



FINAL REPORT

**LANDER FIELD OFFICE REVIEW OF
POTENTIAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS IN THE
LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PLANNING AREA**

Prepared for

**Bureau of Land Management
Lander Field Office
1335 Main Street
Lander, Wyoming 82520**

Prepared by

**Jonas Consulting
785 North Canyon Terrace Drive
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001**

December 2, 2002

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LANDER FIELD OFFICE REVIEW OF POTENTIAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS IN THE LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA

December 2, 2002

I. INTRODUCTION

As part of the planning effort for developing the Lander Resource Management Plan (RMP), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning team members initiated a Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) review of all BLM-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along waterways within the Lander RMP planning area. This review was to determine if any of these public lands meet the WSR eligibility criteria and suitability factors, as identified in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) of 1968, as amended.

A. Public Involvement and Coordination

Wyoming BLM staff met with representatives of various Wyoming State agencies, including the governor's office, in January 1991 and June 1993. These meetings were specifically designed to produce a mutual understanding of the WSR review process, and of the WSR eligibility criteria and suitability factors BLM uses in the process. This included agreement on necessary refinements of these criteria and factors, specific to Wyoming, and their statewide application on public lands. The eligibility criteria and suitability factors, including minor refinements agreed to at that time, are still consistent with the later-released BLM Manual Section 8351, WSR Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management (May 19, 1992, as amended on December 22, 1993).

The State of Wyoming has disagreed with giving any consideration to reviewing waterways that do not contain water year-round (i.e., intermittent and ephemeral waterways). The Wyoming BLM recognizes that position but is obligated to follow the BLM Manual Section 8351 requirement to include intermittent and ephemeral waterways in the review.

The BLM State Director's policy and guidance for conducting the BLM WSR review process in Wyoming was issued December 31, 1992. Minor editorial refinements to this policy and guidance were made on June 2, 1993, making the wording more consistent with BLM Manual Section 8351. The policy and guidance were further refined on February 12, 1998. This latest refinement primarily dealt with the need to conduct WSR reviews in light of the current RMP planning process. The current BLM direction for land use planning is that there will no longer be a "plan life" or defined cycle period for revising RMPs, and new RMP starts are essentially a thing of the past. Rather, RMPs are to be kept current on a frequent basis through regular maintenance and amendment actions. In this light, the initial WSR review was conducted separate from the RMP planning

process to expedite the review process, resulting in a stand-alone WSR review report that will support the land use plan update efforts currently underway in the Lander Field Office.

The results of this WSR review will be part of the Management Situation Analysis activities for the Lander RMP modification effort (i.e., maintenance, amendment, or revision). The public will be given the opportunity to comment on these WSR review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the RMP planning effort. Reports and recommendations to Congress for inclusion of BLM administered public lands in the WSR National System will be based on waterways meeting established eligibility criteria and suitability factors; professional judgment; and broad participation via public education, sentiment, and involvement. Public involvement is required by law, regulations, and as deemed necessary by the BLM, Wyoming State Office, Division of Resource Policy and Management.

II. PROCESS

The definitions of the key terms, “waterway/river” and “public lands,” as used in this WSR review process are defined below:

- **Waterway/River:** A flowing body of water or estuary or a section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, rills, and small lakes. For purposes of this review, a waterway is not required to have water in it year-round and may be ephemeral or intermittent.
- **Public lands:** BLM-administered public land surfaces along waterways within an RMP planning area. Those “split estate lands,” where the land surface is state or privately-owned and the federal mineral estate is administered by the BLM, are not included in these reviews. Other references to segments, parcels, corridors, and waterways all represent public lands, which are the basis for this review.

The BLM WSR review in the Lander RMP planning area includes a three-step process:

1. Determining if public lands along waterways meet the WSR eligibility criteria to be tentatively classified as wild, scenic, or recreational.
2. Determining if any of those public lands that meet the eligibility criteria also meet the WSR suitability factors.
3. Determining how public lands which are determined suitable for designation will be managed.

A. Step I. Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria Review and Tentative Classification

1. Eligibility Criteria

To meet the eligibility criteria, a waterway must be “free-flowing” and, along with its adjacent land area, must possess at least one “outstandingly remarkable value.” As part of the eligibility review, BLM planning team members reviewed all waterways in the Lander RMP planning area to see if they contained any public lands that meet the eligibility criteria. Only those portions of waterways flowing through public lands were considered. The following are the guidelines used in applying the eligibility criteria to public lands in the Lander RMP planning area.

- a. **Free Flowing:** Free-flowing is defined in the WSRA as “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” The existence of small dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time the waterway is being considered shall not automatically disqualify it for possible addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NW SRS). A waterway need not be “boatable or floatable” in order to be eligible; there is no “minimum flow” requirement.
- b. **Outstandingly Remarkable Values:** The public lands must also possess at least one outstandingly remarkable value to be eligible for further consideration. Outstandingly remarkable values relate to scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar resource values.

The term “outstandingly remarkable value” is not precisely defined in the WSRA; however, these values must be directly waterway related. The criteria for outstandingly remarkable values used for the review of public lands in the Lander RMP planning area are as follows:

- **Scenic:** The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attraction. Additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and length of time negative intrusions are viewed can also be considered when analyzing scenic values. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the public lands involved, are not common to other waterways in the geographic region, and must be of a quality to attract visitors from outside the area.
- **Recreational:** Recreational opportunities on the public lands are unique enough to attract visitors from outside the area. Visitors would be willing to travel long distances to use the waterway resources on the public lands for recreational purposes. Waterway related

opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting and boating.

Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract visitors from outside the area. The waterway may provide settings for national or regional commercial usage or competitive events.

- **Geologic:** The public lands provide an example(s) of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is rare, unusual, or unique to the area. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a “textbook” example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (e.g., erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic structures).
- **Fisheries:** The fishery values of the waterway or waterway segment on public lands may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

Populations: The waterway or waterway segment(s) on public lands is a contributor to one of the top producers of resident and/or indigenous fish species, either nationally or regionally. Of particular significance may be the presence of wild or unique stocks, or populations of federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Diversity of species is also an important consideration.

Habitat: The waterway or waterway segment(s) on public lands is a contributor to exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species.

- **Wildlife:** Wildlife values on public lands may be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

Populations. The public lands are contributing to populations of resident or indigenous wildlife species important in the area or nationally. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique or populations of federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Diversity of species is also an important consideration.

Habitat. The public lands are contributing to exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife species important to the area occasionally, or should provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federally listed or candidate threatened and endangered species. Contiguous habitat conditions should be such that the biological needs of the species are met. Adjacent habitat conditions should be such that the biological needs of the species are met.

- **Cultural:** The public lands contain examples of outstanding cultural sites which have unusual characteristics relating to prehistoric use. Sites may be important in the area or nationally for interpreting prehistory, may be rare and represent an area where culture or cultural period was first identified and described, may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups, or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes.
- **Historical:** The public lands contain a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, or unusual in the area.

Note: Eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, by itself, is not sufficient justification for being considered outstandingly remarkable.

- **Similar Values:** Other values may include significant hydrological, paleontological, botanical, scientific, or ecological resources as long as they are waterway related.

2. Tentative Classification

At the same time eligibility determinations are made, public lands that meet the eligibility criteria are also given a tentative classification (wild, scenic, or recreational) as required by the W SRA. Tentative classification is based on the type and degree of human developments associated with the public lands and adjacent lands involved at the time of the review. Actual classification is a congressional legislative determination.

The tentative classifications, as used by BLM in Wyoming, are further defined as follows:

- Wild Waterway Areas:** Wild waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. Wild means undeveloped; roads, dams, or diversion works are generally absent from a quarter mile corridor on both sides of the waterway.
- Scenic Waterway Areas:** Scenic waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are generally free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads. Scenic does not necessarily mean the public lands have scenery as an outstandingly remarkable value; however, it means the public lands may contain more development (except for major dams or diversion works) than a wild waterway segment and less development than a recreational waterway segment. For example, roads may cross the waterway in places but generally do not run

parallel to it. In certain cases, however, if a parallel road is unpaved and well screened from the waterway by vegetation, a hill, or other obstruction, it could qualify for scenic waterway area classification.

