	Approximately 19,008 acres of forestland would be actively managed and called “forest ecosystem management areas,” with an annual allowable probable sale quantity of 667 CCF (300 MBF); or per decade, 6,670 CCF (3 MMBF).
4020	BR:1.4 BR:1.5	No similar action.	Approximately 3,000 acres of forestland and woodland within the Raymond Mountain WSA are managed by prescribed fire or wildland fire use to simulate natural alteration of vegetation to meet wilderness and healthy forest landscape objectives. No mechanical and (or) surface-disturbing activities are prescribed. No forest products are removed from this area. The forestlands and woodlands within the WSA are called “reserved forest ecosystem management areas.”	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – VEGETATION RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4021	BR:1.4	No similar action.	<p>Approximately 15,000 acres of woodland (aspen and juniper) are actively managed to create more historical conditions and called “woodland ecosystem management areas.”</p> <p>No specified annual sale quantity is identified.</p> <p>Forest products are provided as a byproduct consistent with forest health, landscape restoration, and reduction of forest fuels objectives.</p>	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
4022	BR:1.4 BR:1.6	No similar action.	Old growth forest areas are retained in an appropriate proportion to other timber classes, using an adaptive management approach. Old growth forest characteristics are identified for the various forest types and are listed in the glossary. Connectivity of existing or potential old growth areas are adopted if appropriate and consistent with other management.	Old growth forest areas are retained at appropriate locations and distribution levels, as evaluations occur, using an adaptive management approach. Old growth forest characteristics are identified for the various forest types and are listed in the glossary. Connectivity of existing or potential old growth areas are adopted whenever feasible.	Same as Alternative B.
WETLAND AND RIPARIAN COMMUNITIES					
4023	BR:2.1	Management actions in riparian areas will include measures to preserve, protect, and, if necessary, restore natural functions.	Manage all riparian areas for mid-to late-successional stage vegetation.	Same as Alternative A.	Riparian areas would be maintained, improved, or restored to enhance habitat forage conditions for wildlife and livestock and improve stream water quality. Manage all riparian areas with sensitive wildlife and plant species concerns to a successional stage appropriate for the benefit of those species, including vertical as well as horizontal vegetative structure and composition.
4024	BR:4.1	Locations of livestock salt or mineral supplements comply with requirements determined on a site-specific basis.	Locate livestock salt or mineral supplements a minimum of ½ mile away from water sources, riparian areas, and aspen stands.	Same as Alternative A.	Locate livestock salt or mineral supplements a minimum of ¼ mile away from water sources, riparian areas, and aspen stands. Buffers are based on resource concerns on a case-by-case basis.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4025	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.3 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.3 BR:6.5 BR:6.6 BR:6.7 BR:7.1 BR:7.3 BR:7.4 BR:7.5 BR:7.6 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.3 BR:8.4 BR:8.5 BR:8.4 BR:8.6	Currently, no seasonal limitations associated with fish species are applied for surface-disturbing activities.	Apply seasonal limitations for surface-disturbing activities within the floodplain or 1,000 feet (whichever is greater) of fish-bearing streams to protect game and nongame fish species during spawning, egg incubation, and fry stages. Dates will vary by species and location. Coordination on a case-by-case basis with WGFD will occur to determine crucial dates.	Same as Alternative A.	Protect critical life stages for game and nongame fish species by limiting disturbance activities in fish bearing streams on a case-by-case basis. Coordination with WGFD will occur for specific projects to determine crucial dates. Exceptions can be made if the NEPA analysis shows little or no impact.
4026	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.3 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.3 BR:6.5 BR:6.6 BR:6.7 BR:7.1 BR:7.3 BR:7.5 BR:7.6 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.3 BR:8.4 BR:8.5 BR:8.6	Human-caused barriers to fish passage are not actively addressed under current management.	Human-caused barriers to fish passage could be removed where appropriate and (or) feasible to provide for more genetic diversity and population stability. Human-caused barriers may be placed in some situations to protect conservation populations of fish species from hybridization or competition.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
4027	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:6.5 BR:6.7 BR:7.1 BR:7.2 BR:7.5 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.2 BR:8.4 BR:8.6	BLM fencing standards are applied to newly constructed fences on BLM-administered lands within the planning area.	Remove or modify all BLM fences to comply with BLM Manual 1741 fencing standards to eliminate potential conflicts with wildlife and special status species.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A, except eliminate or modify existing fences to reduce conflicts on a case-by-case basis.
4028	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.2 BR:6.4 BR:6.5 BR:6.7 BR:7.1 BR:7.2 BR:7.4 BR:7.5 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.2 BR:8.4 BR:8.6	No current provisions exist for managing migration corridors.	Identify and preserve traditional migration and travel corridors for big game wildlife species and migratory birds.	Identify and develop management for traditional migration and travel corridors for big game wildlife species and migratory birds.	Identify and work collaboratively to develop management of migration corridors for big game wildlife species and migratory birds to reduce conflicts.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4029	BR:3-5.1 BR:3-5.4 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.6 BR:6.1 BR:6.5 BR:6.6 BR:6.7 BR:7.1 BR:7.5 BR:7.6 BR:7.7 BR:8.1 BR:8.4 BR:8.5 BR:8.6	No current requirements exist to prevent perching on overhead powerlines.	Bury all new (low voltage) utility lines and install BLM-approved anti-perch devices on all new high voltage utility lines.	Burial of all new (low-voltage) utility lines is not required, nor is installation of BLM-approved anti-perch devices on new high voltage utility lines.	Bury new utility lines or install BLM-approved anti-perch devices on all new utility lines within sagebrush and (or) semiarid shrub-dominated habitats, unless NEPA analysis shows little or no impact without burial or modification.

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES - PLANTS					
4030	FR:1.1 FR:1.2 FR:1.3	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is not allowed in special status plant species populations.	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is not allowed within ¼ mile of special status plant species populations.	Same as Alternative A.	Use of fire suppression chemicals, including foaming agents and surfactants, is not allowed within 200 feet of special status plant species populations.
4031	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1	No specific measures to protect special status plants species populations from motor vehicles currently exist.	Special status plant species populations are closed to fire suppression vehicle use.	Same as Alternative A.	All vehicles, including fire suppression vehicles, are restricted to existing roads and trails in special status plant species populations. The Kemmerer Field Office authorized officer has the discretion to lift this requirement in an emergency situation.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4032	BR:1.1 BR:1.2	<p>All appropriate measures to protect all threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant species are applied to all actions and use authorizations. These measures could include avoidance, NSO, and “no surface disturbance.”</p> <p>Four populations of <i>Physaria dornii</i> have an NSO designation.</p>	<p>Known locations of special status plant species are protected and closed to the following:</p> <p>Surface-disturbing activities that could adversely impact the plants or their habitats.</p> <p>Mining claim location (select locations would be formally withdrawn from mining claim location).</p> <p>Mineral material sales.</p> <p>All off-road vehicular use, including those vehicles used for geophysical exploration activities, surveying, etc.</p> <p>Use of explosives and blasting.</p> <p>All populations of <i>Physaria dornii</i> have an NSO designation.</p>	Same as Alternative A, except remove NSO designations for <i>Physaria dornii</i> .	Same as Alternative B, except no NSO on <i>Physaria dornii</i> populations.
4033	BR:1.1 BR:1.2	<p>Areas where special status plants are known to exist are ROW avoidance areas. The authorized officer could grant exceptions if analysis shows that there is no adverse impact to the plant populations.</p> <p>(BLM WY Sensitive Species Policy and Manual 6840)</p>	Areas where special status plants are known to exist are ROW exclusion areas.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
4034	BR:1.1 BR:1.2	<p>Potential habitats of special status plant species on federal lands or on split-estate lands require searches for the plant species prior to approving any project or activity. Should special status plant species be found, all surface-disturbing activities are halted until species-specific protective measures are developed and implemented. For federally listed species, protective measures are developed and implemented in coordination with the USFWS.</p> <p>(BLM WY Sensitive Species Policy and Manual 6840 and ESA)</p>	<p>Potential habitats of special status plant species on federal lands or on split-estate lands require searches for the plant species prior to approving any project or activity. Should species be found, all surface-disturbing activities are halted.</p>	No searches for special status plants are required, except for federally listed, proposed, and candidate species, before approving any project or activity.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4035	BR:1.1 BR:1.2	Potential habitat areas of special status plant species are areas of CSU for surface-disturbing activities. (BLM WY Sensitive Species Policy and Manual 6840)	Surface-disturbing activities are prohibited in potential habitat areas of special status plant species.	No limitations are placed on surface-disturbing activities in potential habitat areas of special status plant species.	Same as Alternative A.
4036	BR:1.1 BR:1.2	Potential habitat areas of special status plant species would be areas of CSU for surface-disturbing activities. (BLM WY Sensitive Species Policy and Manual 6840)	Vegetation treatments in special status plant species habitats would be conducted only when they would benefit these species.	Vegetation treatments in special status plant species habitats would be conducted to produce a desired plant community to benefit all resources in compliance with sensitive species policy.	Vegetation treatments in special status plant species habitats could be conducted on a case-by-case basis when they would benefit these species.
4037	LR:4.1	No salt or mineral supplements are allowed on special status plant species populations (BLM WY Sensitive Species Policy and Manual 6840).	No salt or mineral supplements are allowed within ½ mile of special status plant species populations.	Same as Alternative A.	No salt or mineral supplements are allowed within ¼ mile of special status plant species populations. Buffers are based on resource concerns on a case-by-case basis.
4038	LR:4.1	Range improvement projects such as troughs, reservoirs, fences, and other surface-disturbing activities are not allowed on special status plant species populations.	Range improvement projects such as troughs, reservoirs, fences, and other surface-disturbing activities are not allowed within ½ mile of special status plant species populations, unless they are determined to be beneficial to that species.	Same as Alternative A.	Range improvement projects, such as troughs, reservoirs, and fences, are not allowed on special status plant species populations. Buffers are based on resource concerns on a case-by-case basis.
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES - FISH					
4039	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No similar action.	Similar management actions as found in the “Conservation Agreement and Strategies and Thomas Fork Aquatic Habitat Management Plan” (BLM 1979) are applied to support habitat and fisheries objectives for the Snake River cutthroat trout.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES - WILDLIFE					
4040	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:6.7 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No similar action.	Avoid habitat fragmentation through attenuation, siting, and consolidation of roads, energy facilities, and other developments in identified special status species habitats to no more than 3 percent of available habitats.	Avoid habitat fragmentation through attenuation, siting, and consolidation of roads, energy facilities, and other developments in identified special status species habitats, unless appropriate mitigation is initiated.	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4041	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	<p>Greater sage-grouse are protected by surface-disturbance stipulations. For leks, there is a restriction buffer within ¼ mile of the perimeter of occupied greater sage-grouse leks. Avoid human activity between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. from March 1 through May 15 within ¼ mile of the perimeter of occupied greater sage-grouse leks.</p> <p>Avoid surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in suitable greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitats within 2 miles of an occupied lek.</p>	<p>Prohibit surface disturbance or surface occupancy on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile radius of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks. No human activity between one hour before sunset to one hour after sunrise from March 1 - May 15 on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks.</p> <p>Prohibit surface disturbing activities and/or disruptive activities in suitable sage-grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitat within 3 miles of an occupied sage grouse lek or in identified nesting or brood rearing habitat outside the 3-mile buffer from March 15 – July 15. The distance and timing details above may change as sage-grouse seasonal habitats are delineated through mapping.</p> <p>Prohibit surface disturbing activities and/or disruptive activities in suitable sage grouse winter concentration areas from November 15 – March 14.</p> <p>Mid-scale mapping of sagebrush ecosystems and sage-grouse seasonal habitats will be completed within one year of the ROD.</p>	<p>Avoid surface-disturbing and disruptive activities within ¼ mile of the perimeter of active greater sage-grouse leks; avoid human activity between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. from March 1 through May 15 within ¼ mile of the perimeter of occupied greater sage-grouse leks.</p> <p>Avoid surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in suitable greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitats within 2 miles of an occupied greater sage-grouse lek.</p>	<p>The following distances and timeframes will be utilized to manage activities that may impact greater sage-grouse or their habitats. These distances and timeframes are based on current information, but may be subject to change in the future based upon new information.</p> <p>Greater sage-grouse leks: Prohibit or restrict surface disturbance or surface occupancy on, or within six tenths (0.6) mile radius of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks. No human activity between one hour before sunset to one hour after sunrise from March 1 - May 15 within six tenths (0.6) mile of the perimeter of occupied or undetermined sage-grouse leks.</p> <p>Greater sage-grouse nesting and early brood-rearing habitats: Prohibit or restrict surface disturbing activities and/or disruptive activities in suitable sage grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitat within 3 miles of an occupied sage grouse lek or in any identified nesting or brood rearing habitat regardless of distance from a lek from March 15 – July 15. The distance and timing details above may change as sage-grouse seasonal habitats are delineated through mapping. Greater sage-grouse winter habitat: Prohibit or restrict surface disturbance and/or disruptive activities in delineated greater sage-grouse winter concentration areas from November 15 - March 14.</p> <p>Mid-scale mapping of sagebrush ecosystems and sage-grouse seasonal habitats will be completed within one year of the ROD. Detailed mapping of sagebrush ecosystems and sage-grouse seasonal habitats in the Slate Creek and Moxa Arch areas will be completed within <i>two years</i> of the ROD.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					<p>Appropriate restrictions will be determined on a site-specific basis and will consider project size.</p> <p>Exceptions to CSU and timing restrictions will continue to be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>
4042	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No requirements to locate facilities or reduce noise levels of equipment to minimize the impacts of continuous noise on species relying on aural cues for successful breeding currently exist.	Locate facilities or use BMPs to minimize impacts of continuous noise on species relying on aural cues for successful breeding. This requirement is based on current information, but may be subject to change in the future based upon new information.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
4043	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.5 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No restrictions on any high-profile structures within sagebrush obligate habitats currently exist.	<p>Prohibit new, permanent high-profile structures (higher than 12 feet) within 1 mile of occupied sagebrush obligate habitats.</p> <p>Prohibit new, permanent high-profile structures relying on guy wires for support in these habitats.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Avoid new, permanent high-profile structures (higher than 12 feet) within 1 mile of occupied sagebrush obligate habitats unless anti-perch devices are installed.</p> <p>Prohibit new, permanent high-profile structures relying on guy wires for support in these habitats. Exceptions can be made if NEPA analysis shows little or no impact to sagebrush obligate species.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4044	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	<p>No activity or surface disturbance is allowed for up to a ¾-mile radius from any active raptor nest sites from February 1 through July 31 (except peregrine falcon restrictions that extend from February 1 through August 15).</p> <p>Within the Moxa Arch area of oil and gas development, restrictions are applied within a 1-mile radius of ferruginous hawk nests.</p> <p>Actual distances and dates will vary based on topography, species, season of use, and other pertinent factors.</p>	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities to nesting raptors are prohibited within 1½ miles of an active raptor nest during the following time periods for the protection of raptor nesting areas:</p> <p>February 1 through July 15, or whenever the young have fledged: golden eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk, great-horned owl, other raptors</p> <p>March 1 through July 31: short-eared owl, long-eared owl, ferruginous hawk, peregrine falcon, screech owl</p> <p>April 1 through July 31: osprey, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, kestrel, prairie falcon, northern harrier, Swainson’s hawk, Cooper’s hawk</p> <p>April 1 through September 15, or whenever the young have fledged: burrowing owl</p> <p>April 1 through August 31: northern goshawk</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B, except disruptive activities to nesting raptors are prohibited within ½ mile.</p>	<p>Surface-disturbing and disruptive activities to nesting raptors are prohibited within the following distances from an active nest from February 1 through July 31 with the exception of burrowing owl (April 15 through September 15, or whenever the young have fledged) and northern goshawk (April 1 through August 31):</p> <p>1-mile buffer: ferruginous hawk</p> <p>¾-mile buffer: golden eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk, great-horned owl, osprey, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, kestrel, prairie falcon, northern harrier, Swainson’s hawk, Cooper’s hawk, short-eared owl, long-eared owl, peregrine falcon, screech owl, burrowing owl, northern goshawk, and other raptors</p> <p>Time periods can be adjusted based on specific needs of identified species. The following time periods will be applied as appropriate:</p> <p>February 1 through July 15, or whenever the young have fledged: golden eagle, barn owl, red-tailed hawk, great-horned owl, other raptors</p> <p>March 1 through July 31: short-eared owl, long-eared owl, ferruginous hawk, peregrine falcon, screech owl</p> <p>April 1 through July 31: osprey, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, kestrel, prairie falcon, northern harrier, Swainson’s hawk, Cooper’s hawk</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (see Appendix A for more detail on management of special status species)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4045	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No similar action.	Prohibit surface-disturbing activities in identified pygmy rabbit habitats.	Avoid surface-disturbing activities in occupied pygmy rabbit habitats.	Same as Alternative C.
4046	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No similar action.	Prohibit surface-disturbing and disruptive activities in all white-tailed prairie dog colonies or complexes 100 acres or greater.	Same as Alternative A.	Avoid activities that could result in collapse of burrows in occupied white-tailed prairie dog colonies or complexes 200 acres or greater, unless appropriate mitigation occurs.
4047	BR:3-5.2 BR:3-5.7 BR:3-5.8 BR:6.7 BR:7.2 BR:7.8	No similar action.	Identify and preserve traditional migration and travel corridors for special status species.	Identify and develop management for traditional migration and travel corridors for special status species.	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

