

## APPENDIX B—SAN RAFAEL SWELL SPECIAL AREA

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### SPECIAL AREA RECOMMENDATION

Coordinate with partners to manage the San Rafael Swell for special management of the cultural, heritage, and natural resources of the region. For consideration and analysis within the Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) process, this area will be referred to as the “San Rafael Swell Special Area” (SRS-SA).

The purpose of the SRS-SA would be to manage resource uses to enhance holistic opportunities for recreation, interpretation, scientific study, and resource use for local, regional, and national interests. Future management should—

1. Promote the preservation, conservation, interpretation, and development of the historical, cultural, scientific, natural, and recreational resources of the San Rafael Swell region.
2. Encourage a broad range of sustainable economic and recreational opportunities to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations.
3. Work to preserve the cultural, historical, scientific, natural, and recreational resources of the San Rafael Swell with a regional framework requiring cooperation among local property owners and federal, State, and local government entities.
4. Use partnerships among federal, State, and local governments, local and regional entities of these governments, and the private sector that will offer the most effective opportunities for the enhancement and management of the cultural, historical, scientific, natural, and recreational resources of the San Rafael Swell region.

To conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations the unique and nationally important historical, cultural, paleontological, scenic, scientific, biological, educational, wildlife, riparian, wilderness, endangered species, and recreational values and resources associated with the San Rafael Swell, establish the SRS-SA.

BLM would recommend the establishment of a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) authorized Advisory Committee to provide input for management of the SRS-SA. Secretary or congressional action could include such authorization.

Potential purposes of SRS-SA Advisory Committee could include the following:

- Advise BLM managers on multiple use and science issues
- Review appropriate reports
- Make recommendations on protocols and projects to implement management prescriptions
- Assist in resource and use inventory and in data collection and analysis
- Assist in identification and development of user facilities, which could include cultural, heritage and/or scientific interpretation, day-use or camping facilities and dispersed camping areas
- Assist in development of visitor use zones (if determined to be the best tool for visitor experience management) and develop management framework for management of such zones
- Assist in development and application of adaptive management concepts in resource and use management
- Investigate funding opportunities (e.g., grants, matching opportunities)
- Facilitate communication with stakeholders or other agencies
- Provide insight into community concerns

- Identify opportunities for economic development
- Serve as information conduits between BLM and the groups and interests it represents
- Serve as a collaborative group with BLM, the State of Utah, local governments, and area users.

The SRS-SA is located within the San Rafael Swell Special Recreation Management Area as shown in the Map 2-24.

Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) include the Sids Mountain, Mexican Mountain, San Rafael Reef, Crack Canyon, Muddy Creek, Link Flats, and Devil’s Canyon (Map 3-28).

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) are identified on Map 2-49.

**Table B-1. Multiple Use Management Prescriptions**

<b>Multiple Use Management Prescriptions</b>	
<b>Access</b>	<p>GENERAL—BLM would maintain adequate access for the reasonable use and enjoyment of the SRS-SA.</p> <p>PRIVATE LAND—BLM would provide reasonable access to privately owned land or interests in land within the boundaries of the SRS-SA.</p> <p>EXISTING PUBLIC ROADS—BLM is authorized to maintain existing public access within the boundaries of the SRS-SA in a manner consistent with the purposes for which the SRS-SA would be established. Maintenance and construction of transportation systems would be closely coordinated with local governments with respect to established maintenance and right-of-way responsibilities.</p> <p>OHV—Except where needed for administrative purposes or to respond to an emergency, use of motorized vehicles in the SRS-SA would be permitted only on roads and trails, as identified in the San Rafael Route Designation Plan, as amended.</p>
<b>Grazing</b>	<p>Where BLM currently permits livestock grazing in the SRS-SA, such grazing would be allowed to continue subject to applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders. (Specific livestock management decisions would be the same as considered and analyzed in the Proposed RMP.)</p>
<b>Visitor Service Facilities</b>	<p>BLM would be authorized to establish, in cooperation with other public or private entities as BLM may deem appropriate, visitor service facilities for the purpose of providing information about the historical, cultural, ecological, scientific, recreational, and other resources of the SRS-SA. (Same as outlined in the Proposed RMP.)</p>
<b>Road Maintenance</b>	<p>Within the SRS-SA, roads would be maintained by BLM, the State of Utah, and Emery County as established through appropriate agreements.</p>
<b>Withdrawal</b>	<p>Subject to valid existing rights, all federal lands within the SRS-SA, and all lands and interests therein, which would be acquired by the United States, would be recommended for withdrawal from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, from operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, and from the minerals materials laws and all amendments thereto.</p>
<b>Wilderness Study Areas</b>	<p>All WSAs will continue to be managed according to the <i>Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review</i>, BLM Manual Handbook H-8550-1, until legislation is enacted to either designate the areas as wilderness, or release them for use other than wilderness.</p>