- c. **Recreational Waterway Areas:** Recreational waterway areas are those where the waterways or sections of waterways on public lands are readily accessible by road or railroad, may have some development along their shorelines, and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past. Parallel roads or railroads and the existence of small dams or diversions can be allowed in this classification. A recreational waterway area classification does not imply that the waterway or section of waterway on public lands will be managed or prioritized for recreational use or development.

3. **Results of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Review for the Lander RMP Planning Area:**

On December 3, 2001, BLM planning team members for the Lander RMP met to conduct a WSR eligibility review for the Lander RMP planning area. Because of the broad interpretation of the “free flowing” criteria, all the waterways that cross public lands within the review area were accepted as free-flowing. Using an interdisciplinary approach, these waterways were further reviewed to determine whether any of the public land parcels along their courses contained any outstandingly remarkable values as described in the eligibility criteria guidelines. Of the 157 waterways reviewed in the planning area, 148 were found to have no outstandingly remarkable values and were dropped from further consideration, while nine were determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Two of these nine waterway review segments actually include the main waterway segment and one or more tributaries that together were reviewed as “waterway units.” They are the Baldwin Creek and Sweetwater River “units.” The other seven waterways involving public lands determined to meet the eligibility criteria are Ice Slough, Little Popo Agie River, North Popo Agie River, Rock Creek, Warm Springs Creek, Willow Creek, and Wind River.

Attachment A (WSR Eligibility Review) reflects the results of the review and eligibility determination for the public lands considered and includes maps of the public lands involved. Attachment B/Table B1 (Identification and Tentative Classification of Public Lands that Meet the WSR Eligibility Criteria) is a detailed summary of the WSR eligibility review. Attachment B/Table B1 also shows the tentative classification (either wild, scenic, or recreational) given to each of the public land parcels that meet the eligibility criteria.

B. Step II: Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Review

1. Suitability Factors

All of the public lands within the Lander RMP planning area found to meet the eligibility criteria and tentatively classified (i.e., wild, scenic, or recreational) were further reviewed to determine if they meet the WSR suitability factors. Some factors considered in the suitability determinations included, but were not limited to:

- Factor 1:** Characteristics which do or do not make the public lands involved a worthy addition to the NWSRS.
- Factor 2:** Current status of landownership (including mineral ownership) and land and resource uses in the area, including the amount of private land involved, and any associated or incompatible land uses.
- Factor 3:** Reasonable foreseeable potential uses of the public lands involved and related waters which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the NWSRS, and the values which may be foreclosed or diminished if the public lands are not protected as part of the NWSRS.
- Factor 4:** Public, state, local, tribal, or federal interests in designation or non-designation of any part of the waterway involved, including the extent to which the administration of any part of the waterway, including the costs thereof, may be shared by state, local, or other agencies and individuals.
- Factor 5:** Estimated cost of acquiring necessary lands, interests in lands, and administering the area if it is added to the NWSRS. Section 6 of the WSRA outlines policies and limitations for acquiring lands or interests in land by donation, exchange, consent of owners, easement, transfer, assignment of rights, or condemnation within and outside established river boundaries.
- Factor 6:** Ability of the BLM to manage and/or protect the public lands involved as part of the NWSRS, or by other mechanism (existing and potential) to protect identified values other than WSR designation.
- Factor 7:** Historical or existing rights which could be adversely affected. In the suitability review, adequate consideration will be given to rights held by other landowners and applicants, lessees, claimants, or authorized users of the public lands involved.
- Factor 8:** Other issues and concerns if any.

2. Results of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Suitability Review for the Lander RMP Planning Area

The WSR suitability determinations for the Lander RMP planning area were derived by screening the public lands determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria against the above eight suitability factors. This screening was conducted by BLM planning team members for the Lander RMP on March 22, 2002.

The public land parcel along the reviewed segment of the Baldwin Creek unit (includes Baldwin Creek and an unnamed tributary) and the Sweetwater River unit (includes the Sweetwater River and Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks) previously determined to meet the eligibility criteria were also determined to meet the suitability factors.

All other public land parcels determined to meet the eligibility criteria did not meet the suitability factors and were dropped from further consideration. The primary suitability factors involved in the non-suitability determination are factors 1, 2, 3, and 6, which indicated (1) the public lands involved did not contain characteristics which made them worthy additions to the NWSRS; (2) the public lands involved are landlocked by private lands and are inaccessible to the public, and obtaining public access to the public lands via private property would not be likely; (3) there exists potential use conflicts along the review segments (i.e., oil and natural gas drilling and development) which could occur if the public lands are included in the NWSRS; and/or (4) the public lands cannot be managed as part of the NWSRS because of potential management conflicts with the interspersed (up and downstream) and adjacent private lands.

Attachment C (Wild and Scenic Suitability Review) is a detailed summary of the suitability review of the waterway segments containing public lands determined to meet the eligibility criteria and the suitability determinations made for the public lands involved.

C. Step III: Management of Public Lands That Meet the Suitability Factors

Under the requirements of the WSRA, any need to provide temporary or interim protection of the WSR values on suitable waterway areas before the Lander RMP is completed must be addressed. Proposed interim management prescriptions have thus been developed by the BLM for the public lands determined to meet both the WSR eligibility criteria and suitability factors (i.e., for public lands along Baldwin Creek and Sweetwater River units) and are presented in Attachment D (Management Public Lands within the Lander RMP Planning Area That Meet the WSR Suitability Factors). These prescriptions will be applied immediately as well as be presented in the Lander RMP for public review and include management objectives, management actions, and appropriate allocations of land and resource uses that will maintain or enhance the outstandingly remarkable values and tentative WSR classification identified on the public lands involved.

After public review of the interim management prescriptions presented in the Lander RMP, public lands determined to meet the suitability factors will then be managed under the BLM's land use plan

management decisions indefinitely. At some time in the future, it is possible the Secretary of the Interior may direct the BLM to participate in the development of WSR Study Reports. The results and documentation of the BLM WSR reviews for the Lander RMP planning area would be used in developing any such reports.

ATTACHMENT A

**WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW:
LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA**

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW: LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along 157 waterways in the Lander Resource Management Plan (RMP) planning area were reviewed for Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) eligibility (see Table A1). Public lands along 148 of these waterways were found not to meet the eligibility criteria and dropped from further consideration. Public lands along nine waterways were determined to meet the eligibility criteria and are presented below in Section II.

I. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DURING THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY REVIEW.

On December 3, 2001, BLM planning team members for the Lander RMP made preliminary WSR eligibility determinations for public lands along waterways within the Lander RMP planning area. Table A2 provides the names and contact information for those individuals who attended the WSR eligibility review in the Lander Field Office on that date. At this time, these determinations have not been submitted to the public for review and comment. The public will be given the opportunity to comment on the eligibility review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the Lander RMP planning effort. Any comments made by the public concerning the determinations made in this review will be taken into consideration and documented in the RMP planning process. This WSR eligibility review may be modified if deemed necessary as a result of public comments.