4000 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (BR) – INVASIVE NONNATIVE SPECIES					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
4048	BR:1.1 BR:1.2 BR:1.3	Aerial application of chemicals would not be allowed within 100 feet of wetlands, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats. Exceptions could be applied to manage riparian weed species. Applications of chemicals will follow label requirements.	Aerial application of chemicals would not be allowed within ½ mile of wetlands, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
4049	BR:1.1 BR:1.2 BR:1.3	Vehicle and hand application of chemicals would not be allowed within 25 feet (by vehicle) or 10 feet (by hand) of wetlands, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats. Application of chemicals will be done in accordance with label instructions. Exceptions could be applied to manage riparian weed species.	Vehicle and hand application of chemicals would not be allowed within ¼ mile of wetlands, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
4050	BR:1.1 BR:1.2 BR:1.3	Mix chemicals a minimum of 500 feet away from riparian areas, water sources, floodplains, and known special status plant species populations.	Mix chemicals a minimum of ¼ mile away from riparian areas, water sources, and floodplains.	Mix chemicals a minimum of 100 feet away from riparian areas, water sources, and floodplains.	Same as Alternative A.
4051	BR:1.1 BR:1.2 BR:1.3	Application of chemicals around special status plant species is determined on a case-by-case basis in coordination with the authorized officer.	Aerial application of chemicals is not allowed within ½ mile of special status plant species. Vehicle and hand application is not allowed within ¼ mile of special status plant species.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
4052	BR:1.2 BR:1.3	No similar action.	Require the use of certified weed-free forage and feeds to prevent establishment of new weed areas.	Recommend the use of certified weed-free forage and feeds.	Same as Alternative B.
4053	BR:1.2 BR:1.3	No similar action.	Require the use of certified weed-free seed and mulch for rehabilitation projects.	Recommend the use of certified weed-free seed and mulch for rehabilitation projects.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

5000 HERITAGE RESOURCES (HR) – CULTURAL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal HR:1 Preserve and protect Native American sensitive sites and ensure they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>HR:1.1 Identify Native American sensitive sites on BLM-administered lands within the planning area.</p> <p>HR:1.2 Establish a process that allows BLM to evaluate probability for occurrence of Native American sensitive sites and their potential significance.</p> <p>HR:1.3 Ensure consultation and coordination with Native American tribes regarding potential treaty rights issues.</p> <p>Goal HR:2 Preserve and protect NHTs, as well as other significant cultural resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>HR:2.1 Ensure recreational use will be compatible with historic trail values.</p> <p>HR:2.2 Establish appropriate management prescriptions in zones of Class 1, 2 and 3 NHT segments.</p> <p>HR:2.3 Coordinate with recreation and other programs to provide opportunities for public visitation, interpretation, education, and appreciation of NHTs.</p> <p>Goal HR:3 Reduce imminent threats from natural or human-caused deterioration or potential conflicts with other resource uses.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>HR:3.1 Pursuant to Section 110 of the NHPA, identify other cultural resources in the planning area by defining priority geographic areas for new field inventory based on a probability for unrecorded significant cultural resources.</p> <p>Goal HR:4 Promote stewardship, conservation, and appreciation of cultural resources.</p> <p>HR:4.1 Manage NHTs and other historic trail resources for long-term heritage, recreational, and educational values.</p> <p>HR:4.2 Enhance public experience through interpretive facilities and support of heritage tourism.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
5001	HR:1.1 HR:1.2 HR:1.3	Continue working relationship with tribes including consulting with tribes to develop specific measures to ensure that areas important to Native American communities are not transferred from federal ownership or physically modified or affected by decisions in ways that restrict or deny access to Native Americans for traditional uses protected by treaty rights.			
5002	HR:1.1 HR:1.2 HR:1.3	Categorize all cultural properties according to six use allocations: scientific use, conservation use, public use, traditional use, experimental use, and discharged from public use.			
5003	HR:2.2 HR:4.1	Pursuant to Section 106 of NHPA and the State Protocol, case-by-case reviews for specific undertakings require analysis and assessments of effects of NHT segments beyond the distances specified below.			
5004	HR:1.1 HR:1.2 HR:1.3	No current management (BLM 1986a). Evaluate on a project-by-project basis.	Conduct ethnographic research and consult with tribes to proactively identify all sensitive sites within the planning area.	Conduct tribal consultation only on projects where known site types are encountered.	Prescribe timing and degree of Native American consultation by zones of high, medium, and low probability for sensitive sites identified in consultation with tribes and based on available data. Until such time as zones are identified, tribal consultation is conducted on projects where known site types are encountered and on types of projects for which tribal concerns are identified.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

5000 HERITAGE RESOURCES (HR) – CULTURAL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
5005	HR:1.2 HR:1.3	Consult with tribes and applicants on specific projects to determine protection measures on threatened sites. Implement protection measures.	Consult with tribes to develop specific measures to preserve and protect all sensitive sites.	Same as Alternative A.	In consultation with Native American tribes, develop standards for programmatic management based on the type of site. Until such programmatic management standards are developed, consult with tribes and applicants on specific projects to determine protection measures on threatened sites and implement protection measures.
5006	HR:3.1	Conduct inventories prior to all surface-disturbing activities (environmental assessments).	Use Class I overview to proactively identify zones of high, medium, and low probability for cultural sites. Conduct Class III inventories in priority areas.	Conduct Class II or Class III inventories in areas where expected development or management decisions are likely to impact cultural sites. Exclude the requirement for further cultural resource inventories in low site density areas for future projects.	Use Class I overviews to proactively identify zones of high, medium, and low probability for cultural sites, and identify where current and future land uses threaten cultural sites. Conduct Class III inventories in zones where greatest threats to cultural resources exist.
5007	HR:4.2 HR:3.1	NSO for fluid minerals in 480 acres at the Bridger Antelope Trap.	Prohibit all surface-disturbing activities, close the area to OHV use, and exclude prescribed burns and vegetation treatments in the federal section (640 acres) that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap. Withdraw the federal section that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap from operation of the mining laws.	Same as Alternative A.	Restrict surface-disturbing activities in the federal section (640 acres) that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap. Restrictions include NSO for fluid minerals in the section, and OHV use is limited to the currently existing established road. Prescribed vegetation treatments could occur to protect the physical characteristics of the site. Withdraw the federal section that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap from operation of the mining laws.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

5000 HERITAGE RESOURCES (HR) – CULTURAL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
5008	HR:4.1	<p>All significant historical, archeological, and cultural sites are protected or mitigated.</p> <p>Some additional management prescriptions exist specific to the following sites:</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock</p> <p>Alfred Corum emigrant gravesite.</p> <p>No current management prescriptions exist (BLM 1986a) specific to the following sites:</p> <p>Nancy Hill emigrant gravesite</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp</p> <p>Rock Gap trail landmark</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark.</p>	<p>Prohibit establishment of ROW corridors and wind-energy projects, as well as all surface-disturbing activities. The area is closed to OHV use and prescribed burns, and vegetation treatments on the BLM-administered lands within the defined boundaries of the following sites are excluded:</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres).</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Manage surface-disturbing activities on BLM-administered lands within the defined boundaries of the sites listed below by restricting the following activities:</p> <p>NSO for fluid minerals on newly issued leases, OHV use limited to existing established roads, and the areas are ROW exclusion zones.</p> <p>Management prescriptions using vegetation treatments to protect or enhance the sites are allowed.</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres).</p>
5009	HR:4.1	<p>Develop cultural resources management plans for significant sites. The need for such activity plans will be determined on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Develop cultural resource management plans for the following sites:</p> <p>Bridger Antelope Trap</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp</p> <p>Rock Gap trail landmark.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Cultural resource management plans could be developed for significant sites including, but not limited to, the following:</p> <p>Bridger Antelope Trap</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