<b>Multiple Use Management Prescriptions</b>	
<b>Recreation Management Zones</b>	<p>Recreation Management Zones (RMZs) would be established to facilitate the provision of recreation amenities. RMZs are identified on Map 2-28. The following areas would be operated and maintained as RMZs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temple Mountain/Little Wild Horse/Behind the Reef</li> <li>• Buckhorn/The Wedge/Mexican Mountain</li> <li>• Head of Sinbad/Swaseys Cabin/Sids Mountain WSA</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group Areas</b>	<p>Large group areas would be designated, developed, and made available for public use. Large groups using these sites would be required to obtain a recreation use permit and reservation, as necessary, for use of the sites. Large group areas are identified on Map 2-29.</p> <p>The Large Group Areas would include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temple Mountain</li> <li>• Hidden Splendor</li> <li>• Buckmaster Draw (near I-70/SR-24)</li> <li>• South Salt Wash (I-70 Exit 105)</li> <li>• Juniper (near exit 129)</li> <li>• Staker Spring Area</li> <li>• Others as necessary to meet recreation demand and protect resources</li> </ul>
<b>Activity-Level Plan</b>	<p>SRS-SA activity plans and/or field office activity plans that include the SRS-SA would be completed subject to available funding and in coordination with cooperating agencies. The SRS-SA activity plans could address management of—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firewood gathering</li> <li>• Vehicle camping</li> <li>• Pack stock use</li> <li>• Human waste management</li> <li>• Group use permits (SRP Systems)</li> <li>• Facility development</li> <li>• Site or area designations</li> <li>• Interpretive plans</li> <li>• Law enforcement</li> <li>• Staffing</li> <li>• Gateway community interface</li> <li>• Organized or competitive event management</li> <li>• Visitor services</li> <li>• Habitat management plan and habitat conservation plans</li> <li>• Cultural resource protection</li> <li>• Paleontological resource protection</li> <li>• Scientific uses</li> <li>• Fire management</li> <li>• Horse and burro management</li> <li>• Forest and woodland management</li> <li>• Threatened and endangered species recovery plans</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Resource Management (VRM)</b>	<p>The SRS-SA would be managed as VRM Class II, with the exception of areas within the SRS-SA that also are within WSA (or Wilderness) boundaries, which will be managed as VRM Class I.</p>

<b>Multiple Use Management Prescriptions</b>	
<b>Lands &amp; Realty</b>	Retain public lands and obtain land tenure adjustments to consolidate BLM-administered lands within the SRS-SA, enhancing manageability of the resources. BLM would pursue acquisition either through sale or exchange of private and state holdings within the SRS-SA through negotiation with willing sellers.
<b>Rights-of-Way</b>	The SRS-SA would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way development. Right-of-way development would be allowed only if consistent with management purposes.
<b>Science and Research</b>	Scientific research would be encouraged within the SRS-SA. Research projects would be permitted and coordinated through BLM, and research data collected would be required to be shared with BLM and the public, as appropriate.
<b>Hunting and Fishing</b>	SRS-SA management prescriptions would not be deemed to diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Utah with respect to fish and wildlife management, including regulation of hunting and fishing on public lands within the SRS-SA.
<b>Dispersed Camping</b>	Dispersed camping areas would be identified and designated throughout the SRS-SA, consistent with the San Rafael Route Designation Plan, as amended. Unmanaged/unregulated dispersed camping in the SRS-SA would be allowed in designated areas. If impacts from dispersed camping are found to degrade the environmental conditions, parts or all of the SRS-SA may be closed to unmanaged/unregulated dispersed camping.
<b>Water Rights</b>	Valid and existing water rights would be maintained. Management of water rights would continue under the authority of the Utah Division of Water Rights.
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	Cultural resources within the SRS-SA would be inventoried and classified according to BLM guidelines. Active promotion of identification and interpretation, where appropriate, would be implemented following development of a SRS-SA Cultural Resource Management Plan.
<b>Wildlife</b> <b>Soil</b> <b>Vegetation</b> <b>Paleontology</b> <b>Wild Horses and Burros</b> <b>Fire</b> <b>Forestry</b> <b>Riparian</b> <b>Air</b> <b>Special Status Species</b> <b>Abandoned Mine Lands</b>	Management prescriptions for these resources will be as presented in the Proposed RMP.