II. RESULTS OF THE WSR ELIGIBILITY REVIEW OF PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WATERWAYS IN THE LANDER RMP PLANNING AREA

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE BALDWIN CREEK UNIT DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Baldwin Creek reviewed is 7.39 miles long. It begins in the W¹/₂ of section 29 and ends in the NW¹/₄ of section 33; T. 33 N., R. 101 W. The segment of the unnamed tributary is 1.13 miles long. It begins in the SE¹/₄ of section 31, and ends at its confluence with Baldwin Creek in the SE¹/₄ of section 13; T. 33 N., R. 101 W. The segment of Baldwin Creek flows through two public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria for a total of 6.77 miles (approximately 91.6 percent of the segment length reviewed). The unnamed tributary flows through one of these public land parcels (the upstream parcel) for a total of 1.13 miles. These public land parcels include a pristine, deeply incised, glacial and water-carved canyon that is densely vegetated and provides brilliant fall colors. The area is regionally important for such recreation activities as fishing,

hunting, and rock climbing and offers recreationists a sense of solitude and remoteness. The high cliff walls provide nesting habitat important for peregrine falcons in the area.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on each of the public land parcels along the Baldwin Creek unit that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A1 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG ICE SLOUGH DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Ice Slough reviewed is 0.82 miles long. It begins in the S¹/₂ of section 1, T. 29 N., R. 94 W. and ends in the NW¹/₄ of section 6, T. 29 N., R. 93 W. This segment of Ice Slough flows through two public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Ice Slough flows through these public land parcels for 0.53 miles (approximately 64.6 percent of the entire length of the waterway reviewed). The public land parcels include a trail stop along the Oregon National Historic Trail as well as excellent trail ruts, asprings, and campsites. Travelers on the Oregon Trail dug ice from a peat bog located on the reviewed waterway segment during the late spring to early/middle summer months.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcels along Ice Slough that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A2 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE LITTLE POPO AGIE RIVER DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of the Little Popo Agie River reviewed is 1.45 miles long. It begins in the NW¹/₄ of section 18 and ends in the SW¹/₄ of section 8; T. 31 N., R. 99 W. Within this segment of waterway, the river flows through one public land parcel determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The Popo Agie River through this public land parcel is 1.45 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. This public land parcel includes a steep and rugged, U-shaped glacial carved canyon that is one of the few remaining pristine canyons of its type along the eastern slope of the Wind River Range. The area offers recreationists fishing and hiking opportunities in a wilderness-like setting and contains excellent examples of prehistoric rock art along the canyon walls.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along the Little Popo Agie River that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A3 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE NORTH POPO AGIE RIVER DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of the North Popo Agie River reviewed is 3.11 miles long. It begins in the NW¹/₄ of section 7 and ends in the S¹/₂ of section 4; T. 33 N., R. 101 W. Within this segment of waterway, the river flows through three public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of the North Popo Agie River through these public land parcels is 0.93 miles (approximately 29.9 percent of the segment length reviewed). These public land parcels include a spectacular and wide U-shaped glacial canyon with high cliff walls that is the largest of its type along the eastern slope of the Wind River Range. The area offers recreationists fishing and hiking opportunities in a wilderness-like setting and contains excellent examples of prehistoric rock art along the canyon walls.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on each of the public land parcels along the North Popo Agie River that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A1 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG ROCK CREEK DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Rock Creek reviewed is 7.47 miles long. It begins in the N¹/₂ of section 3 and ends in the SE¹/₄ of section 15; T. 28 N., R. 99 W. The creek flows through one public land parcel determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Rock Creek flows through this public land parcel for 7.47 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway reviewed. This public land parcel is adjacent to the historic Willie's Handcart Disaster site along the Mormon National Historic Trail.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along Rock Creek that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A4 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE SWEETWATER RIVER UNIT (INCLUDES THE SWEETWATER RIVER AND SHORT TRIBUTARY SEGMENTS OF DEEP, GRANITE, MORMON, STRAWBERRY, AND WILLOW CREEKS) DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of the Sweetwater River reviewed is 9.00 miles long. It begins in the NW¹/₄ of section 10, T. 28 N., R. 98 W. and ends in the E¹/₂ of section 34, T. 29 N., R. 97 W. The tributary segment of Granite Creek reviewed is 2.06 miles long. It begins in the N¹/₂ of section 14 and ends with its confluence with Sweetwater River in the N¹/₂ of section 11; T. 28 N., R. 98 W. The tributary

segment of Mormon Creek reviewed is 1.03 miles long. It begins in the E¹/₂ of section 12, T. 28 N., R. 98 W. and ends with its confluence with Sweetwater River in the SW¹/₄ of section 6, T. 28 N., R. 97 W. The tributary segment of Strawberry Creek reviewed is 0.81 miles long. It begins in the NW¹/₄ of section 2 and ends with its confluence with Sweetwater River in the SE¹/₄ of section 2; T. 28 N., R. 98 W. The tributary segment of Willow Creek reviewed is 2.45 miles long. It begins in the E¹/₂ of section 8 and ends with its confluence with Sweetwater River in the S¹/₂ of section 5; T. 28 N., R. 97 W. The segment of Sweetwater River reviewed flows through the Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and includes two public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of the river flowing through these public land parcels is 8.88 miles, which is approximately 98.7 percent of the waterway segment reviewed. The tributary segments reviewed flow through one of the public land parcels for a total of 6.35 miles when combined. Only those sections of the tributary segments reviewed that are within the Sweetwater River WSA are being considered. The two public land parcels include a deeply incised, meandering gorge measuring up to 500 feet deep. The area is regionally important for such recreational activities as hiking, fishing, and camping and provides recreationists excellent opportunities for solitude in a primitive canyon setting. The public land parcels also include the historic winter camp of Jedediah Smith. The canyon is ecologically diverse, with a variety of plant species not otherwise found in the area.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcels along the Sweetwater River and associated tributaries that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A5 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WARM SPRINGS CREEK DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Warm Springs Creek reviewed is 2.69 miles long. It begins in the SW¹/₄ of section 31 and ends in the NE¹/₄ of section 32; T. 42 N., R. 107 W. Within this segment of waterway, the creek flows through two public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Warm Springs Creek flows through these public land parcels for 2.23 miles (approximately 82.9 percent of the entire length of the waterway reviewed). The public lands contain a dormant geothermal water vent (i.e., geyser) and a natural bridge. The area is also associated with historic gold mining with a hand-hewn railroad flume used to transport ties still existing in parts of the canyon.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcels along Warm Springs Creek that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A6 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WILLOW CREEK DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Willow Creek reviewed is 9.37 miles long. It begins in the SW¹/₄ of section 21 and ends in the E¹/₂ of section 26; T. 29 N., R. 100 W. Within this segment of waterway, the creek flows through one public land parcel determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length Willow Creek through this public land parcel is 9.37 miles, which is the entire length of the waterway segment reviewed. This public land parcel is both regionally and nationally important as a recreation area and is listed on the American Volksmarch Association's list of designated hikes. The area also includes a segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. A historic cabin site, historic gold mines and historic placer tailings are also located on public lands.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcel along Willow Creek that meets the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A7 shows the public lands involved.

PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WIND RIVER DETERMINED TO MEET THE WSR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

Segment of Waterway Reviewed

The segment of Wind River reviewed is 0.05 miles long. It is located in section 15, T. 41 N., R. 106 W. Within this segment of waterway, the river flows through two public land parcels determined to meet the WSR eligibility criteria. The length of Wind River through these public land parcels is 0.03, which is approximately 60.0 percent of length of the waterway reviewed. These public land parcels include variegated colored badlands that attract visitors from outside the area. The geology is unusual for the area and consists of glacial moraine terminating against the badland topography and traversed by the river.

Table A1 and Attachment B contain further details on the public land parcels along Wind River that meet the WSR eligibility criteria. Figure A8 shows the public lands involved.

Table A1: Lander Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary

<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Free Flowing</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Eligible</i>
Abel Creek	Yes	None	No
Alkali Creek (<i>Madden</i>)	Yes	None	No
Alkali Creek (<i>Crooks Mountain**</i>)	Yes	None	No
Antelope Creek	Yes	None	No
Arkansas Creek	Yes	None	No
Austin Creek	Yes	None	No
Badwater Creek (Main, South Fork***)	Yes	None	No
Baldwin Creek unit (includes Baldwin Creek and an unnamed tributary)	Yes	Scenic, Recreational, Wildlife	Yes
Bare Ring Slough	Yes	None	No
Barrett Creek	Yes	None	No
Beason Creek	Yes	None	No
Beaver Creek	Yes	None	No
Big Atlantic Gulch	Yes	None	No
Big Camp Creek	Yes	None	No
Big Hermit Gulch	Yes	None	No
Birdseye Creek	Yes	None	No
Black Rock Creek	Yes	None	No
Bridger Creek	Yes	None	No
Brush Creek	Yes	None	No
Buffalo Creek	Yes	None	No
Cabin Creek	Yes	None	No
Canyon Creek	Yes	None	No
Cherry Creek	Yes	None	No
Chimney Creek	Yes	None	No
Chokecherry Creek	Yes	None	No
Coal Creek	Yes	None	No
Cole Spring Creek	Yes	None	No
Conant Creek	Yes	None	No
Cooper Creek	Yes	None	No
Corral Creek	Yes	None	No
Cottonwood Creek (<i>North of Crooks Mountain</i>)	Yes	None	No
Cottonwood Creek (<i>North of Roberts Draw</i>)	Yes	None	No