5000 HERITAGE RESOURCES (HR) – CULTURAL					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
5010	HR:2.1 HR:2.2 HR:2.3 HR:4.1	<p>The objective will be to protect the trails (NHTs) from visual intrusion and surface disturbance and to maintain the integrity of setting.</p> <p>To provide a protective corridor for the trail, generally visual intrusion and surface disturbance will be restricted or prohibited within 1,320 feet from either side of an historic trail (may depend on topography and existing surface disturbance), or within the visual horizon of the trail, whichever is closer.</p>	<p>Protect the physical evidence of NHTs (ruts and [or] traces, graves, campsites, landmarks) by prohibiting all surface-disturbing activities that do not benefit the preservation and (or) interpretation of trails within the following distances:</p> <p>(1) Class 1 segments: 1 mile on each side of trail segments and within a 1-mile radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(2) Class 2 segments: ½-mile on each side of trail segments and within a ½-mile radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(3) Class 3 segments: ¼ mile on each side of trail segments.</p>	<p>Protect the physical evidence of NHTs (ruts and [or] traces, graves, campsites, landmarks) by prohibiting or restricting surface-disturbing activities that do not benefit the preservation and (or) interpretation of trails within the distances specified below. The definition and management of the corridor may depend on topography and existing surface disturbance.</p> <p>(1) Class 1 segments: ¼-mile on each side of trail segments and within a ¼-mile radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(2) Class 2 segments: 500 feet on each side of trail segments and within a 500-foot radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(3) Class 3 segments: 100 feet on each side of trail segments.</p> <p>Crossings at right angles to trails could be permitted on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Protect the physical evidence of NHTs designated under the National Trails System Act (ruts and traces, graves, campsites, landmarks) that exist on lands within federal jurisdiction by prohibiting all surface-disturbing activities that do not benefit the preservation and (or) interpretation of trails within the following distances:</p> <p>(1) Class 1 segments: ¼-mile on each side of trail segments and within a ¼-mile radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(2) Class 2 segments: 500 feet on each side of trail segments and within a 500-foot radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>(3) Class 3 segments: 100 feet on each side of trail segments and within a 100-foot radius of gravesites and landmarks.</p> <p>Crossings at right angles to trails could be permitted on a case-by-case basis. This could require boring beneath the trail trace.</p>
5011	HR:2.3 HR:3 HR:4.2	Locations of livestock salt or mineral supplements would comply with requirements determined on a site-specific basis.	Locate livestock salt or mineral supplements a minimum of ½ mile away from NHTs.	Same as Alternative A.	Generally locate livestock salt or mineral supplements a minimum of ¼ mile away from NHTs. Buffers would be coordinated with grazing permittees in consideration of all resource concerns in the area.
5012	HR:2.1 HR:2.2 HR:2.3 HR:4.1	<p>Management of NHTs emphasizes preservation coupled with increased visitor use and appreciation of the trail system.</p> <p>Currently, eight sites have interpretive signs as NHTs.</p>	<p>Develop and enhance significant segments and sites by installing directional signs to trail segments from main roads, trail markers at trail traces, and interpretative signs. Acquire legal access for public visitation to trail segments.</p> <p>Develop a stewardship program to lead trail tours, monitor sites, and generally assist with management.</p>	Same as Alternative A, except maintain the existing interpretative sites.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

5000 HERITAGE RESOURCES (HR) – PALEONTOLOGY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal HR:5 Promote the scientific knowledge of paleontological resources on BLM-administered lands within the planning area.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>HR:5.1 Provide for paleontological research of all fossils, limited recreational collection of common invertebrate and plant fossils, and protection of significant fossils on BLM-administered lands within the planning area.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
5013	HR:5.1	Continue to allow research and collection for research purposes of fossils on BLM-administered lands.			
5014	HR:5.1	Continue to allow dispersed recreational collection of common invertebrate and plant fossils on public lands.			
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
5015	HR:5.1	Data submitted to the BLM are collected and kept for reference.	Utilize inventory data to identify areas outside of Fossil Basin for special protection and management to preserve and study vertebrate fossil resources.	Same as Alternative A.	Data submitted to the BLM are collected and kept for reference. Use current and future inventory data to identify and, if necessary, designate specific site(s) for protection.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal LR:1 Manage the acquisition, disposal, and classification of public lands. Objective: LR:1.1 Respond to internal and external requests for land transfers (e.g., R&PP Act actions, land sales, exchanges, and withdrawals).</p> <p>Goal LR:2 Support national energy plans and policies regarding development of renewable and nonrenewable energy sources. Objective: LR:2.1 Respond to internal and external requests for land authorizations.</p> <p>Goal LR:3 Manage public lands to meet access and (or) ROW needs. Objective: LR:3.1 Acquire legal easements to public lands for recreational opportunities and management of public land resources.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
6001	LR:1.1	<p>Conduct review of withdrawals, and determine whether the withdrawal is still necessary. Only lands that will enhance multiple-use management and protection of nationally significant resource values and do not create a liability or burdensome management cost to the BLM will be considered for revocation.</p> <p>New withdrawals will be considered as the need arises. New requests will be processed for protection of resources prior to lifting existing withdrawals, when those withdrawals are in the same location.</p> <p>Areas that contain withdrawal conflicts will be handled on a case-by-case basis.</p>			
6002	LR:1.1 LR:2.1	Manage lands and (or) interests (access) in lands acquired in a manner consistent with adjacent or nearby public lands.			
6003	LR:2.1	Consider temporary use permits for areas to be used only during construction or for other short-term needs.			
6004	LR:2.1	Consider R&PP leases and patents as requested by qualified entities.			
6006	LR:1.1	At the implementation stage, site-specific analysis with public participation would be conducted. Based on the analysis and public comments received, a determination will be made on whether disposal of the parcel is in the public’s best interest. If it is not in the public’s best interest, the parcel will be retained in public ownership.			
6007	LR:1.1	<p>Lands identified for potential disposal (59,181 acres): BLM 1986a Appendix G in addition to actions completed to date.</p> <p>Lands identified for disposal under Sections 203 and 206 of the FLPMA and identified as such in this plan are hereby classified for disposal under Section 7 of the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, as amended (43 USC 315f).</p>	BLM-administered lands throughout the planning area are not considered for disposal.	Same as Alternative A and additional parcels will be considered for disposal on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative A, except 35,500 acres are identified for potential disposal (Appendix G) and additional parcels will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6008	LR:1.1	Consider Desert Land Entries on a case-by-case basis, based on soil characteristics, irrigation requirements, salinity issues, and the practicability of farming the lands as an economically feasible operating unit.	No BLM-administered public lands within the planning area are available for agricultural entry under Desert Land Entries (43 CFR 2520) due to one or more of the following factors: unsuitable soils, lack of water supplies or legal water rights, rugged topography, or presence of sensitive resources.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6009	LR:2.1 LR:3.1	<p>ROW corridors were not designated in the 1986 RMP (BLM 1986a).</p> <p>Land use authorizations are granted on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Utility corridors are not designated through sites listed on the NRHP.</p> <p>Utility corridors are not designated where they are in conflict with NHTs management objectives.</p> <p>Preferred utility corridors are ¼-mile wide and designated as follows:</p> <p>New intrastate pipeline authorizations are established linking the Jonah Gas/Pinedale Anticline fields to existing plant sites in the planning area. New interstate pipeline authorizations are to follow the existing California and Pacific Coast States pipelines (Kern River/Colorado Interstate Gas corridor and the Ignacius/Sumas pipelines west to Muddy Creek Compressor area).</p> <p>Gathering pipelines for individual wells, usually 6 inches or less in diameter are to follow access roads associated with well pads.</p> <p>High-voltage powerline corridors are established north of and parallel to I-80, and along Wyoming SH 89 from the junction of I-80 and the Wyoming state line.</p> <p>Fiber optic and low-voltage powerline corridors are to be located along currently established road systems (e.g., interstate or state highways and paved county roads).</p> <p>Pipeline trenches not allowed open longer than 10 days. Pipeline gates required to mitigate impacts to livestock, wildlife, and public.</p>	<p>Designate utility corridors, based on historic placement (i.e., powerline, pipelines, and fiber optic lines) on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Pipeline trenches not allowed open longer than 10 days. Pipeline gates required to mitigate impacts to livestock, wildlife, and public.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B, except designate utility corridors, based on use (i.e., powerlines, pipelines, and fiber optic lines).</p> <p>Preferred utility corridors can be up to 2-miles wide (width is determined based on resource values) and are designated as follows, but variances are allowed based on application where conflicts with other resources are minimal or can be mitigated through resource specific stipulations.</p> <p>Pipeline trenches not allowed open longer than 10 days. Pipeline gates required to mitigate impacts to livestock, wildlife, and public.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY																													
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)																								
6010	LR:2.4 LR:3.1	<p>Current management does not preclude placement of ROW within the boundaries of the following archeological sites:</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres).</p>	<p>The federal lands within the boundary of the following archeological sites are exclusion areas to ROW placement.</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres).</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A; however, all significant historical, archeological, and cultural sites are protected or mitigated.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>																								
6011	LR:1.1	<p>No specific decision regarding communication site areas currently exists.</p>	<p>Locate consolidated communication sites in the following areas only:</p> <p>Quealy Peak</p> <p>Medicine Butte</p> <p>Hickey Mountain</p> <p>BLM Wareyard</p>	<p>Consider communication sites on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Consider communication sites by type in the following designated areas:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Aspen Mountain</td> <td>Big Hill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boulder Ridge</td> <td>Butcher Knife</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carter Creek</td> <td>Church Buttes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cokeville Ridge</td> <td>Dempsey Ridge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fontenelle</td> <td>Fossil Ridge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granger</td> <td>Hickey Mountain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kemmerer Site</td> <td>Leroy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medicine Butte</td> <td>Pine Knoll</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quealy Peak</td> <td>Road Hollow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robertson</td> <td>Sage Junction</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thomas Fork</td> <td>Twin Butte/Nugget</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waterfall</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Other communication site areas could be developed on a case-by-case basis. Prior to approving new authorizations, the proponents must demonstrate to the BLM that they adequately considered sharing and multiple uses of existing facilities.</p>	Aspen Mountain	Big Hill	Boulder Ridge	Butcher Knife	Carter Creek	Church Buttes	Cokeville Ridge	Dempsey Ridge	Fontenelle	Fossil Ridge	Granger	Hickey Mountain	Kemmerer Site	Leroy	Medicine Butte	Pine Knoll	Quealy Peak	Road Hollow	Robertson	Sage Junction	Thomas Fork	Twin Butte/Nugget	Waterfall	
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Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6012	LR:2.1	No specific decision regarding renewable energy project areas currently exists.	Renewable energy projects (other than wind energy) will be considered throughout the planning area on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
6013	LR:2.1	No specific decision regarding wind-energy areas currently exists.	Wind-energy development projects (e.g., wind turbines and associated ancillary appurtenances) are allowed throughout the planning area with the following exceptions: crucial winter range; locations of active raptor nests and migration corridors; areas of greater sage-grouse leks and potential nesting habitats; areas within 5 miles of significant cultural areas (Bridger Antelope Trap, Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Nancy Hill/Alfred Corum emigrant gravesites, Pine Grove emigrant camp, Rock Gap trail landmark, Bear River Divide trail landmark, and Gateway petroglyphs) and Class 1 trail segments; the Raymond Mountain WSA; Class A or B scenery areas; and areas of sensitive and highly erosive soils. See Map 37 (176,109 acres of BLM-administered surface suitable for wind-energy development).	Wind-energy development is allowed throughout the planning area with the following exceptions: the Raymond Mountain WSA and within the boundaries of the Bridger Antelope Trap. See Map 38 (1,376,607 acres of BLM-administered surface suitable for wind-energy development).	<p>The Kemmerer Planning Area is available for consideration of wind-energy projects where conflicts with other resource values are limited or can be mitigated.</p> <p>The following portions of the planning area are unavailable for wind-energy development projects (see Map F):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raymond Mountain WSA (32,808) Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres) Bear River Divide MA (74,954 acres) Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres) Rock Creek/Tunp MA (45,863 acres) Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres) Bridger Butte ACEC (727 acres) Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres) Bridger Antelope Trap (640 acres) Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres) Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres) Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre) <p>Within the restricted zones for surface disturbance around NHTs (see record 5010)</p> <p>Available portions of the planning area are recommended due to reduced resource conflicts, Wind-energy development is preferred in the following areas:</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LANDS AND REALTY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					The public lands west of U.S. Highway 30 to the Wyoming/Idaho state line (also known as Boundary Ridge); the public land south and east of U.S. Highway 189 (excluding Oyster Ridge) to the checkerboard land pattern; the checkerboard lands (excluding the federal section that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap, the federal sections within 3 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap, and the federal sections in which the Class 1 NHT segments exist); the blocked BLM-administered lands north of I-80 and west of SH 412; the BLM administered lands south of I-80 and east of State highway 412/414 outside of the checkerboard; the blocked BLM administered lands outside of a corridor extending approximately 3 miles southwest of SH 414 to a corridor extending 3 miles southeast of SH 410/County Road 283. See Map 39 (780,714 acres of BLM-administered surface).
6014	LR:3.1	<p>Legal access will be sought for areas intensively managed for timber production. Temporary easements may be used for specific actions for short time periods.</p> <p>High-priority area for access acquisition will be the Raymond Mountain WSA, Dempsey Basin, Commissary Ridge, and the Bear River Divide area to successfully manage public lands.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Legal access will be sought across private land if a need is identified in support of resource programs. Place emphasis on the following areas: Redeye Basin, Commissary Ridge, Raymond Mountain WSA, Dempsey Basin, Slate Creek crucial winter habitat area, Emigrant Springs Slate Creek, Rock Creek area, Little Muddy Creek, Meeks Cabin, Westfork, Graham Reservoir, Church Buttes, Wildcat Butte, Porter Hollow, Lincoln Highway, and Bridger Antelope Trap.</p>	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (see Appendix B for more detail on management of forage reserve areas)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal LR:4 Maintain and (or) enhance livestock grazing opportunities and rangeland health.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>LR:4.1 Manage grazing to fulfill or make significant progress toward conformance with the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.</p> <p>LR:4.2 Monitor and evaluate rangeland health to determine appropriate management actions.</p> <p>LR:4.3 AUM levels will be sustained on an allotment-by-allotment basis for livestock grazing, providing Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands are met.</p> <p>LR:4.4 Identify opportunities for range projects (e.g., water, etc.) and vegetation improvements to implement plans.</p> <p>LR:4.5 Coordinate with appropriate entities to identify the need and source of additional water to assist in the distribution of grazing animals.</p> <p>LR:4.6 Manage grazing to help meet vegetation resource and livestock grazing objectives.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
6015	LR:4.1 LR:4.2 LR:4.4 LR:4.5	Develop and implement appropriate livestock grazing management actions to address rangeland health standards, improve forage for livestock, and enhance rangeland health.			
6016	LR:4.1 LR:4.2 LR:4.3	Authorize current amounts, kinds, and seasons of livestock grazing uses until rangeland health standards assessment results and (or) monitoring indicates a grazing use adjustment is necessary, or that a kind and (or) class of livestock or season of use modification can be accommodated.			
6017	LR:4.1 LR:4.4	Maintain current allotment categories (M, C, I designations, see Glossary).			
6018	LR:4.1 LR:4.4	Livestock conversions are allowed in allotments with riparian concerns only when a plan is approved to address riparian issues. Management actions and range improvements proposed to address riparian issues would have to be implemented prior to authorizing the conversion. Livestock conversions may be approved only after completion of a suitability study for the conversion. The conversion may be authorized if it is determined that riparian habitats will be maintained or improved by the conversion.			
6019	LR:4.1	Retain current livestock trails. Livestock trailing use will occur within ½ mile of centerline.			