Table A1: Lander Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary

<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Free Flowing</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Eligible</i>
Cottonwood Creek (<i>Beaver Divide</i>) Yes		None	No
Cottonwood Creek (<i>Cottonwood Divide</i>)	Yes	None	No
Cottonwood Creek (Main, East Fork: <i>N. of Lost Cabin</i>)	Yes	None	No
Coyote Creek	Yes	None	No
Critnan Creek (Main, East Fork)	Yes	None	No
Crooked Creek (North Fork)	Yes	None	No
Crooked Creek	Yes	None	No
Crooks Creek (Main, West Fork)	Yes	None	No
Dead Ox Gulch	Yes	None	No
Deep Creek	Yes	None	No
Deep Gulch	Yes	None	No
Deer Creek	Yes	None	No
Deer Canyon Creek	Yes	None	No
Dolus Creek	Yes	None	No
Dry Coyote Creek	Yes	None	No
Dry Creek (<i>Pathfinder Reservoir</i>)	Yes	None	No
Dry Cheyenne Creek	Yes	None	No
Dry Creek (Main, East & West Forks; <i>Steffen Hill</i>)	Yes	None	No
Du Noir Creek	Yes	None	No
East Cottonwood Creek	Yes	None	No
East Arapaho Creek	Yes	None	No
East Alkali Creek	Yes	None	No
East Canyon Creek	Yes	None	No
Fivemile Creek	Yes	None	No
Fourth Creek	Yes	None	No
Geyser Creek	Yes	None	No
Hall Creek (Main, North & South Forks)	Yes	None	No
Harris Slough	Yes	None	No
Haypress Creek	Yes	None	No
Henderson Creek	Yes	None	No
Hoodoo Creek	Yes	None	No
Horace Gulch	Yes	None	No
Horse Creek (<i>Keester Basin</i>)	Yes	None	No

Table A1: Lander Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary			
<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Free Flowing</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Eligible</i>
Horse Creek (<i>Debouis</i>) Yes		None	No
Ice Slough	Yes	Historical	Yes
Indian Grove Creek	Yes	None	No
Irish Gulch	Yes	None	No
Jost Creek	Yes	None	No
Lame Jack Gulch	Yes	None	No
Lankin Creek	Yes	None	No
Level Meadows Creek	Yes	None	No
Little Atlantic Gulch	Yes	None	No
Little Camp Creek	Yes	None	No
Little Hermit Gulch	Yes	None	No
Little Popo Agie River	Yes	Scenic, Recreational, Cultural	Yes
Little Beaver Creek	Yes	None	No
Little Red Creek	Yes	None	No
Lone Tree Creek	Yes	None	No
Long Creek (Main, West Fork; <i>Granite Mountains</i>)	Yes	None	No
Long Creek (East Fork)	Yes	None	No
Long Slough	Yes	None	No
Long Gulch	Yes	None	No
Lysite Creek	Yes	None	No
Magpie Creek	Yes	None	No
Mason Creek	Yes	None	No
Meadow Gulch	Yes	None	No
Mexican Creek	Yes	None	No
Middle Cottonwood Creek (Main, West & East Forks)	Yes	None	No
Moone Creek	Yes	None	No
Muddy Creek (<i>Muddy Gap</i>)	Yes	None	No
Muddy Creek (<i>Boysen Reservoir</i>)	Yes	None	No
Murphree Creek	Yes	None	No
Muskrat Creek	Yes	None	No
Nancy Creek	Yes	None	No
North Popo Agie River	Yes	Scenic, Recreational, Cultural	Yes
O'Brian Creek	Yes	None	No

Table A1: Lander Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary

<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Free Flowing</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Eligible</i>
Oil Springs Creek	Yes	None	No
Omara Gulch	Yes	None	No
Paradise Creek	Yes	None	No
Peach Creek	Yes	None	No
Picket Creek	Yes	None	No
Pine Creek	Yes	None	No
Poison Creek	Yes	None	No
Poison Spider Creek	Yes	None	No
Pole Creek	Yes	None	No
Red Canyon Creek	Yes	None	No
Red Bluff Creek	Yes	None	No
Red Creek	Yes	None	No
Reed Creek	Yes	None	No
Reservoir Creek	Yes	None	No
Rock Creek (South of Atlantic City)	Yes	Historical	Yes
Rock Creek (Rock Creek Mountain)	Yes	None	No
Sage Hen Creek (Main, Middle & East Forks)	Yes	None	No
Sandy Creek	Yes	None	No
Sawmill Creek	Yes	None	No
Schoening Creek	Yes	None	No
Sheep Creek	Yes	None	No
Silver Creek (Main, South Fork)	Yes	None	No
Sioux Creek	Yes	None	No
Sixmile Creek	Yes	None	No
Slaughterhouse Gulch	Yes	None	No
Slate Creek	Yes	None	No
Smith Gulch	Yes	None	No
Soap Creek	Yes	None	No
South Bridger Creek	Yes	None	No
Spring Creek (North Fork Canyon)	Yes	None	No
Spring Creek (Cottonwood Draw)	Yes	None	No
Spring Creek (South of Crooks Peak)	Yes	None	No
Spring Creek (Owls Hills)	Yes	None	No

Table A1: Lander Resource Planning area Wild and Scenic Eligibility Review Summary			
<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Free Flowing</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Eligible</i>
Spring Creek (<i>East of Ladysmith Draw</i>) Yes		None	No
Spring Gulch	Yes	None	No
Squaw Creek (South Fork)	Yes	None	No
Stove Creek	Yes	None	No
Sulphur Creek (Main; North, South, & Middle Forks)	Yes	None	No
Sweetwater River unit (includes the Sweetwater River, Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks)	Yes	Scenic, Recreational, Historical, Other - Ecological	Yes
Tappan Creek	Yes	None	No
Tin Cup Creek	Yes	None	No
Tough Creek	Yes	None	No
Tweed Creek	Yes	None	No
Twin Creek	Yes	None	No
U T Creek	Yes	None	No
Warm Springs Creek	Yes	Geological, Historical	Yes
Weiser Creek	Yes	None	No
West Arapaho Creek	Yes	None	No
West Canyon Creek	Yes	None	No
West Cottonwood Creek	Yes	None	No
West Sage Hen Creek	Yes	None	No
West Alkali Creek	Yes	None	No
West Willow Creek	Yes	None	No
Whiskey Creek (<i>Whiskey Mountain</i>)	Yes	None	No
Whiskey Creek (<i>Jackson Lake</i>)	Yes	None	No
Willow Creek (<i>Telephone Line Ridge</i>)	Yes	None	No
Willow Creek (<i>South Pass City</i>)	Yes	Recreational, Historical	Yes
Willow Creek (<i>Willow Creek Road</i>)	Yes	None	No
Wind River	Yes	Scenic, Geological	Yes

Table A2: Lander Field Office Eligibility Review Meeting Attendance, December 3, 2001			
<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Resource Area</i>
Lilian Jonas	Jonas Consulting	928-774-6451	IDT Leader/Consultant
Patty Jonas	Jonas Consulting	928-634-9656	Technician
Ray Hanson	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8420	Recreational/Scenic

Mike Tietmeyer	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8412	Botanical
Sue Oberlie	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8418	Wildlife/Fisheries
Greg Bautz	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8437	Water Resources
Mike Stewart	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8408	Assistant Field Manager
Fred Georgeson	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8415	Geology