6020	LR:4.3	<p>The planning area is open to livestock grazing. There are a few small parcels, which are not permitted or leased for livestock grazing at the present time.</p> <p>Temporary nonrenewable permits have not been issued for parcels that are not included in a grazing allotment.</p>	<p>The planning area is open to livestock grazing on a case-by-case basis where livestock grazing is not in conflict with other resources. Manage public lands containing riparian areas that are not included in a grazing allotment with emphasis on wildlife and watershed objectives and exclude livestock uses.</p> <p>No temporary nonrenewable permits will be issued for parcels that are not included in a grazing allotment.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except issue temporary, nonrenewable livestock grazing permits for parcels that are not included in a grazing allotment.</p>	<p>The planning area is open to livestock grazing. A few small parcels are not permitted or leased for livestock grazing at the present time. The BLM can consider issuing 10-year renewable permits, temporary, nonrenewable permits, or not issuing grazing permits for these parcels.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (see Appendix B for more detail on management of forage reserve areas)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6021	LR:4.3	No additional sustained yield forage has been identified in allotments within the planning area. Additional sustained yield forage could be allocated for livestock use on an allotment-by-allotment basis if the results of an evaluation based on the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands and monitoring data determined the forage was available. (43CFR411.3-1)	Additional sustained yield forage would not be allocated for livestock use.	Same as Alternative A.	Additional sustained yield forage could be activated for livestock use on an allotment-by-allotment basis if the results of an evaluation based on the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands, monitoring data, range surveys, or other scientific information determined the forage was available.
6022	LR:4.1	Livestock operators in the Lost Creek/Ryan Creek allotments are held to the current permitted use. The 827 AUMs associated with the newly acquired federal lands in the Lost Creek/Ryan Creek area will be allocated for wildlife use.	Same as Alternative A.	The 827 AUMs associated with the newly acquired federal lands in the Lost Creek/Ryan Creek area are available for both livestock and wildlife use.	Same as Alternative A.
6023	LR:4.1 LR:4.4	No similar action.	Designate Christy Canyon allotment as a forage reserve. Up to 1,248 active federal AUMs may be available and are to be managed within priority criteria listed. Designate and manage future forage reserve allotments, if permittees voluntarily allow such use, within the planning area on a case-by-case basis. Manage the forage reserve within priority criteria listed in Appendix B.	Forage reserve allotments are not designated.	Same as Alternative B.
6024	LR:4.1 LR:4.2	All areas except developed campgrounds are currently available for livestock grazing.	In addition to those small isolated tracts that are not leased or permitted for livestock grazing at the present time, the following areas are not available for livestock grazing: designated camping areas, Ryan Creek/Lost Creek (Lost Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan Area), coal mines, sensitive cultural sites, and oil and gas production facilities.	The planning area is opened to livestock grazing on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative A.
6025	LR:4.4	Grazing within the Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows is allowed only as a management tool for enhancement of wildlife values on a temporary nonrenewable basis.	The Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows are not available for livestock grazing.	Open Mike Mathias Wetlands at Wheat Creek Meadows to grazing.	Same as Alternative A.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (see Appendix B for more detail on management of forage reserve areas)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6026	LR:4.1 LR:4.2 LR:4.3 LR:4.4 LR:4.5	Improve range conditions on I allotments and maintain M and C allotments. Grazing system and range improvements are designed to achieve management objectives for livestock grazing and serve as a primary means for improving or maintaining desired rangeland conditions.	Implement grazing system and range improvements to enhance watershed, riparian, and wildlife values, while reducing livestock conflicts with other resources.	Design grazing system and range improvements to maximize livestock grazing, while maintaining other resource values (e.g., meeting standards and guides).	Improve range conditions on I allotments and maintain M and C allotments. Design grazing systems and range improvements to achieve management objectives.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal LR:5 Provide a variety of appropriate recreation opportunities, experiences, and public benefits.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>LR:5.1 Identify recreation management areas for the planning area based on available resources.</p> <p>LR:5.2 Provide public education regarding appropriate use of BLM-administered lands.</p> <p>LR:5.3 Coordinate with other programs to provide opportunities for public visitation, interpretation, education, and appreciation of natural and cultural resources.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
6027	LR:5.1 LR:5.3	Allow dispersed recreation and permit special recreational activities (e.g., outfitting and guiding permits and OHV events permitted on an annual basis after evaluation).			
6028	LR:5.1	The planning area not covered by an SRMA is an ERMA. Manage the area in a custodial manner. Recreation management is compatible with other management in these areas.			
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6029	LR:5.3	Maintain existing facilities in improved campground areas. Maintain other existing permanent recreational facilities where appropriate.	Same as Alternative A, except no new permanent facilities are developed.	Maintain and enhance existing facilities in improved campground areas. Maintain and enhance other existing permanent recreational facilities. Develop additional recreational facilities where appropriate.	Same as Alternative C.
6030	LR:5.1	Areas within 400 feet of developed campgrounds are NSO.	Areas within ¼ mile of developed campgrounds are NSO.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6031	LR:5.1 LR:5.2 LR:5.3 HR:2.1 HR:2.3 HR:3.1	No SRMA.	<p>The Pine Creek Canyon would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Enhance recreational opportunities while protecting the riparian, water, and wildlife values that exist in the area.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents from southwest Wyoming, Idaho, and Utah</p> <p>Recreation Niche: camping and dispersed recreation</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, camping, snowmobiling, driving for pleasure</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Maintain facilities as they currently exist.</p> <p>Restrict camping to areas outside of the riparian zone.</p> <p>On developed recreation sites, unless specifically authorized, no person shall discharge firearms, other weapons, projectiles, or fireworks.</p> <p>The Pine Creek Canyon SRMA would be managed as VRM Class II.</p> <p>OHV use would be limited to the designated road.</p> <p>Snowmobile use is limited to the groomed trail.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel.</p>	<p>The Pine Creek Canyon would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Enhance recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents from southwest Wyoming, Idaho, and Utah</p> <p>Recreation Niche: camping and dispersed recreation</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, camping, snowmobiling, driving for pleasure</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Provide developed camping and other facilities as needed.</p> <p>OHV use would be limited to existing roads and trails.</p> <p>Snowmobile use would be limited to the groomed trail.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel.</p>	<p>The Pine Creek Canyon would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Enhance recreational opportunities while protecting the riparian, water, and wildlife values that exist in the area.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents from southwest Wyoming, Idaho, and Utah</p> <p>Recreation Niche: camping and dispersed recreation</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, camping, snowmobiling, driving for pleasure</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Provide developed camping and other facilities as needed.</p> <p>Monitor the Pine Creek Canyon riparian conditions and relocate camping use away from areas where resource damage is occurring.</p> <p>On developed recreation sites, unless specifically authorized, no person shall discharge firearms, other weapons, projectiles, or fireworks.</p> <p>The Pine Creek Canyon SRMA would be managed as VRM Class II.</p> <p>OHV use would be limited to the designated road.</p> <p>Snowmobile use is limited to the groomed trail.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6032	LR:5.1 LR:5.2 LR:5.3	No SRMA.	<p>Raymond Mountain would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide back country (non-motorized) dispersed recreation experiences.</p> <p>Recreation market: Local residents (southwest Wyoming, adjacent parts of Idaho and Utah)</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, horseback use, hiking, camping</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: Hunting, hiking, horseback use, primitive camping</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Prohibit mechanized vehicles within the SRMA.</p> <p>Close the North and South Corral Creek trails to motorized vehicle use.</p> <p>Close the SRMA to snowmobile use.</p> <p>Limit SRPs for guiding and outfitting to three operators at any one time.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Area monitored to ensure compliance with WSA Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (IMP).</p>	<p>Raymond Mountain would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide back country (non-motorized) dispersed recreation experiences.</p> <p>Recreation market: local residents (southwest Wyoming, adjacent parts of Idaho and Utah)</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, horseback use, hiking, camping</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: Hunting, hiking, horseback use, primitive camping</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Snowmobile use would be allowed in the Raymond Canyon Basin.</p> <p>The North and South Corral Creek trails would remain open to motorized vehicle use.</p> <p>Consider hiking trail and trailhead development.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Area monitored to ensure compliance with WSA IMP.</p>	<p>Raymond Mountain would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide back country (non-motorized) dispersed recreation experiences.</p> <p>Recreation market: local residents (southwest Wyoming, adjacent parts of Idaho and Utah)</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, horseback use, hiking, camping</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, hiking, horseback use, primitive camping</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Allow mechanized vehicle use (mountain biking) on the existing trail in Raymond Canyon.</p> <p>Close the North and South Corral Creek trails to motorized vehicle use.</p> <p>Close the SRMA to snowmobile use.</p> <p>Guiding and outfitting SRPs would be limited by number of operators during overlapping time periods.</p> <p>Consider hiking trail and trailhead development.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Area monitored to ensure compliance with WSA IMP.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6033	LR:5.1 LR:5.2 LR:5.3	No SRMA.	<p>Class 1 portions of the Oregon-California National Historic Trail would be an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage trails to provide an opportunity to visit and learn about trail history and use, while maintaining setting character and present condition of trails and associated historic sites.</p> <p>Recreation market: Local residents and national and international visitors</p> <p>Recreation Niche: heritage tourism and historic interpretation</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: visiting historic trails and sites, group trekking use</p> <p>Management prescriptions:</p> <p>Cultural resource and NHT prescriptions apply (Please see Cultural Resources records 5001 to 5011 and VRM records 6050 to 6053).</p> <p>Manage for Middle Country setting.</p> <p>No motor vehicle use would be allowed on NHT trail trace.</p> <p>SRPs for organized group use would limit group size, number of groups, and season of use for historic trails.</p> <p>Monitoring: Historic trails are a field office priority for monitoring.</p>	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6034	LR:5.1 LR:5.2 LR:5.3 HR:2.1 HR:2.3 HR:3.1	No SRMA.	<p>BLM-administered lands (33,445 acres) in the Dempsey Ridge area would be managed as an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide quality dispersed recreation opportunities including responsible motorized use of the proposed Emigrant Springs Back Country Byway in a natural setting.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents and national and international visitors</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism, camping, wildlife viewing, historic interpretation</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism, visiting historic trails and sites</p> <p>Management prescriptions: Manage for Middle Country setting.</p> <p>No mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized.</p> <p>Area would be administratively unavailable for solid leasable mineral exploration, leasing, and development.</p> <p>Pursue mineral withdrawals for locatable minerals.</p> <p>Restrict all new ROW actions to existing utility corridors.</p> <p>No new road developments are authorized.</p> <p>No new high-profile structures, including wind-power facilities, are authorized.</p> <p>Restrict OHV use to designated roads. No off-trail travel is allowed without prior approval from the authorized officer.</p> <p>For NHTs and site settings, manage all surface-disturbing activities to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate settings to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic period of use.</p>	<p>BLM-administered lands (33,445 acres) in the Dempsey Ridge area would be managed as an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide quality dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural setting.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents of Wyoming, Idaho and Utah</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism, camping, wildlife viewing</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism</p> <p>Management prescriptions: No additional prescriptions would be applied.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Monitoring of historic sites is a field office priority.</p>	<p>BLM-administered lands (33,445 acres) in the Dempsey Ridge area would be managed as an SRMA.</p> <p>Objective: Manage the area to provide quality dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural setting.</p> <p>Recreation market: residents of Wyoming, Idaho and Utah</p> <p>Recreation Niche: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism, camping, wildlife viewing</p> <p>Primary Recreation Activities: hunting, driving for pleasure, heritage tourism</p> <p>Management prescriptions: Manage for Middle Country setting.</p> <p>Allow mineral development and other construction activities within the boundaries of the management area with the goal of no further loss of habitat function from these activities. Successful reestablishment or improvement of habitat could offset any new disturbance areas.</p> <p>Pursue opportunities to reclaim existing roads that are not necessary to attain management objectives.</p> <p>Preserve aspen groves and individual trees in the Emigrant Spring/Dempsey area.</p> <p>No salt licks or mineral supplements are allowed within ¼ mile of NHTs and the Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Monitoring of historic sites is a field office priority.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
			<p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites are NSO for oil and gas leases and no new surface disturbance is allowed within the defined boundary of the sites.</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey NSO for oil and gas leases and no surface disturbance is allowed within the defined boundary of the site. Preserve aspen groves and individual trees.</p> <p>No salt licks or mineral supplements are allowed within ½ mile of live water, sensitive wildlife areas (e.g., greater sage-grouse leks), special status plant locations, NHTs, and the Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites.</p> <p>Develop plant community objectives and implement appropriate management to meet and maintain wildlife habitat needs.</p> <p>Proactively study and inventory the vertebrate fossil resources through paleontologic inventory by qualified paleontologists within the portion of Fossil Basin inside the management area. Significant sites are subject to further study, possibly including excavation, collection, and curation of fossils.</p> <p>Protect important paleontologic sites by not allowing surface disturbance at the sites, except for disturbance in support of scientific research. In support of this, management prescriptions could include increased use of BLM law enforcement.</p> <p>Complete a paleontology management plan for the management area to further scientific study and public education opportunities in the area.</p> <p>Monitoring: Routine monitoring by field office personnel. Monitoring of historic sites is a field office priority.</p>		

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – RECREATION (see Appendix I for more detail on recreation management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6035	LR:5.1 LR:5.3	Camping is allowed throughout the planning area.	Close riparian areas throughout the planning area to camping.	Same as Alternative A.	Allow only dispersed camping within 200 feet of a water source, except where developed camping facilities currently exist. Monitor the Pine Creek Canyon riparian conditions and relocate camping use away from areas where resource damage is occurring.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (see Appendix I for more detail on travel management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal LR:6 Provide access for resource and public use. Objectives: LR:6.1 Conduct transportation planning to manage existing and new access. LR:6.2 Manage existing access to balance public use, resource management, and human health and safety.</p> <p>Goal LR:7 Manage existing access for resource and public use. Objectives: LR:7.1 Manage existing access to balance public use, resource management, and human health and safety. LR:7.2 Designate roads, trails, and areas as open, closed, and (or) limited to OHV use.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
6036	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1 LR:7.2	Allow for temporary closures to motorized vehicle use in areas on BLM-administered public lands that pose public health and safety risks, and (or) where damage to public land resources is imminent.			
6037	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1 LR:7.2	Roads and two-track routes determined to be unauthorized or redundant and unnecessary for resource management purposes will be reclaimed to achieve surrounding native conditions.			
6038	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1 LR:7.2	Close unauthorized two-track routes causing resource damage (e.g., erosion, invasion of nonnative species, sensitive species habitat damage, and cultural resource damage).			
6039	LR:6.1 LR:7.2	<p>No travel management planning will be done.</p> <p>No Travel Management Areas (TMAs) will be established.</p>	<p>Conduct travel management planning in compliance with the management decisions identified in this RMP.</p> <p>TMAs identified for completion of travel management plans when the record of decision is signed for this RMP: Pine Creek Canyon, Raymond Mountain WSA.</p> <p>TMAs identified for completion of travel management plans within five years of the ROD: Rock Creek/Tunp MA, Dempsey SRMA, and the Moxa Arch oil and gas development area.</p> <p>TMAs identified for completion of travel management plans within ten years of the ROD: Bear River Divide Management Area (MA) and Slate Creek crucial winter range area.</p> <p>The remaining field office area: TMAs will be identified and plans completed as funds become available.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B, except TMAs identified for completion of travel management plans within ten years of the ROD would include Leavitt Bench/Crooked Canyon area and Oakley Draw.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (see Appendix I for more detail on travel management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6040	LR:6.1 LR:7.2	No similar action.	Designated roads would not be upgraded. Any improvements to the roadways would require further analysis.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
6041	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1 LR:7.2	No similar action.	Travel management planning in big game winter ranges will minimize open road density to meet an objective of less than ½ mile of open road per square mile.	Travel management planning would not make considerations for open road density.	Same as Alternative B, except an average of 2 miles of open road per square mile will not be exceeded.
6042	LR:6.2 LR:7.1	No specific measures are in place to protect special status plants from dust from unpaved roads.	Unpaved roads would not be allowed within ¼ mile of special status plant species populations.	Same as Alternative A.	New unpaved roads could be allowed within 250 feet of special status plant species populations only if under NEPA analysis the road would not adversely impact the species.
6043	LR:6.1 LR:7.2	No open use areas are identified for OHV use.	No open use areas will be allowed for OHV use.	The following areas are open for OHV use: part of the hill climb area in Section 33, T15 North, R114 West; the entire area east of Lyman (encompasses former chariot race area and parts of Sections 6, 7, 11, between I-80 and the frontage road), and the open area near south Lincoln County landfill. New proposals for open OHV use areas will be considered and could be approved provided they do not cause a significant impact to other resources.	The following area is open for OHV use: part of the hill climb area in Section 33, T15 North, R114 West - 60 acres (see Map B). The following areas will be designated limited to existing roads and trails pending resource surveys and travel management planning to support an open designation: Oakley Draw and Leavitt Bench/Crooked Canyon New proposals for open OHV use areas will be considered and could be approved provided they do not cause a significant impact to other resources.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (see Appendix I for more detail on travel management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6044	LR:6.1	<p>Motor vehicle travel in the planning area, outside of the WSA, is limited to existing roads and trails.</p> <p>Limited off-trail motor vehicle travel is allowed for dispersed uses and to perform necessary tasks as long as it does not cause resource damage or create new trails.</p> <p>Motor vehicle travel is seasonally limited in the following crucial big game winter range areas: Slate Creek, Dempsey Creek, and Bridger Creek. Public access to the areas is closed from January 1 to April 30 (exemptions apply).</p>	<p>Motor vehicle travel is limited to crowned and ditched roads.</p> <p>Motor vehicle travel is seasonally limited in all crucial big game winter range areas. Public access to the areas is closed from November 15 to April 30 (exemptions apply).</p>	<p>Motor vehicle travel in the planning area, outside of the WSA, is limited to existing roads and trails.</p> <p>Limited off-trail motor vehicle travel is allowed for some dispersed uses and to perform necessary tasks as long as it does not cause resource damage or create new trails.</p> <p>Limited motor vehicle travel is allowed (up to ½ mile) off of existing roads and trails to perform necessary tasks.</p> <p>No seasonal closures would be implemented.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except if off-road distances beyond 300 feet are required for dispersed uses or to perform necessary tasks, exceptions can be granted through a letter of authorization.</p>
6045	LR:6.1 LR:7.2	<p>Designated motor vehicle routes in the planning area are as follows:</p> <p>Interstate highways, state highways, signed and numbered county roads, and the following BLM roads:</p> <p>#4209 (Slate Creek), #4211 (Dempsey), #4213 (Smiths Fork), #4219 (South Fork Fontenelle), #4315 (Burnt Fork).</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except all crowned and ditched roads in the planning area are designated motor vehicle routes.</p>	<p>All existing roads and trails in the planning area are designated motor vehicle routes with the exception of the Raymond Mountain WSA.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except designate a new BLM road from the end of Lincoln County Road #204 in T25N, R118W, Section 35 to the USFS boundary.</p> <p>Additional routes will be identified and designated upon completion of travel management plans.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (see Appendix I for more detail on travel management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6046	LR:6.2 LR:7.1	Most of the Raymond Mountain WSA, (32,787 acres) is closed to motor vehicle use.	<p>Close the Raymond Mountain WSA to motorized vehicles and OHV use.</p> <p>Close Green Hill (near town of Kemmerer) to motorized vehicle and OHV use.</p> <p>Close the trail to Commissary Ridge from the Commissary Ranch development (T24N, R116W, Sections 15, 20) to motorized vehicle and OHV use.</p> <p>Close the following NHT segment to motorized vehicle and OHV use: a ¼ mile segment of the Oregon/California trail on the west slope of the Bear River Divide.</p> <p>Close riparian and wetland areas to motor vehicle and OHV use except for designated road crossings.</p> <p>Close special status plant species populations to motor vehicle and OHV use.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.
6047	LR:6.2 LR:7.1	Mechanized vehicle use is allowed throughout the planning area on existing roads and trails, except the Raymond Mountain WSA is closed to mechanized vehicles.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
6048	LR:6.1 LR:6.2 LR:7.1	<p>Snowmobile use in Pine Creek Canyon is limited to the groomed trail.</p> <p>Snowmobile use is limited to times when favorable snow conditions exist prior to January 1 in the following crucial big game winter range areas: Slate Creek, Rock Creek, Bridger Creek, and Raymond Mountain.</p>	Same as Alternative A, except snowmobile use is seasonally limited in all crucial big game winter range areas from November 15 to April 30 (exemptions apply).	<p>The entire Pine Creek Canyon would be available for snowmobile use.</p> <p>No seasonal limitations would be applied.</p>	Same as Alternative A, except no snowmobile use allowed in the Raymond Mountain WSA.
6049	LR:6.2 LR:7.1	<p>The Raymond Mountain WSA is closed to snowmobile use, except for Raymond Basin (6,673 acres).</p> <p>No current management decision for snowmobile use exists for the cross-country ski trail.</p>	<p>The Raymond Mountain WSA is closed to snowmobile use.</p> <p>The cross-country ski trail is closed to snowmobile use.</p>	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (see Appendix I for more detail on travel management)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6050	LR:6.2 LR:7.1 LR:7.2	In the planning area, 23 miles of groomed snowmobile trails exist and will continue to be groomed. New snowmobile trails are considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative A, except no new snowmobile trails would be developed in crucial big game winter range.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal LR:8 Manage public lands and establish visual management objectives to minimize adverse impacts to the visual resources on the landscape.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>LR:8.1 Establish VRM management classes in the planning area (refer to Glossary).</p> <p>LR:8.2 Maintain the overall integrity of VRM management classes, while allowing for modifications to landscapes in those classes, consistent with the established management objectives for the class.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
6051	LR:8.1 LR:8.2	Pursuant to Section 106 of NHPA and the State Protocol, case-by-case reviews for specific undertakings require analysis and assessments of effects of NHT settings beyond the distances specified below.			
6052	LR:8.1 LR:8.2 HR:2.1 HR:2.2	<p>VRM classes apply to BLM-administered lands. Visual resource impacts will be evaluated based on the visual contrast of proposed projects.</p> <p>Manage the planning area according to the current (BLM 1986a) VRM maps.</p> <p>Class I – 0 acres</p> <p>Class II – 129,771 acres</p> <p>Class III – 378,979 acres</p> <p>Class IV – 878,411 acres</p>	<p>VRM classes apply to BLM-administered lands. Visual resource impacts will be evaluated based on the visual contrast of proposed projects from the key observation points provided in the Glossary (see Key Observation Point).</p> <p>Manage the Raymond Mountain WSA as VRM Class I.</p> <p>Manage a 3-mile buffer for visual resources around all sensitive roads, NHTs, campgrounds, towns, and sites registered on the NRHP within the field office as VRM Class II, except the defined boundaries of the Pine Creek Ski Area and Lion’s Club Park R&PP leases will be managed as Class III.</p> <p>Areas of high human disturbance and low visual stimulation are managed as VRM Class IV.</p>	<p>VRM classes apply to BLM-administered lands. Visual resource impacts will be evaluated based on the visual contrast of proposed projects from the key observation points provided in the Glossary (see Key Observation Point).</p> <p>Manage the planning area using existing VRM classes, except manage the Raymond Mountain WSA as Class I. Manage a 3-mile buffer area around high potential wind energy areas per National Renewable Energy Laboratory data as VRM Class IV.</p> <p>Class I – 32,807 acres</p> <p>Class II – 51,694 acres</p> <p>Class III – 241,728 acres</p> <p>Class IV – 1,096,917 acres</p>	<p>VRM classes apply to BLM-administered lands. Visual resource impacts will be evaluated based on the visual contrast of proposed projects from the key observation points provided in the Glossary (see Key Observation Point). VRM classes are designated as follows:</p> <p>VRM Class I area:</p> <p>Raymond Mountain WSA</p> <p>VRM Class II areas:</p> <p>A visual corridor extending up to 1 mile on either side of the Sublette Cutoff and the Slate Creek Cutoff north of U.S. Highway 189 and east of Slate Creek Ridge in consideration of NHT views. The northwest portion of the planning area from a line beginning at the public land at the base of Slate Creek Ridge</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
			<p>The remaining planning area is managed as VRM Class III.</p> <p>Class I – 32,807 acres</p> <p>Class II – 678,733 acres</p> <p>Class III – 383,225 acres</p> <p>Class IV – 330,939 acres</p>		<p>(T23N, R115W Sections 17, 20) and extending in a westward direction following the east-west drainage that exists near the centerline of Section 20, T23N, R115W; then west through the N ½ Sec 19, T23N, R115W to Sec 24, T23N, R116W; then along the public/private land boundary to Willow Creek in the S ½ of Sec 24, T23N, R116W; then following Willow Creek northwest to Fisher Creek and continuing northwest along Fisher Creek to the intersection with the Pomeroy Basin Road; then south along the Pomeroy Basin Road to the Muddy Creek stream segment running north/south through Sec 35, T23N, R116W; then south along Muddy Creek to the segment of Carl Creek running east/west in Sec 2, T22N, R116W; then west along Carl Creek to the ridgeline in the SW corner of Sec 33, T23N, R116W; then following the ridgeline southeast of Van Gilder Spring then west to the north/south ridgeline running through Secs 5, 8, and 18, T22N, R116W to SH 233 in consideration of NHTs, scenic roadways, and current high-quality scenery.</p> <p>The northwest portion of the planning area north and west of U.S. Highway 30 beginning on a north-south line along the high ridgeline on the Hamsfork Plateau and running south along the high points of the terrain to Hay Hollow (excluding the Raymond Mountain WSA and the identified Class II and IV areas). This area is defined in consideration of sensitive NHTs and cultural sites; scenic views from highways and Fossil Butte National Monument; scenic views from high recreational use areas (e.g., Pine Creek Ski Area) and current high-quality scenery.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					<p>The portion of the planning area south and west of U.S. Highway 30 (the highway) beginning on a north-south line along the high ridgeline approximately ¼ mile west of the current active coal leases (west of the town of Kemmerer); south along the high ridgeline to the ridgeline behind the active coal leases in T21N, R117W, Sec 25; then west following the high points of the topography approximately 3 miles south of the highway to T21N, R118W, Sec 28; then north-west following the high points of the topography within approximately 3 miles of the highway to T21N, R118 W, Sec 18; then north-west following the high points to within approximately ½ mile of the highway in T21N, R118W, Sec 12; then west to the junction of U.S. Highway 30/State Highway 89.</p> <p>The Star Valley area in consideration of current high-quality scenery and views from sensitive highways.</p> <p>A visual corridor extending up to 1 mile on either side of the Oregon/California Trail in blocked federal lands south of U.S. Highway 30 and west of U.S. Highway 189 (Bear River Divide area). The federal sections containing Class 1 NHT segments, the federal section that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap, and select federal sections within 3 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap that exist within the checkerboard land pattern. These areas are defined in consideration of sensitive NHTs and cultural resources and views from NHTs and cultural areas.</p> <p>The visual corridor for up to 3 miles on either side of SH 414 and County Road 283 in Uinta County in consideration of scenic roadway views.</p> <p>The visual corridor on federally administered lands extending up to 1</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					<p>mile on either side of the Mormon-California-Pony Express Trail south of I-80 and east of Bigelow Bench in Uinta County. The area is defined in consideration of sensitive NHTs and cultural resources views.</p> <p>VRM Class III areas:</p> <p>The defined boundaries of the Pine Creek Ski Area and Lion’s Club Park R&PP leases, area of the reclaimed Leefe phosphate mine east to U.S. Highway 30 and south to State Highway 89, and those areas in the planning area not defined as VRM Class I, II, or IV.</p> <p>VRM Class IV areas:</p> <p>The area west of U.S. Highway 30 (north of the Highway 30/89 junction), also known as the Boundary Ridge, in consideration of wind-energy potential.</p> <p>The blocked federal lands southeast of SH 189 (excluding Oyster Ridge) to the checkerboard land pattern in consideration of higher energy development potential.</p> <p>The defined area of current active coal leases west of the town of Kemmerer.</p> <p>The checkerboard land pattern north of I-80 (except the federal sections containing Class 1 NHTs segments, the federal section that contains the Bridger Antelope Trap, and select federal sections within 3 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap) in consideration of public land manageability.</p> <p>The checkerboard land pattern south of I-80 and east of the eastern bench above Cottonwood Creek to the planning area east boundary in consideration of higher industrial and energy development potential.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					<p>VRM Rehabilitation Area:</p> <p>The portion of the defined ROW boundary of the current Jim Bridger powerline that exists between State Highway 233 and U.S. Highway 30. The objective of the Rehabilitation Area is to minimize the visual intrusion of the powerline on the historic setting of the NHT that exists in the area.</p> <p>Class I – 32,807 acres</p> <p>Class II – 392,719 acres</p> <p>Class III – 347,214 acres</p> <p>Class IV – 654,724 acres</p>
6053	LR:8.1 LR:8.2	The area within the viewshed of the Bridger Antelope Trap currently has no specific prescriptions and is managed according to the VRM class for the area.	Preserve the viewshed within 10 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap juniper fence, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the site.	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Preserve the viewshed within 3 miles of the Bridger Antelope Trap juniper fence, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing projects in federal sections to retain the existing character of the landscape so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the site.</p> <p>The management action is intended to manage developments to maintain setting qualities and not to have an exclusion zone.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6054	LR:8.1 LR:8.2	All significant historical, archeological, and cultural sites are protected or mitigated.	<p>Preserve the viewshed within 10 miles of the sites listed below, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the site.</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres)</p> <p>Gateway petroglyphs</p>	Same as Alternative A.	<p>Preserve the viewshed within 3 miles of the sites listed below, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing projects in federal sections to retain the existing character of the landscape so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the site. ROW will be designed to preserve the visual integrity of the sites consistent with BLM visual resources handbook/manual. The management action is intended to manage developments to maintain setting qualities and not to have an exclusion zone.</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek (87 acres)</p> <p>Emigrant Spring/Dempsey (11 acres)</p> <p>Johnston Scout Rock (2 acres)</p> <p>Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill emigrant gravesites (½ acre)</p> <p>Pine Grove emigrant camp (14 acres)</p> <p>Rocky Gap trail landmark (15 acres)</p> <p>Bear River Divide trail landmark (3 acres)</p> <p>Gateway petroglyphs (518 Acres)</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
6055	LR:8.1 LR:8.2 HR:2.1 HR:2.2	<p>The objective will be to protect the trails from visual intrusion and surface disturbance and to maintain the integrity of setting.</p> <p>To provide a protective corridor for the trail, visual intrusion and surface disturbance generally will be restricted or prohibited within 1,320 feet from either side of an historic trail (may depend on topography and existing surface disturbance), or within the visual horizon of the trail, whichever is closer.</p>	<p>Manage the viewsheds of NHT segments as follows:</p> <p>(1) Preserve the viewshed within 10 miles of Class 1 segments, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the trail setting. Design ROW to preserve the visual integrity of the settings consistent with the BLM visual resources handbook and manual.</p> <p>(2) Preserve the viewshed within 5 miles of Class 2 segments by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not attract the attention of the casual observer.</p> <p>(3) Preserve the viewshed within ½ mile of Class 3 segments by managing to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not attract the attention of the casual observer.</p>	<p>Manage the viewsheds of NHT segments with project specific analysis to determine the level of restrictions within distances prescribed as follows:</p> <p>(1) Manage the viewshed to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the trail setting within 1 mile or the visual horizon of Class 1 segments where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site.</p> <p>(2) Manage the viewshed to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not attract the attention of the casual observer within ¼ mile or the visual horizon of Class 2 segments.</p> <p>(3) For Class 3 segments, manage the viewshed in accordance with the designated VRM Class.</p>	<p>Manage the viewsheds of NHT segments as follows:</p> <p>(1)(a) Preserve the viewshed within 3 miles of Class 1 segments north and east of U.S. Highway 30 and west of the Hams Fork river (Tunp/Dempsey Trail area), where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing projects in federal sections to retain the existing character of the landscape so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the trail setting. Design ROW to preserve the visual integrity of the settings consistent with the BLM visual resources handbook and manual. (1)(b) Preserve the viewshed within 1 mile of Class 1 segments outside of the Tunp/Dempsey Trail area and the checkerboard land pattern area, where the visual characteristics of the setting contribute to the eligibility of the site, by managing projects in federal sections to retain the existing character of the landscape so developments do not dominate the visible area to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic time period of the trail setting. Design ROW to preserve the visual integrity of the settings consistent with the BLM visual resources handbook and manual.</p> <p>(1)(c) On Class 1 trail segments within the checkerboard land pattern area, manage the viewshed to preserve the existing character of the landscape within the federal section where the trail occurs.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