ATTACHMENT B

**IDENTIFICATION AND TENTATIVE CLASSIFICATION
OF BLM-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE
LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA
DETERMINED TO MEET THE
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Lands that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria						
<i>Public Land Parcel Number</i>	<i>Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels</i>	<i>Location of Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Notes/Description</i>	<i>Tentative Classification</i>
BALDWIN CREEK (part of the Baldwin Creek unit)						
1	3.16	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec. 31, 32, 33, 34	0.62	Scenic, Recreational, and Wildlife Values	Pristine, deeply incised canyon. Regionally important fishing, hunting, and rock climbing area. Important peregrine falcon nesting area.	Wild/Scenic
2	3.61	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec. 13, 23, 24, 26, 34	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, and Wildlife Values	Pristine, deeply incised canyon. Regionally important fishing, hunting, and rock climbing area. Important peregrine falcon nesting area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands		6.77	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	7.39		
UNNAMED TRIBUTARY TO BALDWIN CREEK (part of the Baldwin Creek unit)						
1	1.13	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec. 29, 33,	1.13	Scenic, Recreational, and Wildlife Values	Pristine, deeply incised canyon. Regionally important fishing, hunting, and rock climbing area. Important peregrine falcon nesting area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands		1.13	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	1.13		
ICE SLOUGH						
1	0.50	T. 29 N., R. 94 W., Sec. 1	0.29	Historical Values	Oregon trail stop used to make ice.	Recreational
2	0.03	T. 29 N., R. 93 W., Sec. 6	End of waterway segment reviewed	Historical Values	Oregon trail stop used to make ice.	Recreational
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands		0.53	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	0.82		
LITTLE POPO AGIE RIVER						
1	1.45	T. 31 N., R. 99 W., Sec. 7, 8, 18	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, and Cultural Values	Pristine Glacial carved canyon. Locally important for recreational activities such as fishing and hunting, and provides opportunities for solitude. Excellent examples of rock art.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment		Total Length of Waterway				

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Lands that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria						
<i>Public Land Parcel Number</i>	<i>Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels</i>	<i>Location of Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Notes/Description</i>	<i>Tentative Classification</i>
Across Public Lands	1.45	Segment Reviewed	1.45			
NORTH POPO AGIE RIVER						
1	0.82	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec 7	0.48	Scenic, Recreational, and Cultural Values	Largest U-shaped, glacial carved canyon on the east slope of the Wind River Range. Locally important fishing and hunting area. Excellent examples of Rock Art.	Wild
2	0.03	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec 7	1.70	Scenic, Recreational, and Cultural Values	Largest U-shaped, glacial carved canyon on the east slope of the Wind River Range. Locally important fishing and hunting area. Excellent examples of Rock Art.	Wild
3	0.08	T. 33 N., R. 101 W., Sec 4	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, and Cultural Values	Largest U-shaped, glacial carved canyon on the east slope of the Wind River Range. Locally important fishing and hunting area. Excellent examples of Rock Art.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	0.93	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	3.11			
ROCK CREEK						
1	7.47	T. 28 N., R. 99 W., Sec. 3, 10, 15	End of waterway segment reviewed	Historical Values	Location of Mormon handcart disaster site.	Scenic
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	7.47	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	7.47			
SWEETWATER RIVER (part of Sweetwater River unit)						
1	8.29	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 28 N., R. 98 W., Sec. 1, 2, 10, 11; R. 97 W., Sec. 6, 7; T. 29 N., R. 97 W., Sec. 33, 34.	0.12	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
2	0.59	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 29 N., R. 97 W., Sec. 34.	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment		Total Length of Waterway				

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Lands that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria						
<i>Public Land Parcel Number</i>	<i>Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels</i>	<i>Location of Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Notes/Description</i>	<i>Tentative Classification</i>
Across Public Lands	8.88	Segment Reviewed	9.00			
GRANITE CREEK (part of Sweetwater River unit)						
1	2.06	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 28 N., R. 98 W., Sec. 11, 14	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	2.06	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	2.06			
MORMON CREEK (part of Sweetwater River unit)						
1	1.03	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 28 N., R. 97 W., Sec. 6, 7; R. 97 W., Sec. 12	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	1.03	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	1.03			
STRAWBERRY CREEK (part of Sweetwater River unit)						
1	0.81	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 28 N., R. 98 W., Sec. 2	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	0.81	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	0.81			
WILLOW CREEK (part of the Sweetwater River unit)						
1	2.45	Within Sweetwater Canyon WSA; T. 28 N., R. 97 W., Sec. 5, 8	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic, Recreational, Historical and Ecological Values	Meandering and deeply incised gorge. Regionally important recreation area for hiking, fishing, floating, and camping, that offers opportunities for solitude. Winter camp of Jedediah Smith. Ecologically diverse canyon, with plant species unique to the area.	Wild
Total Length of Waterway Segment		Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed				

Table B1: Identification and Tentative Classification of BLM-Administered Public Lands that Meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Criteria							
<i>Public Land Parcel Number</i>	<i>Length (miles) of Waterway Segment Across Public Land Parcels</i>	<i>Location of Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Distance (miles) to Next Public Land Parcel</i>	<i>Outstandingly Remarkable Values on Public Lands</i>	<i>Notes/Description</i>	<i>Tentative Classification</i>	
Across Public Lands	2.45	Segment Reviewed	2.45				
WARM SPRINGS CREEK							
1	1.89	T. 42 N., R. 93 W, Sec. 31	0.46	Geological and Historical Values	Dormant geyser and natural bridge exist on public lands. Historic tie hacking and gold mining occurred in area; a hand-hewn railroad flume still exists on public lands.	Recreational	
2	0.34	T. 42 N., R. 93 W, Sec. 31	End of waterway segment reviewed	Geological and Historical Values	Dormant geyser and natural bridge exist on public lands. Historic tie hacking and gold mining occurred in area; a hand-hewn railroad flume still exists on public lands.	Scenic	
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	2.23	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	2.69				
WILLOW CREEK							
1	9.37	T 29N., R. 100 W., Sec. 21, 26, 27, 28.	End of waterway segment reviewed	Recreational and Historical Values	Nationally important hiking trails. Historic cabin sites related to placer mining activities.	Scenic	
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	9.37	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	9.37				
WIND RIVER							
1	0.02	T 41 N., R. 106 W., Sec. 15	0.02	Scenic and Geological Values	Unique, variegated colored badlands. Unusual glacial moraine that terminates against badlands.	Scenic	
2	0.01	T 41 N., R. 106 W., Sec. 15	End of waterway segment reviewed	Scenic and Geological Values	Unique, variegated colored badlands. Unusual glacial moraine that terminates against badlands.	Scenic	
Total Length of Waterway Segment Across Public Lands	0.03	Total Length of Waterway Segment Reviewed	0.05				

ATTACHMENT C

**WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW:
LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA**

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW: LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA

Of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surfaces (public lands) along the nine waterways or waterway units in the Lander Resource Management Plan (RMP) planning area determined to meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) eligibility criteria (see Table C1), public lands along seven waterways were found not to meet the suitability factors and were dropped from further consideration. Public lands along two waterway units (Baldwin Creek and Sweetwater River units) were found to meet the suitability factors. Summaries of the suitability determinations of all nine waterway units are presented below in Section II.

I. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DURING THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW.

On March 22, 2002, BLM planning team members for the Lander RMP made preliminary WSR suitability determinations for public lands along waterways within the Lander RMP planning area determined eligible for WSR designation. Table C2 provides the names and contact information for those individuals who attended the WSR suitability review in the Lander Field Office on that date. At this time, these determinations have not been submitted to the public for review. The public will have the opportunity to comment on the suitability review results during the normal scoping process and throughout the environmental analysis and planning process for the Lander RMP planning effort. Any comments made by the public concerning the determinations made in this review will be taken into consideration and documented in the RMP planning process. This WSR suitability review may be modified if deemed necessary as a result of public comment.

II. RESULTS OF THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY REVIEW OF PUBLIC LANDS ALONG WATERWAYS IN THE LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA.

Baldwin Creek Unit (Includes Baldwin Creek and an Unnamed Tributary to Baldwin Creek)

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Baldwin Creek unit review segment meet the WSR suitability factors and should be managed to maintain or enhance their outstandingly remarkable values for any possible future consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. This suitability determination is based on the unique qualities of the public land resources and their regional and national significance, making them worthy of future consideration for addition to the NWSRS.