6000 LAND RESOURCES (LR) – VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
					<p>(2)(a) Preserve the viewshed within ½ mile of Class 2 segments that exist in blocked federal lands west of U.S. Highway 189 (south of Kemmerer) and south of U.S. Highway 30 by managing projects in federal sections to retain the existing character of the landscape so developments do not attract the attention of the casual observer.</p> <p>(2)(b) On Class 2 trail segments outside of the area described in (2)(a) manage the viewshed to preserve the existing character of the landscape within the federal section where the trail occurs.</p> <p>(2)(c) On Class 3 segments, manage the viewshed according to the appropriate VRM class for the area.</p> <p>The management action is intended to manage developments to maintain setting qualities and not to have an exclusion zone.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal SD:1 Maintain and protect the integrity of unique resource values, preserve historic significance, and provide opportunity for other uses where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>SD:1.1 Identify areas for other management that possess unique resource values. Designate MAs for the life of the RMP (or as long as the unique resource value exists).</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
7001	SD:1.1	The Raymond Mountain WSA will continue to be managed in a manner that does not impair its suitability for preservation as wilderness unless/until the Congress determines otherwise. Until the Congress makes the final determination of the status of the WSA, the preservation of wilderness values is paramount and is the primary consideration when evaluating resource use proposals that may conflict with or be adverse to those wilderness values. (For additional information see BLM Manual Handbook H-8550-1 – Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review)			
AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACECS)					
7002	SD:1.1	The Raymond Mountain ACEC plan will continue to be implemented.	Same as Alternative A.	The area within the current Raymond Mountain ACEC is no longer designated as an ACEC.	Same as Alternative A.
7003	SD:1.1	No similar action.	The Raymond Mountain Expansion Area is designated an ACEC to protect Bonneville cutthroat trout habitats.	The Raymond Mountain Expansion Area is not designated as an ACEC.	Same as Alternative C.
7004	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Designate special status plant species habitats as ACECs.	Special status plant communities are not designated as ACECs.	Special status plant species habitats may be designated as ACECs on a case-by-case basis.
7005	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Special status plant species populations in areas designated as ACECs also are designated as RNAs.	Special status plant species populations in areas designated as ACECs are not designated as RNAs.	Special status plant species populations in areas designated as ACECs are not designated as RNAs.
7006	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Cushion plant communities are designated as ACECs.	Cushion plant communities are not designated as ACECs.	Cushion plant communities may be designated as ACECs on a case-by-case basis.
7007	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Cushion plant communities in areas designated as ACECs are designated as RNAs.	Cushion plant communities in areas designated as ACECs are not designated as RNAs.	Cushion plant communities in areas designated as ACECs are not designated as RNAs.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
7008	SD:1.1	No similar action.	<p>Designate selected BLM-administered lands in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, and 16 of T15N, R116W, and Section 7 of T15N, R115W (2,800 acres) as the Bridger Butte ACEC and manage for the preservation and enhancement of cultural, historical, and Native American values, as well as rare plant species that exist in the area.</p> <p>Manage the Bridger Butte ACEC (1,127 acres) according to the following prescriptions:</p> <p>Prohibit establishment of ROW corridors and wind-energy projects, as well as all surface-disturbing activities. Close to OHV use and exclude from prescribed burns and vegetation treatments on BLM-administered lands within the ACEC boundary.</p>	Manage lands in and around the Bridger Butte area in the same manner as adjacent BLM-administered lands.	<p>Designate selected BLM-administered lands in Sections 10, 11, and 15 of T15N, R116W (720 acres) as the Bridger Butte ACEC and manage with the objective of preserving and enhancing cultural, historical, and Native American values, as well as rare plant species that exist in the area.</p> <p>Manage the Bridger Butte ACEC (727 acres) according to the following prescriptions:</p> <p>Prohibit establishment of ROW corridors and wind-energy projects, as well as all surface-disturbing activities. Close to OHV use on BLM-administered lands within the ACEC boundary.</p>
7009	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Designate white-tailed prairie dog complexes of 100 acres or greater as ACECs.	No white-tailed prairie dog ACECs are designated.	Same as Alternative C.
7010	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Designate the Dry Fork Watershed as an ACEC to protect Bonneville cutthroat trout and leatherside chub habitats.	The Dry Fork Watershed is not designated as an ACEC.	Same as Alternative C.
7011	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Designate the Upper Tributary Watershed as an ACEC to protect Bonneville cutthroat trout and leatherside chub habitats.	The Upper Tributary Watershed is not designated as an ACEC.	Same as Alternative C.
7012	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Designate the Lower Tributary Watershed as an ACEC to protect Bonneville cutthroat trout and leatherside chub habitats.	The Lower Tributary Watershed is not designated as an ACEC.	Same as Alternative C.
7013	SD:1.1	No similar action.	Establish an ACEC or other MA in Fossil Basin specifically for preservation and research of fossil resources.	No ACEC or other MA in Fossil Basin specifically for preservation and research of fossil resources will be established.	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
7014	SD:1.1	No similar action.	<p>Manage the Rock Creek/Tunp area of significant resource concern with the objective of preserving and enhancing the critical wildlife habitats and cultural values that occur within the area.</p> <p>Manage the Rock Creek/Tunp area of significant resource concern with additional prescriptions as follows:</p> <p>Close the area to all-new mineral leasing.</p> <p>No mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized.</p> <p>Pursue withdrawals from locatable mineral entry.</p> <p>Restrict all new ROW actions to existing utility corridors.</p> <p>No new road developments are authorized. No new surface disturbance is allowed.</p> <p>No new high-profile structures, including wind power facilities, are authorized.</p> <p>Pursue opportunities to reclaim existing roads not necessary to attain management objectives.</p> <p>Restrict OHV use to open roads. No off-trail travel is allowed without prior approval from the authorized officer.</p> <p>Manage NHTs and sites settings, and all surface-disturbing activities to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate settings to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic period of use.</p> <p>Forage associated with newly acquired federal lands is not considered for livestock use. The grazing operator is held to the current federal active AUMs within existing allotments.</p>	Manage lands in and around the Rock Creek/Tunp area in the same manner as adjacent BLM-administered lands.	<p>Manage the Rock Creek/Tunp area of significant resource concern with the objective of preserving and enhancing the critical wildlife habitats and cultural values that occur within the area.</p> <p>Manage the Rock Creek/Tunp area of significant resource concern with additional prescriptions as follows:</p> <p>The area is administratively unavailable for all new fluid mineral leasing consideration; expired leases are not reissued. The area is administratively unavailable for solid leasable minerals for the life of the plan.</p> <p>The area is available for mineral material sales and (or) free use permits.</p> <p>The area is available for locatable mineral entry.</p> <p>Restrict all new ROW actions to existing disturbance zones.</p> <p>No net loss of habitat function allowed from any construction activity within the boundaries of the management area. Successful re-establishment or improvement of habitats could offset any new disturbance areas.</p> <p>No wind-power facilities are authorized.</p> <p>Pursue opportunities to reclaim existing roads not necessary to attain management objectives.</p> <p>Restrict OHV use to existing roads and trails. No off-trail travel is allowed without prior approval from the authorized officer.</p> <p>Manage NHTs and sites settings, and all surface-disturbing activities to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate settings to detract from the</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
			<p>No salt licks or mineral supplements would be allowed within ½ mile of live water, sensitive wildlife areas (e.g., greater sage-grouse leks), special status plant locations, NHTs, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>Develop and implement aggressive plans to control and eradicate noxious weed invasions.</p> <p>Develop plant community objectives and continue to implement appropriate management to meet and maintain wildlife habitat needs.</p>		<p>feeling or sense of the historic period of use.</p> <p>Forage associated with newly acquired federal lands is available for livestock use.</p> <p>No salt licks or mineral supplements allowed within ¼ mile of live water, sensitive wildlife areas (e.g., greater sage-grouse leks), special status plant locations, NHTs, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>INNS species are managed according to Partners Against Weeds.</p> <p>Develop plant community objectives and continue to implement appropriate management to meet and maintain wildlife habitat needs.</p>
7015	SD:1.1	No similar action.	<p>Manage the Bear River Divide area of significant resource concern with the objective of preserving and enhancing the critical wildlife habitat, cultural values, and paleontological resources that occur within the area.</p> <p>Manage the Bear River Divide area of significant resource concern with additional prescriptions as follows:</p> <p>Close the area to all new mineral leasing.</p> <p>No mineral material sales and (or) free use permits are authorized.</p> <p>Pursue withdrawals from locatable mineral entry.</p> <p>Restrict all new ROW actions to existing utility corridors.</p> <p>No new road developments are authorized. No new surface disturbance is allowed.</p> <p>No new high-profile structures, including wind power facilities, are authorized.</p>	Manage lands in and around the Bear River Divide area in the same manner as adjacent BLM-administered lands.	<p>Manage the Bear River Divide area of significant resource concern with the objective of preserving and enhancing the critical wildlife habitats and cultural values that occur within the area.</p> <p>Manage the Bear River Divide area of significant resource concern with additional prescriptions as follows:</p> <p>The area is administratively unavailable for new fluid mineral leasing on the currently unleased lands within the Bridger Creek/Twin Creek watersheds (see Map 64) (31,802 acres); lands currently leased can have new leases issued. The area is administratively unavailable for solid mineral leasing for the life of the plan.</p> <p>The area is available for mineral material sales and (or) free use permits.</p> <p>The area is available for locatable mineral entry.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
			<p>Pursue opportunities to reclaim existing roads that are not necessary to attain management objectives.</p> <p>Restrict OHV use to open roads. No off-trail travel is allowed without prior approval from the authorized officer.</p> <p>Manage NHTs, sites settings, and all surface-disturbing activities to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not dominate settings to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic period of use.</p> <p>Forage associated with newly acquired federal lands is not considered for livestock use. The grazing operator is held to the current federal active AUMs within existing allotments.</p> <p>No salt licks or mineral supplements are allowed within ½ mile of live water, sensitive wildlife areas (e.g., greater sage-grouse leks), special status plant locations, NHTs, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>Develop and implement aggressive plans to control and eradicate noxious weed invasions.</p> <p>Develop plant community objectives and continue to implement appropriate management to meet and maintain wildlife habitat needs.</p> <p>Proactively study and inventory the vertebrate fossil resources through paleontologic inventory by qualified paleontologists of the portion of Fossil Basin inside the management area. Significant sites are subject to further study, possibly including excavation, collection, and curation of fossils.</p> <p>Protect important paleontologic sites by not allowing surface disturbance at the sites, except disturbance in support of scientific</p>		<p>ROW actions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Proponents will be encouraged to use existing disturbance zones.</p> <p>Allow construction activities within the boundaries of the management area with the goal of no further loss of habitat function from these activities. Successful reestablishment or improvement of habitats could offset any new disturbance areas. Linear facilities will be routed to preserve habitat function. Monitoring of reclamation and annual progress reports will be required until reclamation is accepted. Reclamation will not be considered successful until habitat function had been restored. Reclamation areas will be identified and signed. Reclamation seeding should be conducted in late fall, after October 1, to avoid early germination and winter kill of seedlings. Winter construction will not be allowed. Adherence to winter closure areas and seasonal wildlife stipulations will be followed. Powerlines will be sited to not dominate view sheds, and be constructed of non-reflective materials, i.e. structures constructed of dulled or weathering steel or wooden poles and non-specular wire. Powerlines will be fitted with anti-perching devices.</p> <p>No wind-power facilities are authorized.</p> <p>Pursue opportunities to reclaim existing unnecessary roads to attain management objectives. Access will be restricted to existing two-track routes and disturbance zones.</p> <p>Restrict OHV use to roads and trails. No off-trail travel is allowed without prior approval from the authorized officer.</p> <p>Manage NHTs, sites settings, and all surface-disturbing activities to retain the existing character of the landscape in federal sections so developments do not</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
			<p>research. In support of this, management prescriptions could include increased use of BLM law enforcement.</p> <p>Complete a paleontology management plan for the management area to further scientific study and public education opportunities in the area.</p>		<p>dominate settings to detract from the feeling or sense of the historic period of use.</p> <p>Forage associated with newly acquired federal lands is available for livestock use.</p> <p>No salt licks or mineral supplements are allowed within ¼ mile of live water, sensitive wildlife areas (e.g., greater sage-grouse leks), special status plant locations, NHTs, and significant cultural sites.</p> <p>INNS species are managed according to Partners Against Weeds. Prevention and control of weeds will be required in new disturbance areas. Emphasis will be on the control of cheatgrass.</p> <p>Develop plant community objectives and continue to implement appropriate management to meet and maintain wildlife habitat needs.</p> <p>A paleontologic inventory will be made on project specific basis for mitigating paleontologic resources or as research permits are issued.</p> <p>Surface disturbance is allowed with mitigation of paleontologic sites if necessary.</p> <p>Do not complete comprehensive paleontologic management plans at this time.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS					
7016	SD:1.1	<p>Manage the thirteen eligible waterway segments to protect the free-flowing, outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classification. Conduct a case-by-case review of proposed actions in eligible waterway segments and apply protective management, subject to valid existing rights. Eligible waterways include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bear River • Blacks Fork river • Bridger Creek Unit • Coal Creek • Dempsey Creek • Emigrant Creek • Fontenelle Creek • Hams Fork • Huff Creek • Pine Creek Unit • Raymond Creek Unit • Slate Creek • Smiths Fork river <p>See Chapter 2 of the WSR report (Jonas Consulting 2002) for a complete description of the above waterway segments.</p>	<p>Recommend all thirteen eligible waterways as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers system. Apply protective management based on case-by-case review.</p>	<p>Recommend none of the thirteen eligible waterways as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers system. Manage these areas the same as adjacent federal lands.</p>	<p>Recommend the following two waterways for inclusion in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers system:</p> <p>Huff Creek – Scenic, fisheries, and wildlife values; unique land and resource diversity.</p> <p>Raymond Creek – Scenic, recreational, fisheries and wildlife values; unique land and resource diversity.</p> <p>The remaining eleven waterway segments are recommended <u>not</u> to be included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system at this time. Apply management to protect the values listed for Huff Creek and Raymond Creek.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