The outstanding scenic, recreational, and wildlife values associated with the public lands involved make this a uniquely diverse waterway segment in the region. Within the review segment, the scenic values are of particular importance as the public lands include a spectacular canyon considered one of the most pristine canyons along the eastern side of the Wind River Range. The

recreational opportunities are also notable as the reviewed public lands are regionally important for fishing, hunting, and rock climbing activities. In addition, wildlife values are also notable as the high cliff walls along the review segments provide peregrine falcon nesting sites that are important for the species in the area.

Making up more than 90 percent of the lands along the review segment, the public lands are manageable by the BLM under the provisions of the WSR Act. Other factors that compliment and enhance this manageability include (1) no anticipated conflicts with the management objectives of the intermingled parcel of private land within the review segment; (2) the intermingled parcel of private land makes up less than 10 percent of the waterway segment reviewed and is thus not as large or extensive as with ownership patterns along other waterways in the Lander RMP planning area, and (3) there are no incompatible upstream uses as the review segment includes the headwaters of Baldwin Creek and the unnamed tributary. The BLM acknowledges the need to consider better means for public access. Apart from this, the BLM planning team did not identify any significant factors that would prevent the management of the reviewed waterway segments as part of the NWSRS.

Ice Slough

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Ice Slough review segment do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The BLM would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (0.53 miles along the review segment) in the context of a WSR.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the public lands involved in context of a WSR because of the interspersed parcels of private land. Only 64.6 percent of the total length of the waterway segment reviewed flows through public lands.
- A WSR designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified scenic and historical values. Ice Slough is located in the Oregon Trail Corridor and afforded adequate protection as part of the National Historic Trails system. WSR designation would provide no foreseeable additional protection.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, cultural resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Little Popo Agie River

It was determined that the one public land parcel along Little Popo Agie River review segment does not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The public lands involved do not constitute a worthy addition to the NWSRS. The length of the review segment through public lands is not sufficient to support the identified scenic, recreational, and cultural values.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (1.89 miles along the review segment) in the context of a WSR.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, cultural resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

North Popo Agie River

It was determined that the three public land parcels along the North Popo Agie River review segment do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The public lands involved do not constitute a worthy addition to the NWSRS. The length of the review segment through public lands is not sufficient to support the identified scenic, recreational, and cultural values.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the public lands involved in the context of a WSR because of the interspersed parcels of private land. Only 19 percent of the total length of the waterway segment reviewed flows through public lands.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (0.62 miles along the review segment) in the context of a WSR.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, cultural resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Rock Creek

It was determined that the one public land parcel along the Rock Creek review segment does not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream state and private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for mining activities on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.
- Potential use conflicts exist on both private and public lands within the review segment corridor which could be incompatible with inclusion in the NWSRS. For instance, there is a reasonably foreseeable potential for development of existing mining claims which could come into conflict with a WSR designation.
- A WSR designation is deemed unnecessary or inappropriate as other existing mechanisms sufficiently protect identified historical values. WSR designation would provide no foreseeable additional protection.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, historical resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Sweetwater River Unit (Includes Sweetwater River and Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks)

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Sweetwater River unit review segment meet the WSR suitability factors and should be managed to maintain or enhance their outstandingly remarkable values for any possible future consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. This suitability determination is based on the unique qualities of the public land resources and their regional and national significance, making them worthy of future consideration for addition to the NWSRS.

The outstanding scenic, recreational, historical, and other ecological values associated with the public lands involved make this a uniquely diverse waterway unit in the region. Within the review segment, the scenic qualities are of particular high value as a deeply incised canyon attracts visitors from both inside and outside the region. The area is also a regionally important recreation area, providing opportunities for backpacking, hiking, and fishing in a pristine and remote area. The historical and ecological values also add to the unique qualities of the review segment.

Making up nearly 99 percent of the lands along the review segment, the public lands are manageable by the BLM under the provisions of the WSR Act. Other factors that compliment and enhance this manageability include (1) the public lands are located within the Sweetwater Canyon WSA and thus are currently managed in a fashion compatible with a WSR designation; (2) the Sweetwater River, both within and upstream of the review segment, is considered a "Class 1 Water" in terms of water quality and is currently protected to retain such a classification; and (3) the BLM planning team did not identify any obstacles preventing the management of the reviewed waterway segments as part of the NWSRS.

Warm Springs Creek

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Warm Springs Creek review segment do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- Potential use conflicts exist on both private and public lands within the review segment corridor which could be incompatible with inclusion in the NWSRS. For instance, the reviewed waterway segment is located within a power site withdrawal area.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, historical resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Willow Creek

It was determined that the one public land parcel along the Willow Creek review segment does not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream state and private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for mining activities on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.
- Potential use conflicts exist on both private and public lands within the review segment corridor which could be incompatible with inclusion in the NWSRS. For instance, there is a reasonably foreseeable potential for development of existing mining claims which could come into conflict with a WSR designation.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield,

historical resource protection, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

Wind River

It was determined that the two public land parcels along the Wind River review segment do not meet the WSR suitability factors and will be given no further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The non-suitable determination is based on the following:

- The potential for activities to occur on the adjacent, upstream, and/or downstream state and private lands that BLM has no jurisdiction or control over. Such activities could come into conflict with WSR management prescriptions. For instance, there exists the potential for development on upstream private lands that could impact water quality, which would be incompatible with a WSR designation.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the small amount of public lands involved (only 0.03 miles along the review segment) in the context of a WSR.
- The BLM would be unable to manage the public lands involved in context of a WSR because of the interspersed parcels of private land. Only 60.0 percent of the total length of the waterway segment reviewed flows through public lands.

The land and resource values on public lands involved can and will continue to be appropriately managed under all other applicable BLM mandates and regulations for multiple use, sustained yield, and environmental integrity and should suffer no adverse effects for lack of a WSR designation.

<i>Waterway Reviewed</i>	<i>Determination</i>	<i>Justification</i>
Baldwin Creek (includes Baldwin Creek and an unnamed tributary)	Public lands suitable	Scenic, recreational, and wildlife values; unique land and resource diversity
Ice Slough	Public lands not suitable	Land ownership conflicts; manageability
Little Popo Agie River	Public lands not suitable	Not a worthy addition to NWSRS; manageability
North Popo Agie River	Public lands not suitable	Not a worthy addition to NWSRS; land ownership conflicts; manageability
Rock Creek	Public lands not suitable	Land ownership conflicts; potential use conflicts; manageability; WSR designation is inappropriate
Sweetwater River (includes Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks)	Public lands suitable	Scenic, recreational, historical, and ecological values; unique land and resource diversity
Warm Springs Creek	Public lands not suitable	Land ownership conflicts; potential use conflicts; manageability
Willow Creek	Public lands not suitable	Land ownership conflicts; potential use conflicts;

		manageability
Wind River	Public lands not suitable	Land ownership conflicts; manageability

Table C2: Lander Field Office Suitability Review Meeting Attendance, March 22, 2002			
<i>Name</i>	<i>Agency</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Resource Area</i>
Lilian Jonas	Jonas Consulting	928-774-6451	IDT Leader/Consultant
Ray Hanson	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8420	Recreation/Wilderness
Sue Oberlie	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8418	Wildlife/Fisheries
Mike Stewart	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8408	Assistant Field Manager
Fred Georgeson	BLM/Lander Field Office	307-332-8415	Geology

ATTACHMENT D

**MANAGEMENT OF BLM-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC LANDS
WITHIN THE LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PLANNING AREA THAT MEET THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS
SUITABILITY FACTORS**

MANAGEMENT OF BLM-ADMINISTERED PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN PLANNING AREA THAT MEET THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SUITABILITY FACTORS

The interim management prescriptions described in this document are meant to provide temporary or interim protection of the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) values on suitable waterway areas prior to the completion of the Lander Resource Management Plan (RMP). Included are management objectives, management actions, and appropriate allocations of land and resource uses that will maintain the outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classifications identified for the Baldwin Creek and Sweetwater River units. Pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) of 1968, as amended, until the public reviews are completed and final decisions are made on the WSR suitability determinations, no uses of the reviewed Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered public land surfaces (public lands) will be authorized which could impair any outstandingly remarkable values they may contain, or would otherwise reduce their tentative classification or destroy their potential suitability for consideration for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS).

I. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS REVIEW PROCESS

In conducting the WSR review process, application of the WSR eligibility criteria, determining the tentative WSR classifications, and the application of the WSR suitability factors, focused on the public lands within a one-half mile wide corridor along the reviewed river segments (i.e., approximately one quarter mile wide along each bank of the waterway along the length of the river segment). The public lands within and adjacent to these corridors will be considered in future site specific, activity or management implementation planning to fulfill the stated management objective.

The public lands along the reviewed segment of the Baldwin Creek unit (includes Baldwin Creek and an unnamed tributary) and Sweetwater River unit (includes the Sweetwater River and Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks) were found to meet the WSR suitability factors to be given further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The public lands along the reviewed segments of Ice Slough, Little Popo Agie River, North Popo Agie River, Rock Creek, Wm Springs Creek, Willow Creek, and Wind River do not meet the WSR suitability factors. This determination is based upon the public lands not containing characteristics which make them worthy additions to the NWSRS; the public lands being landlocked by private lands and inaccessible to the public, and unlikelihood of obtaining public access to the public lands via private property; the existing potential use conflicts along the review segments (i.e., oil and natural gas drilling and development) which could occur if the public lands are included in the NWSRS; and/or the public lands not being manageable as part of the NWSRS because of potential management conflicts with interspersed (up and downstream) and adjacent private lands.

II. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The management objective for the public lands that meet the WSR suitability factors is to maintain or enhance their outstandingly remarkable values and WSR classification, until Congress considers them for possible designation. The interim management prescriptions for suitable waterways in the Lander RMP planning area apply only to the waterway corridor which extends the length of the identified waterway segment and includes the waterway area, its immediate environment, and an average of no more than one quarter mile (1,320 feet) from the ordinary high water mark on both sides of the waterway. This boundary is preliminary and, by Section 3(b) of the WSR, may vary on either side of the waterway and be narrower or wider as long as the total corridor width averages no more than 320 acres (half of a mile or 2,640 feet wide) per river mile, and can be delineated by legally identifiable lines (e.g., survey or property lines) or some form of on-the-ground physical feature (e.g., canyon rims, roads, etc.) which provide the basis for protecting the waterway's outstandingly remarkable values. Final boundary delineation will be made if and when Congress decides to designate the waterway segment under review.

Baldwin Creek Unit (Includes Baldwin Creek and an Unnamed Tributary)

Two public land parcels along the Baldwin Creek unit (involving 6.77 miles along Baldwin Creek and 1.13 miles along the unnamed tributary) were found to meet the WSR suitability factors to be given further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. Of the 6.77 miles of Baldwin Creek involved, the public lands along 5.34 miles are classified as wild (involves 1.73 miles along the upstream portion of the upstream segment of Baldwin Creek, from its source to the unnamed tributary, and 3.61 miles along the downstream segment of Baldwin Creek) and the public lands along 1.43 miles are classified as scenic (involves the lower portion of the upstream segment of Baldwin Creek, from the unnamed tributary to the private land parcel). Public lands along all 1.13 miles of the unnamed tributary are classified as wild.

Interim management practices for the two public land parcels along the Baldwin Creek unit meeting the wild classification (involving 5.34 miles along Baldwin Creek and 1.13 miles along the unnamed tributary) will focus on maintaining or enhancing the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, and wildlife values and maintaining the relatively primitive, pristine, rugged, and unaltered character of the area. Any activities that would conflict with this objective and any physical or visual intrusions on the public lands involved are prohibited.

Temporary cultural and paleontology activities (e.g., recordation, sampling, testing, stabilization, rehabilitation, and reconstruction) may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor.

The lands will be closed to mineral leasing and related exploration and development activities. Existing mineral leases on these lands will be allowed to expire. The public lands will be closed to mineral location (e.g., filing of mining claims and related exploration and development). A withdrawal from land disposal, mineral location, and entry under the land laws will be pursued. Valid existing rights (existing mining claims) will be recognized and subject to existing (e.g., 43

CFR 3809) regulations. All mineral activity will be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, water sedimentation, pollution, and visual impairment. The public lands will be closed to recreational dredging for minerals, such as gold, and to mineral material sales.

Geophysical exploration will be limited to foot access and use of surface cables on the public lands (use of motorized or non-motorized vehicles is prohibited). Surface charges may be allowed if site specific analysis determine no permanent adverse impacts would occur.

The public lands will be closed to surface disturbing activities such as construction of major recreation developments (e.g., campgrounds, put-in or take-out areas, or other such facilities), wildlife habitat improvements, range improvements, rights-of-way, mineral development, etc. Hiking trails may be built, "by hand labor," if there is a demand for them and they conform with the management objective for these lands. Some minor recreation developments (e.g., signs, kiosks) may be allowed on the public lands so long as there are no substantial adverse effects to the natural-like appearance of the lands within the waterway corridor and their immediate environment.

The public lands will be closed to land disposal actions. Exchanges of public lands "outside the corridor" could be considered for acquiring private or state lands within the corridor or between the public land parcels along the creek; however, public lands within the corridor will not be exchanged.

The public lands will be an exclusion area for rights-of-way. No new rights-of-way or expansions of existing rights-of-way will be approved.

Water impoundments, diversions, or hydroelectric power facilities will be prohibited on public lands.

The public lands will be closed to motorized and non-motorized vehicles. Hikers will be required to "pack it out"; there will be no garbage facilities. Campfires can be permitted in keeping with current fire management regulations.

Any fire suppression activities on public lands will use "light-on-the-land" techniques. No motorized or non-motorized vehicle ground equipment should be used to suppress fires. Air tanker and helicopter bucket drops and the use of chainsaws may be allowed if no permanent impacts would occur. Any fire rehabilitation plans will be evaluated to determine whether they comply with the interim management stipulations for a wild waterway area.

The public lands will be closed to commercial timber sales or harvesting. Cutting of trees will only be allowed with written permission or in association with safety and environmental protection requirements (such as clearing trails, visitor safety, hazardous fuels reduction and fire suppression activities).

Increases in active grazing preference and on public lands is prohibited. Construction of new range improvements that protect or enhance outstandingly remarkable values and do not adversely impact the wild classification may be allowed.

Vegetation treatment and manipulation must be consistent with guidance provided for the interim management of wild waterway areas under the WSRA. Noxious weeds and undesirable invasive species will be controlled using integrated pest management methods such as the use of insect/disease vectors, backpack/hand application of appropriate herbicides, certain cultural controls such as grazing, and mechanical control such as hand pulling. To resist invasion by noxious weeds, native plant communities and soils will be managed to maintain an ecologically healthy and vigorous condition. The introduction of noxious weeds will be prevented by allowing only certified weed-free hay and straw mulch to be brought into the waterway corridor.

Natural resource surveys, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), research, study, research and monitoring as mandated by the FLPMA may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor. Routine augmentations, such as fish stocking, may be allowed providing no new species are introduced into the ecosystem.

The public lands are managed under a Class II Visual Resource Management (VRM) classification.

Interim management practices for the one public land parcel along the Baldwin Creek unit meeting the scenic classification (involving 1.43 miles along Baldwin Creek) will focus on maintaining or enhancing the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, and wildlife values and the relatively unmodified character of the area in a near-natural setting. Any activities that would conflict with this objective and any physical or visual intrusions on the public lands involved are prohibited. Some intrusions on the public lands involved may be allowed if they are not readily evident or are short lived, and do not adversely affect maintaining the scenic classification.

Temporary cultural and paleontology activities (e.g., recordation, sampling, testing, stabilization, rehabilitation, and reconstruction) may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor.

The lands will be closed to mineral leasing and related exploration and development activities. Existing mineral leases on these lands will be allowed to expire. The public lands will be closed to mineral location (e.g., filing of mining claims and related exploration and development). A withdrawal from land disposal, mineral location, and entry under the land laws will be pursued. Valid existing rights (existing mining claims) will be recognized and subject to existing (e.g., 43 CFR 3809) regulations. All mineral activity will be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, water sedimentation, pollution, and visual impairment. The public lands will be closed to recreational dredging for minerals, such as gold, and to mineral material sales.