7000 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS (SD)					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS					
7017	SD:1.1	No similar action.	If Congress acts on the designation, and the Raymond Mountain is not selected as wilderness, continue to manage the land area within the current boundary under the Interim Management Policy.	If Congress acts on the designation, and the Raymond Mountain is not selected as wilderness, the land area within the current boundary would be managed in the same manner as adjacent BLM-administered lands.	If Congress acts on the designation, and the Raymond Mountain is not selected as wilderness, manage the land area within the current boundary of the Raymond Mountain WSA under the Interim Management Policy until a new management plan for the area is prepared and the RMP is amended.
BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS					
7018		No similar action.	Develop a route from Kemmerer over the Dempsey Ridge to Fossil Butte and back to Kemmerer in cooperation with Lincoln County, the NPS, and the State of Wyoming. Designate this route a primitive, back country byway including 4.5 miles of primitive two-track road and 11 miles of crowned and ditched gravel road. Manage with the objective of encouraging responsible motorized recreational use of the proposed byway, while protecting the scenic, cultural, and critical wildlife habitat values that occur in the area.	A scenic back country byway is not developed.	Same as Alternative C.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

8000 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES (SR) – HEALTH AND SAFETY					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal SR:1 Reduce risk to health and safety from geologic hazards on BLM-administered lands within the planning area. Objectives: SR:1.1 Reduce or eliminate geologic hazards on BLM-administered lands within the planning area, where possible. SR:1.2 Inventory, assess, and manage geologic hazards on BLM-administered lands within the planning area. SR:1.3 Reduce or eliminate hazards from abandoned mines on BLM-administered lands within the planning area, where possible.</p> <p>Goal SR:2 Reduce or minimize risk to humans and the environment from hazardous materials on BLM-administered lands within the planning area. Objective: SR:2.1 Reduce potential threats to public health and safety on BLM-administered lands within the planning area, where possible.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
8001	SR:2.1	Hazardous materials are managed to reduce the risk to visitors and employees, to restore contaminated lands, and to carry out emergency response activities, as per appropriate laws, policies, and regulations.			
8002	SR:1	The area within 10,000 feet of any municipal airport runways is restricted by FAA FAR Part 77 to protect the airport airspace.			
8003	SR:2	The area underlying any municipal airport runway is a zone of No Surface Occupancy.			
8004	SR:1	BLM will, in emergency situations, first protect the health and safety of the public, and second, stabilize the situation with regard to BLM's responsibilities and decision making authority.			
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
8005	SR:1.1 SR:1.2 SR:1.3	Inventory, assess, and mitigate geologic hazards as they are discovered within the analysis area.	Conduct full inventory (1.4 million acres) to identify all geologic hazards. Develop a database of high, medium, and low hazards.	Catalog and develop mitigation measures for any proposed developments as geologic hazards are discovered.	Same as Alternative C.
8006	SR:1.1 SR:2.1	Activities in areas of known geologic hazards will be restricted.	Prohibit activities that are known to cause or accelerate geologic hazards.	Restrict development within areas of known geologic hazards by requiring adequate engineering design to address particular hazards.	Same as Alternative C.
8007	SR:2.1	Comply with requirements of Onshore Order #6 for H ₂ S plans.	Prohibit new H ₂ S wells within 2 miles of the following areas: towns, cities, and designated campgrounds.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
8008	SR:2.1	No similar action.	Trenches would not be left open for more than 10 days after initial surface disturbance. Pipeline gates with soft plugs will be required every ¼ mile along the corridor.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

8000 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES (SR) – SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
<p>Goal SR:3 Provide opportunities for economic and social sustainability at the national, regional, and local level.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>SR:3.1 Provide opportunities on BLM-administered lands within the planning area that would be in accordance with the national energy plan and that also consider the importance of economic and social sustainability at the local level.</p> <p>SR:3.2 Use decision review processes that consider various potential impacts of decisions of BLM and all other institutions that potentially impact the planning area, including housing, employment, population, fiscal impacts, social services, cultural character, and municipal utilities.</p>					
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES					
None Identified.					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
8009	SR:3.1	No specific management with regard to socioeconomic resources was identified in the 1986 RMP (BLM 1986a).	<p>Minimize the reliance on the national energy plan in all Kemmerer Field Office land use planning and focus on the diversification of the local economy by, for example, stressing recreation, grazing, and renewable energy.</p> <p>Quantify the impacts associated with site-specific and programmatic actions for the purpose of considering the impacts of proposed actions on local governments. Provide information to local governments as required by law. Develop a strategy for mitigating the impacts by coordinating with state and local governments and impacted parties.</p>	Support the national energy plan by quantifying the impacts associated with meeting those goals without regard to mitigating the socioeconomic impacts. Provide information to state and local governments as required by law.	<p>Incorporate the national energy plan into Kemmerer Field Office land use planning while also considering the socioeconomic goals and objectives identified by the overlapping jurisdictions.</p> <p>Support national energy plans regarding development of renewable energy sources.</p> <p>Quantify the impacts associated with site specific and programmatic actions for the purpose of considering the impacts of proposed actions on state and local governments.</p>

Table 2-3. Detailed Table of Alternatives (Continued)

8000 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES (SR) – SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS					
Record #	Goal/Obj.	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
8010	SR:3.2	No specific management with regard to socioeconomic resources was identified in the 1986 RMP (BLM 1986a).	<p>Make socioeconomic considerations a priority in the decision-making processes. For example, consider the economic and social impacts identified by overlapping jurisdictions when making resource allocation decisions. Require the mitigation of socioeconomic impacts, such as mitigating the infrastructure impacts associated with the influx of a temporary workforce that is only associated with the exploration, development, and construction phases of substantial increased activity in the oil and gas sector, as a condition of the resource decision itself.</p> <p>Incorporate state and local governments as cooperating agencies for any proposed land use action.</p> <p>Provide information to state and local governments as required by law.</p>	Work with state and local governmental officials to quantify the impacts associated with site specific and programmatic actions for the purpose of providing that information to the affected parties and overlapping jurisdictions as required by law.	Work with state and local governmental officials to quantify the impacts associated with site specific and programmatic actions for the purpose of considering the impacts of proposed actions on state and local governments.

Note: Based upon the programmatic and strategic nature of the RMP alternatives, this table reflects the potential for environmental consequences.

AAQS	ambient air quality standards	I-80	Interstate Highway 80	R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	IMP	Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review	RMP	Resource Management Plan
AMR	appropriate management response	INNS	invasive nonnative specie	RNA	Research Natural Area
APD	application for permit to drill	LAC	level of acceptable change	ROD	Record of Decision
AQD	Air Quality Division	LBA	Lease By Application	ROW	rights-of-way
AQRV	Air Quality Related Value	LOC	level of concern	SD	Special Designations
AUM	animal unit month	LR	land resources	SGCN	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	MBF	thousand board feet	SR	socioeconomic resources
BR	biological resources	MMBF	million board feet	SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
CBNG	coalbed natural gas	MMTA	Mechanically Mineable Trona Area	T	township
CCF	hundred cubic feet	MR	mineral resources	TMA	Travel Management Area
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	SH	state highway
CSU	controlled surface use	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	SIP	State Implementation Plan
dB	decibel	NHT	National Historic Trail	MA	Management Area
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	NPS	National Park Service	SRP	Special Recreation Permit
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places	USC	United States Code
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	NSO	no surface occupancy	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area	NSS	Native Species Status	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ESA	Endangered Species Act	Obj.	objective	VRM	Visual Resource Management
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration	OHV	Off-highway vehicle	WSA	Wilderness Study Area
FAR	Federal Aviation Regulations	pH	potential of hydrogen	WGFD	Wyoming Game and Fish Department
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act	PR	physical resources		
FM	fire and fuels management	PSD	prevention of significant deterioration		
HR	Heritage Resources	R	range		
H ₂ S	hydrogen sulfide				

2.6 Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative

Table 2-4 (Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative) summarizes potential meaningful impacts anticipated from activities within the Kemmerer planning area by alternative. Where applicable, potential impacts anticipated from BLM actions are quantified. For example, a greater acreage implies a greater impact (either beneficial or adverse). For those resources and resource uses where potential impacts are qualitative, a relative narrative comparison among alternatives is provided. A more detailed comparison of impacts between alternatives is summarized in the conclusion for each resource section in Chapter 4. Cumulative impacts from non-BLM actions are described in Chapter 4 but are not included in Table 2-4.

The environmental consequences of alternatives are not anticipated to exceed known legal thresholds or standards over the life of the plan. Standard practices, BMPs, and guidelines for surface-disturbing activities are built into each alternative to avoid and minimize potential impacts. Mitigation of residual impacts will be considered during subsequent implementation decision plans and any associated environmental analyses conducted at that time. Reclamation will be applied to surface disturbance under all alternatives to reduce the amount of long-term impact.

Table 2-4. Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative

Resources	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Air Quality				
NAAQS	Low Potential	Lowest Potential	Low Potential	Low Potential
WAAQS	Low Potential	Lowest Potential	Low Potential	Low Potential
PSD Increments ¹	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Visibility ¹	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Atmospheric Deposition ¹	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Soil and Water				
Groundwater Impacts	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Produced Water Impacts	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Acres of Surface Disturbance Anticipated	214,120 short-term/ 144,673 long-term	104,338 short-term/ 47,232 long-term	172,967 short-term/ 144,467 long-term	147,262 short-term/ 77,541 long-term
Average Annual Acre-feet of Water Depletion in Planning Area from BLM Actions	96.9	59.1	97.7	96.9
Exceed Water Quality Standards	Not anticipated	Not anticipated	Not anticipated	Not anticipated
Minerals				
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Administratively Available for Oil and Gas Leasing Subject to Standard Lease Form Only	337,076	7,718	360,472	62,036
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Administratively Available for Oil and Gas Leasing Subject to Moderate Constraints	783,218	118,071	776,850	797,504
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Administratively Available for Oil and Gas Leasing Subject to Major Constraints	354,266	643,515	337,238	537,341
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Administratively Unavailable for Oil and Gas Leasing	104,802	810,058	104,802	182,481
Acres of BLM-administered Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Protections	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 46,598 Mineral Estate: 44,138	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0

Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative

Table 2-4. Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative (Continued)

Resources	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Acres of BLM-administered Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Raptor Nest Protections	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 55,377 Mineral Estate: 55,677	Surface: 8,648 Mineral Estate: 8,716	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0
Acres of BLM-administered Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Prairie Dog Colony Protections	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 7,174 Mineral Estate: 7,135	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0
Acres of BLM-administered Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Trails Protections	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 4,017 Mineral Estate: 4,627	Surface: 77 Mineral Estate: 77	Surface: 77 Mineral Estate: 77
Acres of BLM-administered Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Floodplain Protections	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 70,058 Mineral Estate: 70,895	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0	Surface: 0 Mineral Estate: 0
Percent reduction in Total Wells From Baseline (1,221 wells)/ Projected Number of Federal Wells Drilled	17% (1,012)	50% (608)	16% (1,020)	17% (1,010)
Acres of Haystack Coal Lease By Application Acceptable for Further Leasing Consideration	3,963	0	3,963	3,963
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Withdrawn from Locatable Mineral Entry	Unknown	940,220	0	1,985
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Withdrawn from Locatable Mineral Entry for Cokeville Meadows	Not Identified	3,056	0	427
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Not Available for New Sodium Exploration and Leasing	32,880	32,880 plus Viewsheds of Fossil Butte National Monument and Incorporated Towns and Cities	32,880	32,880
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Not Available for New Phosphate Exploration and Leasing	32,880	32,880 Plus Viewsheds of Fossil Butte National Monument and Incorporated Towns and Cities	32,880	32,880
Acres of Federal Mineral Estate Not Available for Mineral Material Sales and (or) Free Use Permits	0	32,880 Plus Viewshed of Fossil Butte National Monument, Within ½ Mile of Developed Campgrounds, and In Areas with Special Status Plant or Wildlife Species	0	32,880 Plus Areas with Special Status Plant Species
Vegetation				
Fragmentation of Habitat	Highest Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Riparian/Wetland				
Wetland Impacts	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Wetland Permit Required	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential

Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative

Table 2-4. Summary of Environmental Consequences by Alternative (Continued)

Resources	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D (Proposed RMP)
Floodplain Impacts	Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Fish and Wildlife				
Restrictions on Wildlife Movement	Highest Potential	Lowest Potential	Potential	Potential
Special Status Species				
Adverse Effects to ESA Species within the Planning Area	Anticipated	Anticipated	Anticipated	Anticipated
Critical Habitat Impacts	Not anticipated	Not anticipated	Not anticipated	Not anticipated
Heritage				
Potential to Impact Eligible/Listed Cultural Sites and Paleontological Localities	Potential	Lowest potential	Potential	Potential
OHV Use				
Acres Open to OHV Use	0	0	2,791	159
Acres Closed to OHV Use	32,787	33,924	32,787	33,036
Livestock Grazing				
AUMs Projected/Change from Baseline (157,249)	15,556 10% decrease	5,128 3% decrease	15,534 9% decrease	8,338 5% decrease
Special Designations				
Acres of Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Bear River Divide ACEC	Mineral Estate: 0	Mineral Estate: 11	Mineral Estate: 0	Mineral Estate: 28
Acres of Surface/Federal Mineral Estate with High Oil and Gas Development Potential Impacted by Fossil Basin ACEC	Mineral Estate: 0	Mineral Estate: 8,458	Mineral Estate: 0	Mineral Estate: 0
National Historic Trails				
Potential to Impact NHTs	Potential	Lowest potential	Potential	Potential

Notes: Based upon the programmatic and strategic nature of the RMP alternatives, this table reflects the potential for environmental consequences. Administratively unavailable to leasing means deferred from leasing for the life of the plan.

¹ These impacts are anticipated to occur outside the planning area.

ACEC Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AUM animal unit month
BLM Bureau of Land Management
ESA Endangered Species Act

NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NHT National Historic Trail
OHV off-highway vehicle
PSD prevention of significant deterioration
WAAQS Wyoming Ambient Air Quality Standards

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