Geophysical exploration is allowed if a site specific analysis determines no adverse effects will occur. Vehicles will be restricted to existing roads and trails only. Foot access is required off of existing roads. Surface charges may be allowed if site specific analysis determine no permanent adverse impacts would occur.

The public lands will be closed to most surface disturbing activities such as construction of rights-of-way, mineral development, most types of recreation site development, and wildlife habitat and range improvements. Some recreation developments (e.g., signs, kiosks) and wildlife and range improvements may be allowed on the public lands so long as there are no substantial adverse effects to the natural-like appearance of the lands within the waterway corridor and their immediate environment. Hiking trails may be built if there is a demand for them and they conform with the objective for the scenic classification.

The public lands will be closed to land disposal actions. Exchanges of public lands "outside the corridor" could be considered for acquiring private or state lands within the corridor or between the public land parcels along the creek; however, public lands within the corridor will not be exchanged.

The public lands will be an exclusion area for rights-of-way. No new rights-of-way or expansions of existing rights-of-way will be approved.

Water impoundments, diversions, or hydroelectric power facilities will be prohibited on public lands.

Motorized and non-motorized vehicles are restricted to using existing roads and trails. Mountain biking is allowed to the extent that no adverse effects occur. Hikers will be required to "pack it out"; there will be no garbage facilities. Campfires can be permitted in keeping with current fire management regulations.

Any fire suppression activities on public lands will use "light-on-the-land" techniques. No motorized or non-motorized vehicle ground equipment off of existing roads and trails will be used to suppress fires. Air tanker and helicopter bucket drops and the use of chainsaws may be allowed if no permanent impacts would occur. Any fire rehabilitation plans will be evaluated to determine whether they comply with the interim management stipulations for a scenic waterway area.

The public lands will be closed to commercial timber sales or harvesting. Cutting of trees may be allowed with written permission or in association with safety and environmental protection requirements (such as clearing trails, visitor safety, hazardous fuels reduction and fire suppression activities).

Increases in active grazing preference on public lands will be prohibited. Range improvements will only be allowed if they are compatible with objectives for the scenic river classification.

Vegetation treatment and manipulation must be consistent with guidance provided for the interim management of wild waterway areas under the WSRA. Noxious weeds and undesirable invasive species will be controlled using integrated pest management methods such as the use of insect/disease vectors, backpack/hand application of appropriate herbicides, certain cultural controls such as grazing, and mechanical control such as hand pulling. To resist invasion by noxious weeds, native plant communities and soils will be managed to maintain an ecologically healthy and vigorous condition. The introduction of noxious weeds will be prevented by allowing only certified weed-free hay and straw mulch to be brought into the waterway corridor. Any equipment brought into the

scenic waterway corridor via designated roads will first be cleaned to remove any weed seeds or vegetative reproducing parts.

Natural resource surveys, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), research, study, research and monitoring as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor. Routine augmentations, such as fish stocking, may be allowed providing no new species are introduced into the ecosystem.

The public lands are managed under a Class II Visual Resource Management (VRM) classification.

Sweetwater River Unit (Includes Sweetwater River and Granite, Mormon, Strawberry, and Willow Creeks)

Two public land parcels along the Sweetwater River unit (involving 8.88 miles along the Sweetwater River, 2.06 along Granite Creek, 1.03 along Mormon Creek, 0.81 along Strawberry Creek, and 2.45 along Willow Creek) were found to meet the WSR suitability factors to be given further consideration for inclusion in the NWSRS. The public lands along the entire Sweetwater River unit are classified as wild.

Interim management practices for the two public land parcels along the Sweetwater River unit meeting the wild classification will focus on maintaining or enhancing the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, historical, and ecological values and maintaining the relatively primitive, pristine, rugged, and unaltered character of the area. Any activities that would conflict with this objective and any physical or visual intrusions on the public lands involved are prohibited.

Temporary cultural and paleontology activities (e.g., recordation, sampling, testing, stabilization, rehabilitation, and reconstruction) may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor.

The lands are closed to mineral leasing and related exploration and development activities. Existing mineral leases on these lands will be allowed to expire. The public lands are closed to mineral location (e.g., filing of mining claims and related exploration and development). A withdrawal from land disposal, mineral location, and entry under the land laws will be pursued. Valid existing rights (existing mining claims) will be recognized and subject to existing (e.g., H-8550-1, 43 CFR 3802) regulations. All mineral activity will be conducted in a manner that minimizes surface disturbance, water sedimentation, pollution, and visual impairment. The public lands will be closed to recreational dredging for minerals, such as gold, and to mineral material sales.

Geophysical exploration is limited to foot access and use of surface cables on the public lands (use of motorized or non-motorized vehicles is prohibited). Surface charges may be allowed if site specific analysis determine no permanent adverse impacts would occur.

The public lands are closed to surface disturbing activities such as construction of major recreation developments (e.g., campgrounds, put-in or take-out areas, or other such facilities), wildlife habitat improvements, range improvements, rights-of-way, mineral development, etc. Hiking trails may be built, "by hand labor," if there is a demand for them and they conform with the management objective for these lands. Some minor recreation developments (e.g., signs, kiosks) may be allowed on the public lands so long as there are no substantial adverse effects to the natural-like appearance of the lands within the waterway corridor and their immediate environment.

The public lands are closed to land disposal actions. Exchanges of public lands "outside the corridor" could be considered for acquiring private or state lands within the corridor or between the public land parcels along the creek; however, public lands within the corridor will not be exchanged.

The public lands are in an exclusion area for rights-of-way. No new rights-of-way or expansions of existing rights-of-way will be approved.

Water impoundments, diversions, or hydroelectric power facilities are prohibited on public lands.

The public lands are closed to motorized and non-motorized vehicles. Hikers will be required to "pack it out"; there will be no garbage facilities. Campfires can be permitted in keeping with current fire management regulations.

Any fire suppression activities on public lands will use "light-on-the-land" techniques. No motorized or non-motorized vehicle ground equipment should be used to suppress fires. Air tanker and helicopter bucket drops and the use of chainsaws may be allowed if no permanent impacts would occur. Any fire rehabilitation plans will be evaluated to determine whether they comply with the interim management stipulations for a wild waterway area.

The public lands are closed to commercial timber sales or harvesting. Cutting or removal of forest products is not permitted. Stand conversion (i.e., burning of an aspen stand that was being converted to a conifer stand, or burning of sage brush to create more grassland) is not permitted.

Increases in active grazing preference and on public lands is prohibited. Construction of new range improvements that protect or enhance outstandingly remarkable values and do not adversely impact the wild classification may be allowed.

Vegetation treatment and manipulation must be consistent with guidance provided for the interim management of wild waterway areas under the WSRA. Noxious weeds and undesirable invasive species will be controlled using integrated pest management methods such as the use of insect/disease vectors, backpack/hand application of appropriate herbicides, certain cultural controls such as grazing, and mechanical control such as hand pulling. To resist invasion by noxious weeds, native plant communities and soils will be managed to maintain an ecologically healthy and vigorous condition. The introduction of noxious weeds will be prevented by allowing only certified weed-free hay and straw mulch to be brought into the waterway corridor.

Natural resource surveys, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), research, study, research and monitoring as mandated by the FLPMA may be allowed on the public lands, if the outstandingly remarkable values are maintained and if no permanent adverse impacts would occur to either the public lands directly involved or any other lands within or adjacent to the corridor. Routine augmentations, such as fish stocking, may be allowed providing no new species are introduced into the ecosystem.

The public lands are managed under a Class II Visual Resource Management (VRM) classification.

**PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUITABLE WATERWAYS IN THE
LANDER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PLANNING AREA**



Upstream section of the suitable segment of the Sweetwater River



Middle section of the suitable segment of the Sweetwater River



Hikers along the suitable segment of the Sweetwater River



Close-up of vegetation along the suitable segment of the Sweetwater River



Overview of upstream suitable segment of Baldwin Creek



Historic Cabin along Baldwin Creek